

## Feeling metric modulations.

### A Practical approach

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Metric modulations are a hot topic in contemporary drumming styles.

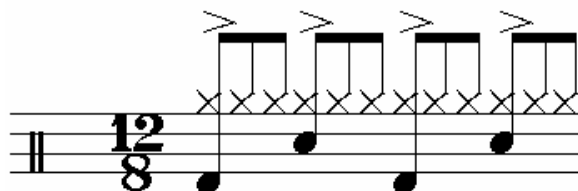
There are several excellent books dealing with this subject.

I developed a practical approach in order “feel” the metric modulations.

#### Example 1. Starting with the ride pattern.

##### Step 1

Let's start with a classic 12/8 rhythm on the ride cymbal.

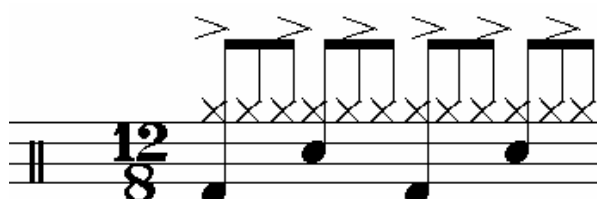


##### Step 2

Now try accenting every second note while maintaining the snare/bass drum pattern.

Use some kind of motion (Moeller technique) to allow the accents flow.

Try to internalize the articulation between the different motions in order to build “muscle memory”



Once you feel comfortable:

1. Play the hi-hat with your left foot in every beat of the 12/8 pattern.
2. Count out loud the accents on the ride cymbal (6 beats).
3. Count out loud the hi-hat notes (4 beats).
4. Feel the articulation while counting.
5. Switch from one count to the other.

##### Step 3

Place the snare and the bass drum unison with the accents in the ride cymbal.

Move the hi-hat in unison with the accents too.

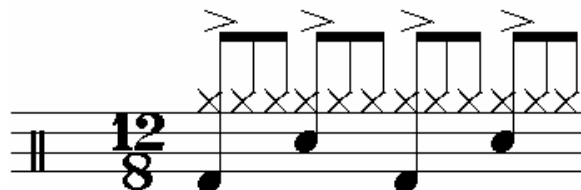
Use a flowing motion = moeller technique.

The image illustrates a rhythmic conversion from 12/8 to 4/4. The top staff is in 12/8 time, featuring a series of eighth notes with accents on the 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th notes. A vertical dashed line is positioned at the 6th eighth note. A downward-pointing arrow indicates the transition to the bottom staff, which is in 4/4 time. The 4/4 staff shows quarter notes with accents on the 2nd, 4th, and 6th notes, representing the equivalent of the 6th, 10th, and 14th eighth notes from the 12/8 staff.

Example 2. Starting with the snare and the bass drum.

Step 1

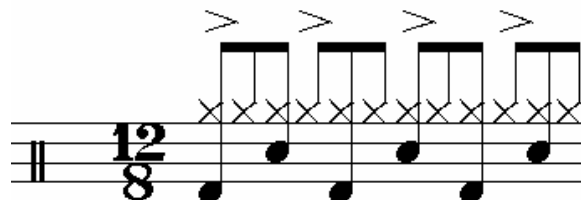
Let's start again with the same classic 12/8 rhythm on the ride cymbal.



Step 2

Use some kind of flowing motion in the cymbal rhythm (Moeller technique) to accent every third note. Now place the bass and the snare drum on every second note while maintaining the ride cymbal pattern..

Try to internalize the articulation between the different motions in order to build "muscle memory".



Once you feel comfortable:

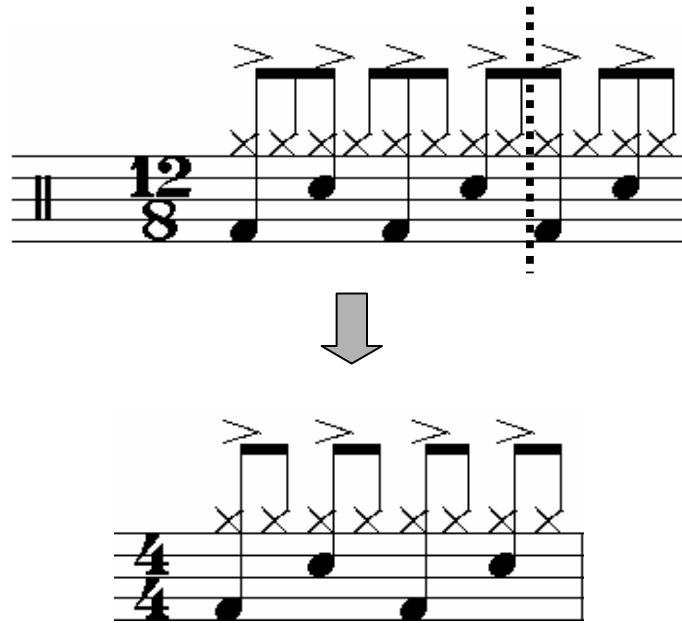
1. Play the hi-hat with your left foot in every beat of the 12/8 pattern.
2. Count out loud the accents on the ride cymbal (4 beats).
3. Count out loud the snare and bass drum notes (6 beats).
4. Feel the articulation while counting.
5. Switch from one count to the other without stopping.

### Step 3

Play the accents in the ride cymbal along with the snare and the bass drum.

Play the hi-hat with your foot in unison with the snare and bass drum.

Use a flowing motion = moeller technique.



### Notes:

1. Note that the new pulse moves (one third) faster than the starting pulse.
2. Try to feel both rhythms (concentrate in the articulation), it may be tricky at first but eventually you'll get accustomed to it.
3. You can use the same concept starting from different signatures ( for example starting with a 4/4 rhythm and arrive to a 12/8 rhythm)
4. Try other modulations accenting every fourth, fifth, sixth or seventh note over a given rhythm and repeat the steps described above.