7TH REGIMENT

BATTERY AUDITION BOOK
Welcome!

Thank you for expressing interest and taking the first step in becoming a member of the 7th Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps! This packet is your primary resource throughout the audition process. Read through everything carefully and prepare the materials to the best of your ability prior to camp.

Audition Process Overview:

The goal of the audition process is to provide you with an educational experience while evaluating your music and visual performance. Your weekend with the 7th Regiment will consist of a group audition and an individual audition. The evaluation will take place over the course of the entire weekend. You will receive feedback after the camp that will have you in one of three categories:

1. **Contract:** You have earned yourself a spot in the 7th regiment Battery and are ready to take the next steps as a member with the drum corps
2. **Callback:** We would like to see you again before making a final decision. We are looking for more growth from you as a player between camps.
3. **No contract or callback:** While we would love to offer everybody a contract, there are only so many spots that we can have on the field. At this time we feel that you still have room to improve before taking the next steps with the 7th Regiment. We encourage you to keep practicing and come back next year.

What You’ll Need to Audition:

To audition for us for the 2023 season you’ll need:

- 2023 7th Regiment Battery Packet
- Snare sticks, quad sticks or mallets, bass drum mallets with white stick tape
- Notebook and pencil
- Water
- Comfortable clothing
- An open mind

Battery Technique Overview

While the technique will be explained in detail over the course of the winter camps, here are a few points to help guide your practice:

1. **Arms, Wrist, and Finger:** We will utilize all three of these muscle groups in different proportions to perform the exercises and music.
2. **The Music Dictates the Technique:** Different styles of music and technical passages will require varied approaches to the instrument. Flexibility of touch and approach will allow for a wide range of musical and technical expression.
3. **Stroke Types:** Stroke types will be the key to uniform interpretation of the music. These include full strokes, down strokes, tap strokes, and up strokes.
4. **Note Density and Touch:** As a general rule, more open rhythms and beat values are played with a stronger touch while dense rhythms and beat values can use a lower, lighter touch.
5. **Play to the Groupings:** Most exercises and musical excerpts can be thought of as groupings of notes or figures. Finding patterns within the music will help establish important checkpoints and allow for a more natural “drumming” approach to certain passages.
6. **KNOW THE LEVELS**: Here is a dynamic guide to reference while practicing:
- Pianissimo: As soft as you can play
- Piano: 3 inches. Beads are even with the wrist
- Mezzo Piano: 4 inches. Beads are slightly above the wrist
- Mezzo Forte: 6 inches. This level can be used for a louder low end or an accented sound in softer dynamic passages
- Forte: 9 inches
- Fortissimo: 12 inches. This level can vary based on musical context
- FFF: 15 inches. This is a full extension with arms, wrist, and finger working together to create an open sound quality. Definitely full but not pounded!

7. **KNOW THE LEVELS, BUT THE MUSIC IS FIRST**: While the levels are very important, they can only take us so far. Ultimately, musical needs will dictate the dynamic range, and that will require us to be intelligent and flexible with physical interpretation. We build skills through our consistent interpretation of our references, but we will not use a protractor for every note.

8. **HAVE FUN**: Raw performance energy and emotion is central to our success as a percussion section. We want you immersed in the PERFORMANCE of the Material!!!

**Set Up and Posture**
- You will stand up straight with your feet shoulder width apart and about a couple of inches behind your drum/pad. Your arms should be at your side with the sticks in your hands.
- Allow your arms and shoulders to hang low and relaxed.
- Bring your sticks up to the playing position:
  - Snares: Right hand will be in matched grip and the left hand will be in traditional grip. Beads should be in the center of the head and you will have a straight downward angle from your elbow down to the beads of your sticks.
  - Quads: Both hands will be in matched grip. The bead of your right stick should be over the drum 1 playing zone and left bead over the drum 2 playing zone. This is about an inch inside the bearing edge of the head and centered between the two tension rods closest to you.
  - Bass Drums: Both mallets will be in the center of the head.
  - All: sticks in will be the primary set position in addition to the playing position.
- When we are marking time, your heels will be together and feet at a 45 degree angle. We will pick up the whole foot off the ground to mark time starting with the left foot. We will mark time to most exercises and show music, when appropriate.

Start Practicing and Have Fun!
Have fun immersing yourself in the packet! You can post videos of your progress in the 7th Regiment Battery Audition Facebook Page. We look forward to seeing you at our first camp!
8s Splits
7th Regiment Percussion 2023
compiled by Dan Shinhara

Bassline

Unison

These are the rhythms that will be plugged into the 8s splits

A Split

Dynamic 8s

- Play unison as well as the A split with 1s, 2s, 3s, and 4s
- Decrescendo from forte to piano and crescendo from piano to forte

Down and Up

Up and Down
Dynamic 8s Arounds

- These are written out as up/down, but should also be played as down/up
- Crescendo from piano to forte and decrescendo from forte to piano

\[ \text{\textit{Down the Drums}} \]

\[ \text{\textit{Triangles}} \]

\[ \text{\textit{Double Triangles}} \]
Duple Timing Exercises
7th Regiment Percussion 2023

- All: Also play with downbeat accents and off the left
- Quads play with down the drums arounds

\( \text{Q/s} = 100-180 \)

**16th Note 1 Note**

2s

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**16th Note 2 Note**

2s

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**16th Note 3 Note**

2s

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compiled by Dan Shinoara
Triplet Timing Exercises
7th Regiment Percussion 2023

- All: Also play with downbeat accents and off the left
- Quads play with the various triplet timing arounds

\[ \text{Tempo} = 100-180 \]

\[ \text{Triplet 1 Note} \]

\[ \text{Triplet 2 Note} \]

\[ \text{Triplet 3 Note} \]

compiled by Dan Shinohara
Basic Quad Arounds
7th Regiment Percussion 2023

- These arounds can be applied to many basic exercises:
  Timing, Grids, Two Heighted exercises, etc.

Down the Drums - Duple

Up the Drums - Duple

Down the Drums - Triple

Wa-duh-duh

Accents Out - West Side

Accents In - West Side

Accents Out - East Side

Accents In - East Side

Jungle Patterns
Can be applied to grids and flam exercises

Jungle

Reverse Jungle

Urban Jungle

Suburban Jungle

Slow-Fast Arounds
Works with any exercise that has an alternating sticking
Accent Tap
7th Regiment Percussion 2023

- All: Play Bucks exercises with upbeat accents as well
- Quads play with all Two Height Aroun<ds

-编 by Dan Shihahara

Bucks

First Fill In

Second Fill In

Bucks Pyramid

Hugs

Hugs w/ Fill In

Hugs, Fill in the Four
Accent Tap cont.

Upbeat Hugs

Syncopated Hugs
McNutt Basics
7th Regiment Percussion 2023
arr. Colin McNutt

Drop Catch \( j=100-160 \)

Colin's McDiddles \( j=152-250 \)

Flam Control \( j=120-184 \)

Flam Accent Break Down \( j=120-160 \)

Flam Tap Break Down \( j=120-160 \)