



# Timpani Rolls

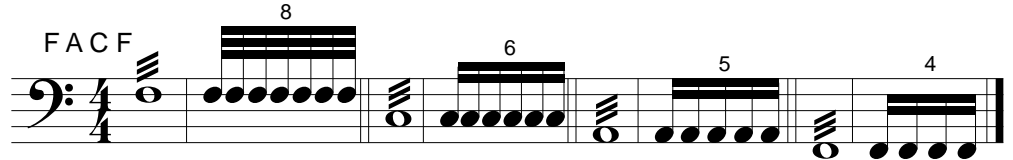
by J. R. Beck  
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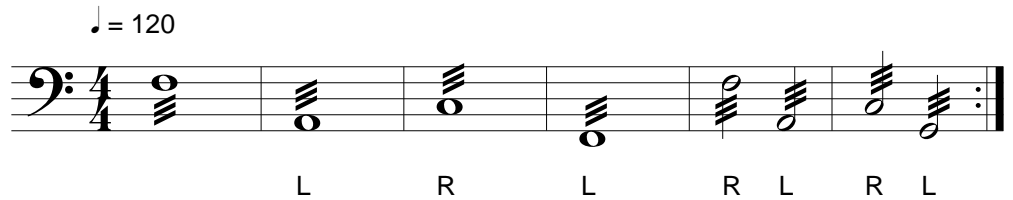
## Roll Speeds for Different Pitches (Head Tensions)

The higher the note, the faster the roll. Use the “feel” of the mallet rebound and your ears to determine roll speed.



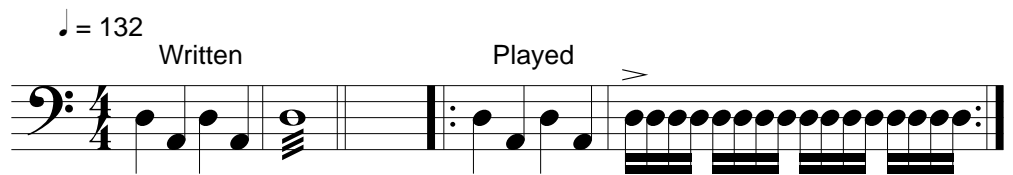
## Sticking for Rolls

Lead down with the left hand and up with the right hand. Use an odd number of strokes (5, 7, 9) to “turn your hands around.”



## Measuring Long Timpani Rolls

Accent the first note and find the relaxed “roll speed” (often 16th notes). Slow and smooth rolls sound better than fast and forced.



## Loud Rolls Without Edge

Lean over the drum putting the tension in your chest, not your wrists. Slower even rolls sound better than fast “machine gun” roll.

