

# Arpeggios

♩ = 60 - 140 / Variation Dependent

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## Variation 1 - Triplets



L R L etc

Continue chromatically through all 12 keys

## Variation 2 - 16th Notes



L R L etc

Continue chromatically through all 12 keys

## Variation 3 - 5lets



L R L etc

Continue chromatically through all 12 keys

## Variation 4 - Sextuplets



L R L etc

Continue chromatically through all 12 keys

## Variation 5 - Blocked



Continue chromatically  
through all 12 keys

## Variation 6 - Stevens'



1 2 3 4 3 2 etc

Continue chromatically  
through all 12 keys

## Notes:

There are a variety of takeaways from this exercise. From a musical standpoint, I want us to use it to understand chord qualities that differ from the standard major and minor triads that you are likely familiar with. This exercise will help you recognize Major 7 chords, Dominant 7 chords, Minor 7 Chords, and Fully Diminished 7 chords. It's by no means exhaustive, and I encourage you to try other chord qualities as well!

The technical skills we can work on in this exercise are nearly unlimited. With 2 mallets, we can utilize these variations to work on handspeed changes (For example, playing variation 1 and variation 2 back to back to switch from triplets to sixteenth notes.) With 4 mallets it can be an exercise in learning chord shapes and achieving good bar placement on chords that are not particularly idiomatic for our keyboard. Additionally, all manner of permutations can be applied to these chords for additional challenge.

Bass, electric guitar, and synth players should attempt the arpeggios as written, as well as come up with original variations.

Drum set and auxiliary percussion should be prepared to groove to each of these variations in such a way that each variations' tuplet is highlighted in a creative and groovy way. While you could technically groove out to Variation 3 with quarter notes, it's not as interesting as, say, playing partials 1 3 4 and 5 on the Hi-hat, or for the aux player, partials 1 and 3 with a shaker and a rock tambourine on beats 2 and 4. You don't have to do these ideas, but they are in the spirit of what I'd like to hear from you.