

# DrumSteps

## Sight-Reading Skills Weekly Build: Week 3

Welcome to Week 3 of your Sight-Reading Skills Weekly Build. Each week you will progress your sight-reading skills by incorporating one new figure into your workout routine, then you will gradually start mixing, blending and articulating figures with dynamics and orchestrations around the drum kit, then finally you will progress to reading multiple lines simultaneously on different drums.

This third week is about dividing whole beats into four quarter-beat notes which are therefore played at four times the speed of the whole-beat or twice the speed of the eighth-note pair.


### Your Routine

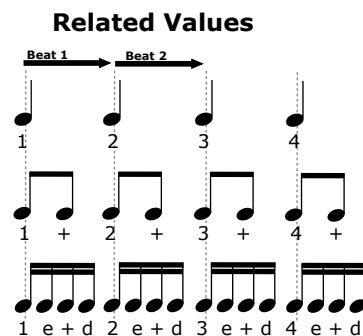
You should practice each week's systems at least once per week, twice if you found anything tricky. This is done in addition to your regular practice routine. Make this a habit - set aside a regular time for your sight-reading practice.

Each Sight-Reading Skills sheet should take you no more than five to ten minutes to complete. If you are unsure of any figure you can check it on the Quick Reference Video.


Do not worry about technical perfection when working on your sight-reading. The goal here is to get used to interpreting figures on the fly, so it's best to keep steadily moving forwards. Let any mistakes go - you will have plenty of opportunity to come back to every figure.


### This Week's Focus: Quarter Beats - The 16<sup>th</sup> Note Group

Notation:	
American Name:	Sixteenth Notes
English Name:	Semi-Quaver
Value:	Four 1/4 Beats
Count:	1 e and d



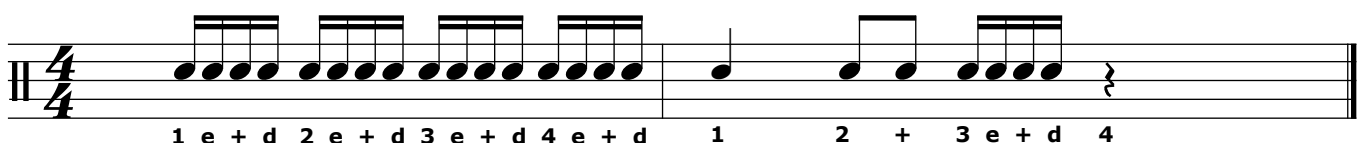
#### Warm Up 1: Understanding the Sixteenth Note Group

An individual Sixteenth note is written as follows:  Notice the double tail that is added to the top of the stem. It is this double tail that signifies that the note is worth quarter of a beat rather than a whole beat.

When all four quarters of the same beat are written the tails are joined together in a double beam,  making it clear that the notes are all part of the same beat.

#### Warm Up 2: Counting System

As you begin sight-reading these notes count along with them to help internalise their values and their timings. Count the whole beats and half beats as you did with the Eighth Note Pairs and count each new quarter as **e** and **d**. This method of counting keeps the relationships between the notes clear and allows you to count quickly as it rolls off the tongue easily.



#### Warm Up 3: Accurately quadruple the speed as you divide the beat into quarters.

When you play a quarter-beat it only lasts a quarter of the amount of time so the next note must come four times as quickly. You must do this accurately so use your counting system carefully. You can use a metronome to help you if you want to.

**Now begin your Sight-Reading Workout for this week on the next page**

## Your Week #3 Sight-Reading Workout:

1 2 3 e + d 4 1 2 3 e + d 4 1 2 3 e + d 4 1 2 3 4(rest)

1 2 3 4 e + d 1 2 3 4 e + d 1 2 3 4 e + d 1 2 3 4

1 e + d 2 3 4 1 2 e + d 3 4 1 2 e + d 3 e + d 4 1 2 3 4

1 e + d 2 3 4 1 2 e + d 3 e + d 4 1 e + d 2 3 4 1 2 e + d 3 4

Continue counting for yourself from here

Congratulations! You completed this week's Sight-Reading Workout. If you found anything tricky today then practice this again on another day this week, otherwise move on to the next workout if you feel ready.

