

MARACAS by Kristen Shiner McGuire


A. How to play a steady pattern.


1. Hold maracas with palms facing the floor and pointer fingers on top.
2. Keeping forearm still, flick wrists quickly.
3. Use a small, snapping motion; try to keep the rhythm even and the sounds clear.
4. Avoid a galloping sound by emphasizing weak hand.
5. Alternate way: hold both maracas in one hand (cross handles) and move back and forth in the air with a stiff forearm, like playing a shaker.

B. Rolling

1. Shake back and forth in air, or
2. Hold on maraca in each hand, with handles pointed towards ceiling and rotate like you're stirring soup.

C. Typical patterns:

a. 

b. 

c. 