





Once these become comfortable, try combining the triplet and sixteenth ideas:



Experiment with different lengths of beat combinations, as well as different sound sources, in both the hands and feet. This type of rate shifting will strengthen your pulse, balance and coordination. Always use a metronome or drum machine when you practice. Be sure to think of these ideas as phrases, not just beats. Organize your ideas into musical thoughts. This type of phrasing can be heard in the playing of Elvin Jones, Jack DeJohnette, Jeff “Tain” Watts, John Riley and Bill Stewart. This concept is also the backbone of most Afro Cuban music. Check out the master Congueros, Timbaleros, and Drummers that are continuing to revolutionize these concepts. Some of today’s names include: Los Munequitos de Mantanzas, Poncho Sanchez, Giovanni Hidalgo, Roberto Quintero, Richie Flores, Jerry Gonzalez, Michael Spiro, Ramon Banda, Ralph Irizarry, Ignacio Berroa, Steve Berrios, Dafnis Prieto and Horacio Hernandez.

Joe McCarthy is an endorser/clinician for **Yamaha Drums, Zildjian Cymbals, Innovative Percussion, and Lp Percussion.**

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