

ALTITUDE DRUMMING

Volume 4 - Coordination & Independence

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Eugenio Ventimiglia

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Coordination & Independence

Altitude Drumming – Volume 4

- FREE EXCERPT -

Confident Drummer Series

by Eugenio Ventimiglia

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Coordination & Independence

There is one main aspect that separates the drum set from most other musical instruments: we play it using all four limbs simultaneously.

A classic mistake many drummers make in their formative years is focusing exclusively on pure hand and foot technique, assuming that eventually all parts will work together automatically, just by playing.

Unfortunately overlooking the interaction between upper and lower limbs is one of the main causes of lack of groove and bad time feel in drummers.

The typical symptoms are: tension, inaccuracies, flams, lack of feel, poor balance and lack of fluidity.

There are drummers that despite a high overall level of preparation, find it difficult to play smoothly and effortlessly.

The reason is that the investigation necessary to make all elements function together must be done separately.

That's where coordination and independence studies come into play.

First of all, let's clarify the distinction between these two terms. We often hear them used interchangeably, because of the fact that they refer to the same area of drumming and they are definitely closely related.

Coordination is that part of technique that involves two or more limbs interacting and executing simultaneous motions, either in succession or overlapping. It's where we combine elements and make them get along with each other.

On the other hand, independence is more about complex intersecting patterns, such that every part involved needs to have a certain degree of autonomy in order to be able to function properly.

So coordination focuses more on the quality of the interaction between the limbs, while independence refers to the possibility of making different layers work simultaneously.

I wanted to write a method dedicated to both aspects, which included all the most powerful tools and workouts to help drummers of all levels reach total 4 way freedom and avoid the obstacles mentioned above.

The book is arranged in clear sections, one for each main topic, so that we are guided step by step through the most effective course of action and we never get frustrated because something is too hard to play:

- Basic Coordination and Rituals.
- Power Groupings.
- Technical Symmetry.
- Alignments.
- Balance Studies.
- 4 Limbs Linear Cells and Combinations.
- 4 Limbs Unison Cells and Combinations.
- Independence Cells and Combinations.

In total it's more than 130 pages and 5 hours of videos, and I'm sure in it you are going to find all you need to smooth out all your coordination problems, and easily correct even the slightest friction between the limbs.

It's cool to have it all organized, so that you can use it to work on this topic from scratch or to review things once in a while, when you feel like polishing up a specific combination or boosting a certain skill.

In this free excerpt I'd like to share with you 55 examples picked from the 1500+ exercises included in the method.

These will help you quickly take your coordination and independence to another level, and also give you an idea of how effective this approach is.

Each example is linked to its video demo, which you can access by click-

ing on the transcription.

If you want to check out the whole 13 minute video demo on YouTube, click [HERE](#).

The table of contents of the book is included at the end this 15 page PDF.

To find out more and to buy the method you can visit the dedicated page here:

['Coordination & Independence' – Altitude Drumming – Volume 4](#)

Coordination 1 + 1

♩ = 60-150 bpm

A single staff in 4/4 time with a common time signature above it. It shows a repeating pattern of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note. Below the staff, four pairs of numbers are listed: 1) R R, 2) L L, 3) R L, and 4) L R.

Sticking Number 3
p.15

A single staff in 4/4 time with a common time signature above it. It shows a repeating pattern of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note. The sticking is marked with 'x' on the first note of each group.

Try all
Stickings

A single staff in 4/4 time with a common time signature above it. It shows a repeating pattern of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note. The sticking is marked with 'x' on the first note of each group.

Orchestrate around
the Drum Set

A single staff in 4/4 time with a common time signature above it. It shows a repeating pattern of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note. The sticking is marked with 'x' on the first note of each group.

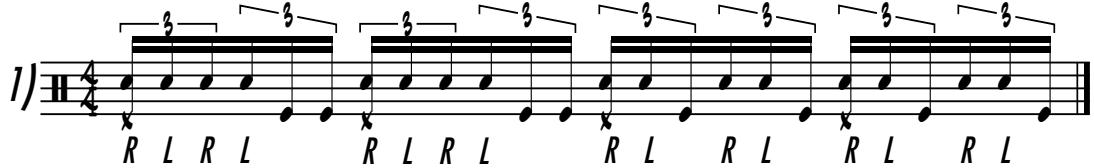
A single staff in 4/4 time with a common time signature above it. It shows a repeating pattern of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note. The sticking is marked with 'x' on the first note of each group. The measure ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line.

A single staff in 4/4 time with a common time signature above it. It shows a repeating pattern of two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note. The sticking is marked with 'x' on the first note of each group. The measure ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line.

Coordination

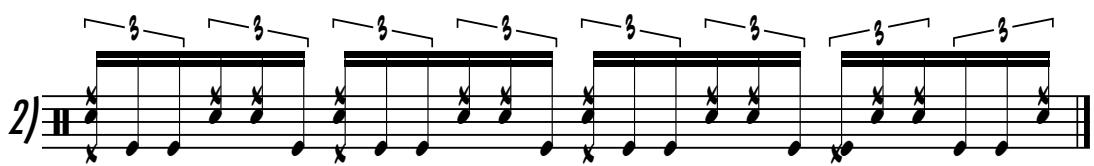
Linear

p.23 ex.5

1) 

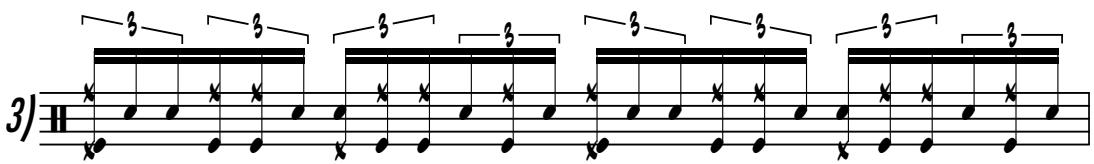
Unison

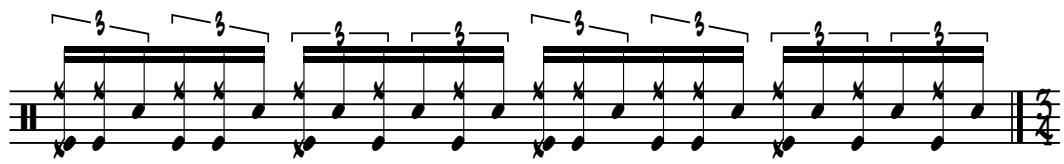
p.24 ex.8

2) 

Unison

p.25 ex.12

3) 



Technical Symmetry

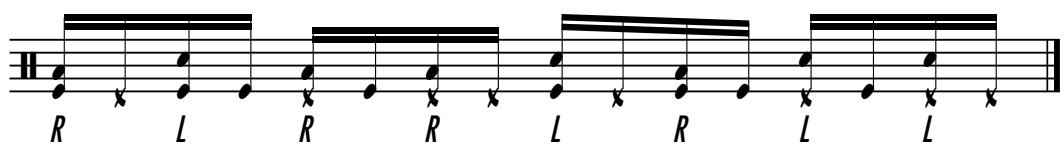
p.28 ex.3

4) 

Technical Symmetry

p.29 ex.4

5) 



Alignments

Unisons

p.33 ex.8

1) A single measure of 3/4 time. It consists of three groups of two sixteenth-note strokes each, separated by vertical bar lines. The first group starts with a vertical bar line, the second with a diagonal bar line, and the third with a vertical bar line. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the heads of the vertical stems.

Triplets

p.36 ex.4

2) A measure of 4/4 time. It features four groups of three sixteenth-note strokes each, grouped by brackets above the notes. The first group starts with a vertical bar line, the second with a diagonal bar line, and the third with a vertical bar line. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the heads of the vertical stems.

Sixteenths

p.39 ex.17

3) A measure of 3/4 time. It contains three groups of four sixteenth-note strokes each, grouped by brackets above the notes. The first group starts with a vertical bar line, the second with a diagonal bar line, and the third with a vertical bar line. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the heads of the vertical stems.

Sixteenths

p.40 ex.24

4) A measure of 4/4 time. It shows three groups of four sixteenth-note strokes each, grouped by brackets above the notes. The first group starts with a vertical bar line, the second with a diagonal bar line, and the third with a vertical bar line. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the heads of the vertical stems.

Balance

p.45 ex.7

5) A measure of 4/4 time. It displays four groups of four sixteenth-note strokes each, grouped by brackets above the notes. The first group starts with a vertical bar line, the second with a diagonal bar line, and the third with a vertical bar line. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the heads of the vertical stems. The fourth group ends with a vertical bar line.

4 Limbs Coordination

Linear Cells

p.49 ex.8

p.55 ex.15

1) 4/4 | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | |

Linear Cells

p.57 ex.11

p.58 ex.8

2) 4/4 | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | |

Linear Combinations

p.59 ex.7

3) 4/4 | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | |

Linear Combinations

p.60 ex.3

4) 4/4 | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | |

Linear Combinations

p.61 ex.2

5) 4/4 | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | | x . b | x . b | x . b | x . b | |

Linear Combinations

p.62 ex.5

6) 4/4 | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | | . b x | . b x | . b x | . b x | |

4 Limbs Coordination

Unison Cells

p.68 ex.11

p.71 ex.13

1) This section shows two measures of unison drumming. The first measure consists of two groups of two strokes each, separated by a vertical bar. The second measure also consists of two groups of two strokes each, separated by a vertical bar. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the drum set diagram.

Unison Cells

p.82 ex.5

p.83 ex.4

2) This section shows two measures of unison drumming. The first measure features a grace note (indicated by a 'g' above the stroke) preceding a main stroke. The second measure also features a grace note preceding a main stroke. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the drum set diagram.

Unison Combinations

p.85 ex.8

3) This section shows four measures of unison drumming. It consists of two pairs of measures. Each pair contains two groups of two strokes each, separated by a vertical bar. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the drum set diagram.

Unison Combinations

p.86 ex.5

4) This section shows four measures of unison drumming. It consists of two pairs of measures. Each pair contains two groups of two strokes each, separated by a vertical bar. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the drum set diagram.

Unison Combinations

p.87 ex.6

5) This section shows four measures of unison drumming. It consists of two pairs of measures. Each pair contains two groups of two strokes each, separated by a vertical bar. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the drum set diagram.

Unison Combinations

p.88 ex.7

6) This section shows four measures of unison drumming. It consists of two pairs of measures. Each pair contains two groups of two strokes each, separated by a vertical bar. The strokes are indicated by 'x' marks on the drum set diagram.

Independence Cells

2 and 3 Note Cells

p.94 ex.12

p.95 ex.12

Drum notation for 2 and 3 Note Cells, example 12. The notation shows two measures of drum patterns. Measure 1 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note. Measure 2 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note.

4 and 2 Note Cells

p.96 ex.4

p.104 ex.20

Drum notation for 4 and 2 Note Cells, example 4. The notation shows two measures of drum patterns. Measure 1 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note. Measure 2 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note.

3 and 4 Note Cells

p.106 ex.20

p.107 ex.7

Drum notation for 3 and 4 Note Cells, example 20. The notation shows two measures of drum patterns. Measure 1 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note. Measure 2 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note.

Triplet Cell

p.112 ex.9

Shuffle Cell

p.117 ex.19

Drum notation for Triplet Cell and Shuffle Cell examples. The notation shows two measures of drum patterns. Measure 1 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note. Measure 2 consists of a sixteenth note followed by a eighth note, then a sixteenth note, then a eighth note.

Independence Cells - Left Foot

♩ = 50-130 bpm

4 Note Cells

p.111



- One Bar at the time
- One Line at the time
- Go through the entire Page

1)

5)

9)

13)

Independence Combinations

3/4 Symmetry

p.120 ex.7

1) A 3/4 time signature drum sheet music example. It consists of three measures of 3/4 time. Each measure contains four strokes: a vertical line (left foot) and a horizontal bar (right hand). The pattern repeats in each measure.

3/4 Symmetry

with Left Foot

p.122 ex.6

2) A 3/4 time signature drum sheet music example. It consists of three measures of 3/4 time. Each measure contains four strokes: a vertical line (left foot), a horizontal bar (right hand), another vertical line (left foot), and another horizontal bar (right hand). The pattern repeats in each measure.

16ths Symmetry

p.124 ex.5

3) A 4/4 time signature drum sheet music example. It consists of four measures of 4/4 time. Each measure contains four strokes: a vertical line (left foot), a horizontal bar (right hand), a vertical line (left foot), and a horizontal bar (right hand). The pattern repeats in each measure.

16ths Symmetry

with Left Foot

p.125 ex.6

4) A 4/4 time signature drum sheet music example. It consists of four measures of 4/4 time. Each measure contains four strokes: a vertical line (left foot), a horizontal bar (right hand), a vertical line (left foot), and a horizontal bar (right hand). The pattern repeats in each measure.

Shuffle

p.128 ex.3

5) A 3/4 time signature drum sheet music example. It consists of four measures of 3/4 time. Each measure contains four strokes: a vertical line (left foot), a horizontal bar (right hand), a vertical line (left foot), and a horizontal bar (right hand). The pattern repeats in each measure.

Shuffle with Left Foot

p.129 ex.4

6) A 3/4 time signature drum sheet music example. It consists of four measures of 3/4 time. Each measure contains four strokes: a vertical line (left foot), a horizontal bar (right hand), a vertical line (left foot), and a horizontal bar (right hand). The pattern repeats in each measure.

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