

Supplemental Studies

Eighth Rests

If at any point in this discussion the concept of downbeats and upbeats is confusing, please refer to pages nine and thirteen for a review. As it is with eighth notes, it is important to understand this concept in order to accurately play rhythms incorporating rests.

Counting:

An eighth rest γ takes up the same amount of time as an eighth notes. Therefore, in 4/4 time an eighth rest means to rest for half a count.

Hands Play: R L R L
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Ex. 1

Foot Position: ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

In example one, the eighth rests are placed on the upbeats and the eighth notes are placed on the downbeat; therefore, the drum or pad is struck on the downbeats (see arrows). In example two, the opposite is true. The drum or pad is played on the upbeats.

Hands Play: R L R L
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Ex. 2

Foot Position: ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

Now, let's combine the two patterns:

Hands Play: R L R L R L R L
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Ex. 3

Foot Position: ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑