

Christmas Eve

Written by Mark Smith

The image shows two staves of musical notation for a drum exercise. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains 12 measures of music. Each measure consists of a triplet of eighth notes, with a '3' written above the notes. The second staff is in 4/4 time and contains 12 measures. The first 11 measures are identical to the first staff, each containing a triplet of eighth notes. The 12th measure of the second staff contains a single eighth note with an accent (>) above it, followed by a quarter rest, and then a double bar line.

Christmas Eve is a triplet roll exercise written by my High School Drumline instructor, Mark Smith.

This exercise played a huge part in developing my doubles and timing and has remained a part of my warmup for almost a decade.

When practicing this exercise, make sure you:

1. Keep a tight/even triplet check pattern.
2. Have even doubles. Second note of each diddle sound the same as the first.
3. Keep an even stick height throughout and try to not accent any notes, unless noted.