

HOTLICKS

Courtesy of

Percussive Arts Society

701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, OK 73507-5442

Phone (580) 353-1455 • Fax (580) 353-1456

E-mail percarts@pas.org • Web site <http://www.pas.org>

5/8 OVER BAIÃO

TERRY O'MAHONEY

Associate Professor of Music

St. Francis Xavier University (Antigonish, Nova Scotia)

This eight-bar drumset exercise superimposes a grouping of five eighth notes (with a RLRL sticking) over the traditional Brazilian baião bass drum ostinato pattern. It may be used when soloing during a baião or as an independence exercise.

The difficulty lies in creating a true feeling of 5/8 in the hands while maintaining the accent pattern on the bass drum. Whenever superimposing "odd groupings" of notes over symmetrical phrase lengths (e.g., four or eight bars), it is necessary to play a few extra notes at the end of the phrase (known as the "remainder") in order to have the phrase resolve on beat one of the next phrase.

POLY-SUBDIVISION WARM-UP EXERCISES

JON BELCHER
Drumset artist (Kent, WA)

These two exercises use the hands to build a pyramid of subdivisions. The pyramid will spread from 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 notes (using single strokes with the hands) across every two notes with the bass drum. Played at the indicated tempos, the two exercises are identical except for the hi-hat. Exercise A uses the hi-hat on beats 2 and 4 (common to jazz swing tempos), while Exercise B uses the hi-hat on every quarter note (common to rock and funk).

Although the odd subdivisions produce polyrhythms between the hands and feet, it may be easier to just feel them against the pulse at the tempos indicated. Try placing a slight accent where each odd grouping begins to help lock it together with the pulse (in the feet). Strive for an even flow or "rate" with both hands and feet.

*This article contains excerpts from the book Drumset Workouts Book 2 (Advanced Concepts and Application) by Jon Belcher.
Copyright © Irrational Behavior Productions. Used by permission.*

A ♩ = 160 - 220

R L R L R L etc.

3 3 3 3 7 7

B ♩ = 80 - 110

R L R L R L R L R L R L etc.

5 5 5 5 6 6 6 6

7 7 7 7