

Introduction to the Closed Roll Pulse

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The Closed Roll Pulse, sometimes referred to as a buzz roll pulse, is executed by pressing the stick into the playing surface so as to produce a smooth, legato, or buzz sound that has a fullness or fatness to its texture. If the closed roll pulse is played too closed it will sound tight, thin, and short likely because the stick is being held too tightly. If the closed roll pulse is not closed enough you will hear a chatter or rattle likely because the stick is not being compressed firmly enough into the playing surface.

It is essential to have a competent teacher who can demonstrate a good quality closed roll pulse as this is the foundation of Pipe Band ^{SN}Drumming.

The conventional method of indicating that a note is to be played as a closed roll pulse is to place lines or slashes through the note stem.

Three lines are used for quarter notes and notes of greater value.



Two lines are used for eighth notes and notes of lesser value.



The Closed Roll Pulse Exercise No. 1

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When executing the following exercises commence at a very slow tempo so that each note can be played distinctly striving for smooth and full closed roll pulses. Time and effort are required along with good listening skills in order to develop a good quality roll pulse.

4
4

A Count tap + tap + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz +

B tap + tap + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz +

C tap + tap + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz +

D tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz +

E tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz +

F tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz + tap + tap + buzz + buzz +

G | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯

H | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯

I | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯ | ♯

J ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯

3/4 K ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯

4/4 L 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

M 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + buzz + buzz + buzz + buzz +

N ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯ ♯

4
4

Closed Roll Pulse Exercise No. 2

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Count

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

K

L

M

N

O

Repeat Indefinitely *p* *Accelerando*

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Closed Roll Pulse Exercise No.3

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4
4

The score consists of 16 staves, each with a letter label (A through P) on the left. Each staff contains a sequence of rhythmic patterns in 4/4 time, primarily using eighth and sixteenth notes. The patterns are designed to be played as a 'closed roll pulse' exercise. The notation includes stems, beams, and dots above notes. Some notes have accents (>) or slurs. The final section, starting at the bottom, includes the instruction 'Repeat Indefinitely' and 'Accelerando' (marked with a 'Q' and a hairpin). This section shows a sequence of notes with fingerings: 1 + 2 + 3 4 and 1 + 2 + 3 4. A double bar line with a '2' above it and a slash through it is also present.

12
8

Closed Roll Pulse Exercise No. 4

Prerequisite

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A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

K

L

M

N

O

Accelerando *p*
Repeat Indefinitely

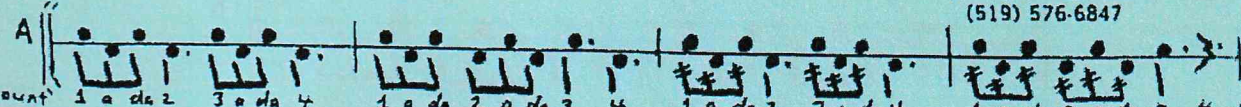
12
8

Closed Roll Pulse Exercise No 5

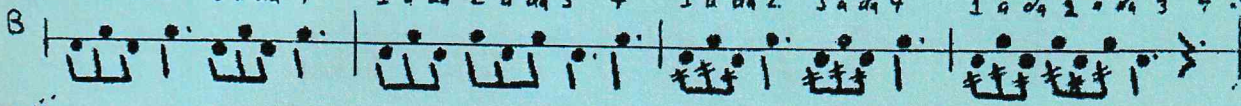
Prerequisite

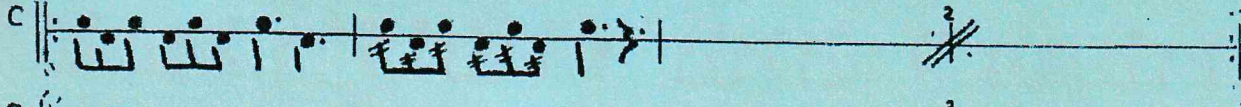
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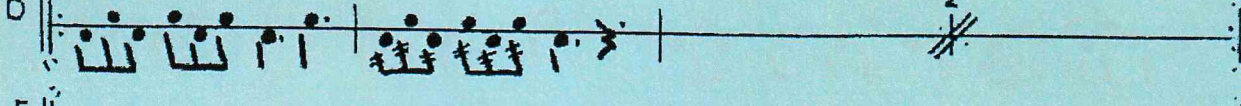
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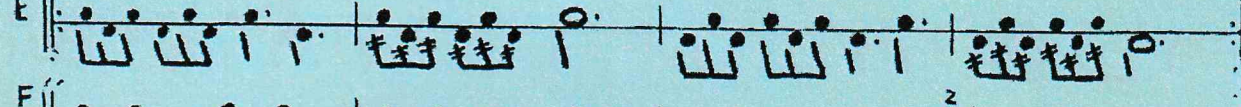
A 

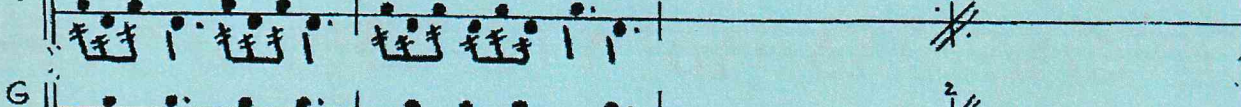
Count 1 a da 2 3 a da 4 1 a da 2 a da 3 4 1 a da 2 3 a da 4 1 a da 2 a da 3 4


B 

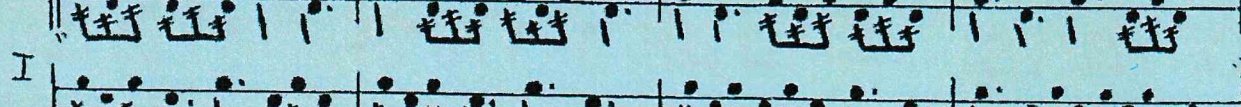
C 

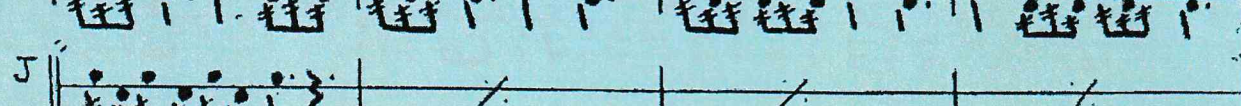
D 

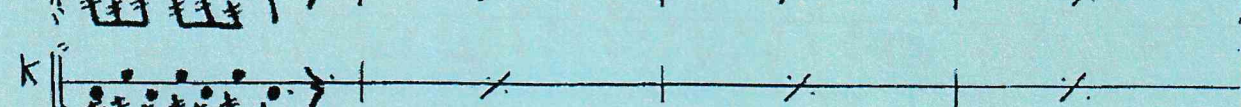
E 

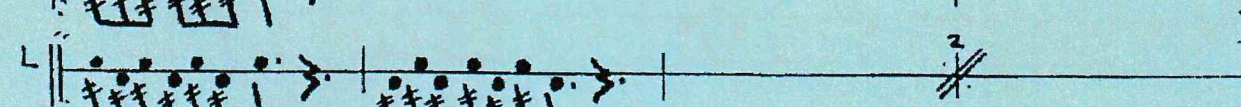
F 

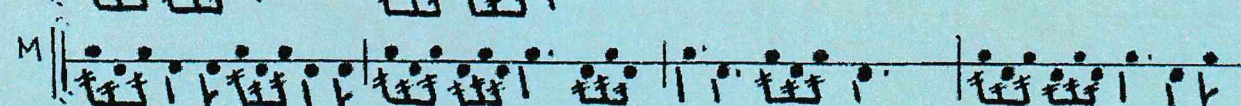
G 


H 

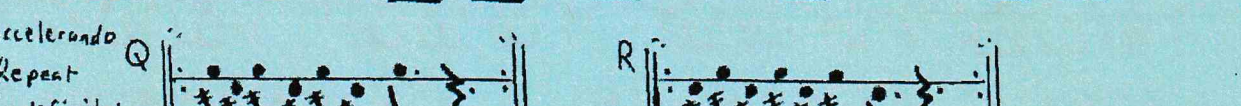
I 

J 

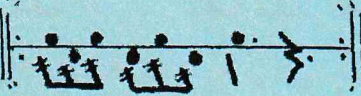

K 


L 

M 

N 

Accelerando
Repeat
Indefinitely

Q  R 

S 

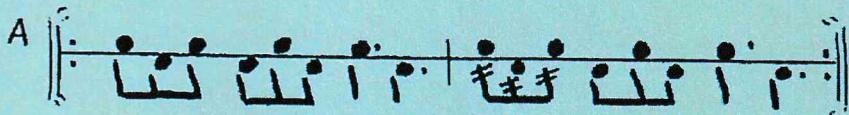
Closed Roll Pulse Exercise No. 6

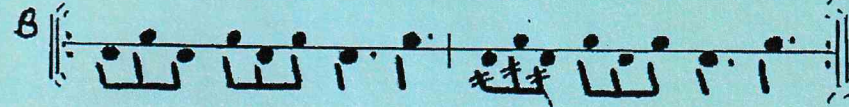
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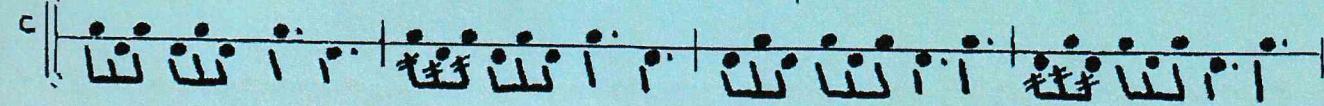
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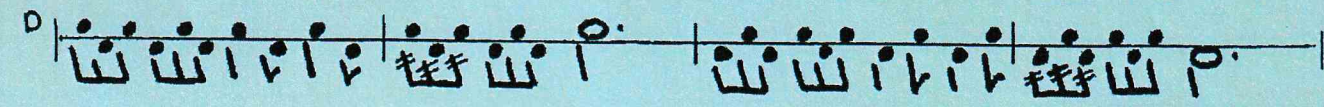
12
8

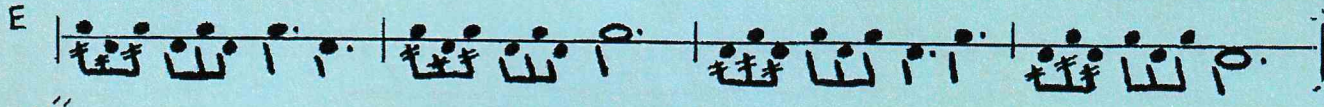
Prerequisite - *Handwritten text, mostly illegible*

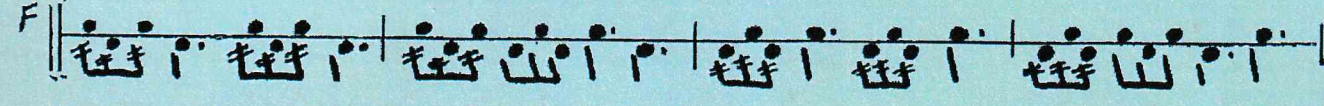
A 

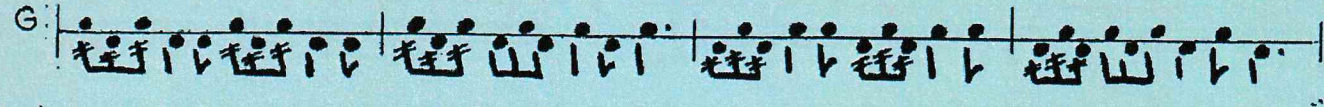
B 

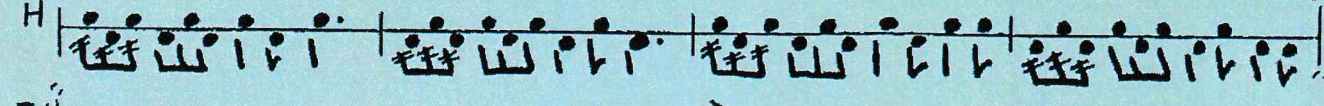
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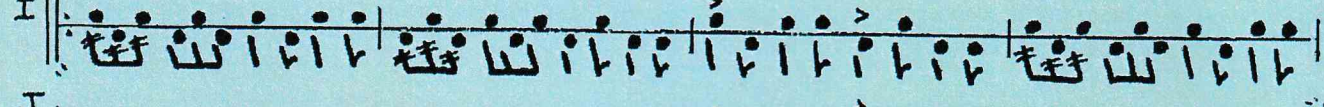
D 

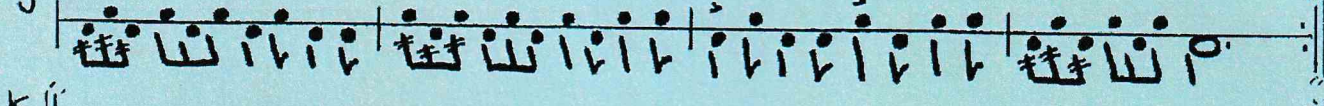
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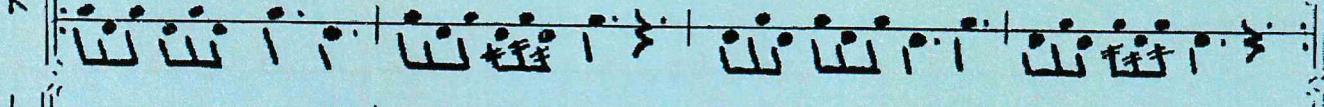
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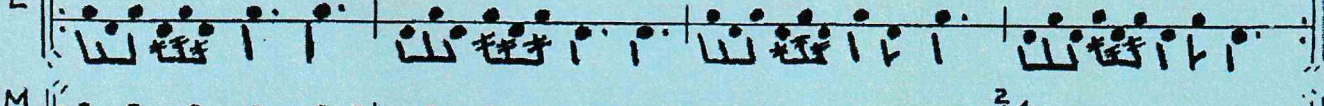
G 

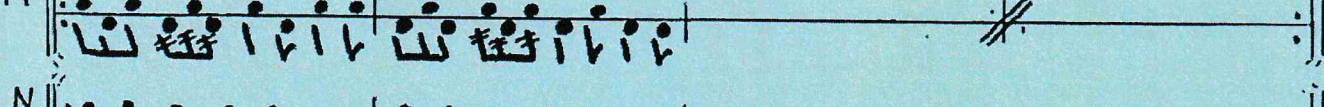
H 

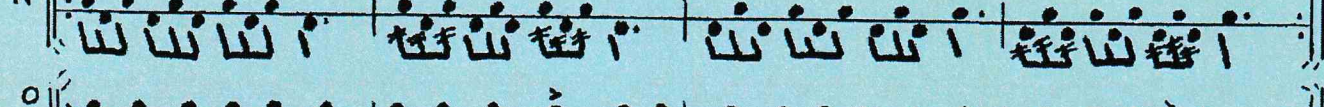
I 

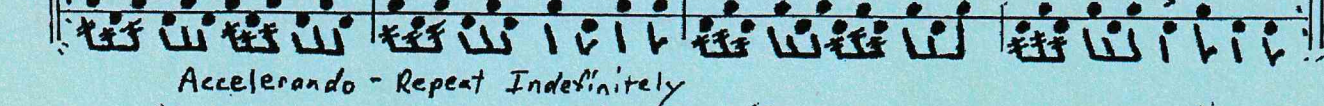
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K 

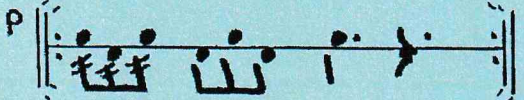
L 


M 

N 

O 

Accelerando - Repeat Indefinitely

P 

Q 

4
4 Detail

Closed Roll Exercise Score #2

(To be played with a simple 2/4 pipe tune)

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Part ①

Musical notation for Part 1, consisting of two staves. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth notes with triplets and accents. The second staff continues the sequence, ending with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Above the second staff, "1st time" and "2nd time" are written above a triplet of eighth notes.

Part ②

Musical notation for Part 2, consisting of two staves. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth notes with triplets and accents. The second staff continues the sequence, ending with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Above the second staff, "1st time" and "2nd time" are written above a triplet of eighth notes.

Part ③

Musical notation for Part 3, consisting of two staves. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth notes with triplets and accents. The second staff continues the sequence, ending with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Above the second staff, "1st time" and "2nd time" are written above a triplet of eighth notes.

Part ④

Musical notation for Part 4, consisting of two staves. The first staff contains a sequence of eighth notes with triplets and accents. The second staff continues the sequence, ending with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Above the second staff, "1st time" and "2nd time" are written above a triplet of eighth notes.