

Part 3:

Sick Odd Meter Double Bass Grooves

- *Counting in 7
- * Three basic groupings
- *Subdivided Grouping in 7/4

Playing in 7 "Expanded"

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Grouping is a way to break up many patterns into smaller units making it easier to play and feel the pulses in any odd meter that you may come across. The most common method of grouping is to break patterns of odd meters into groups of 2s and 3s. Here in Part 3 we are going to examine three basic grouping patterns for seven which are 2+2+3, 3+2+2 and 2+3+2. Please note: if you get lost with any of the terms please take a look at the terminology reference sheet which can be obtained from my first lesson "Reading Basics" featured in Sick Drummer's fifth issue.

ATTN:
Always count
out loud in the
PRACTICE
ROOM!!!!

#1) In this basic 7/8 groove we have a grouping of 2+2+3 and we count "one two", "one two", "one two three". Notice how the back beat falls on beat 5 or in other words the 1 of the three note grouping.

Count: 1 2 1 2 1 2 3 etc.....

♩=120

Drum Set

#2) This 7/8 groove uses the grouping of 3+2+2 and we count "one two three" "one two" "one two". Notice how I intentionally programmed the groove so that the grouping can instantly be heard and felt.

Count: 1 2 3 1 2 1 2 etc.....

♩=120

#3) This 7/8 groove uses the groupings of 2+3+2 and we count "one two", "one two three", "one two".

Count: 1 2 1 2 3 1 2 etc.....

♩=120

Brief discussion and overview: There are many other combinations of groupings like 3+4 or 4+ 3 or 5+2, or 2+5 etc, etc that can be used but it's important to know that your groupings should fit in musically and stylistically with whatever your band or music calls for; unless, of course, your goals are to be the next monstrous mathematician drummer. Also note, that it's all about your personal interpretation that matters not what it should or must be. YOU are the one in charge of counting and YOU should be aware of the many other possibilities but remember at the end of the day we are just trying to get our job done. So do what you feel is most important and natural so music can be made.

#4) This 7/4 example demonstrates a subdivided count method which can be used and adapted to all of the previous mentioned grooves by adding the count "and" after each number.

♩=140

1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 3 & etc.....

- Check out Part 4:
- Counting in 7
 - *Cut off four feel
 - *When to count and when not to count these methods