

CHAPTER 3

SOME BASIC FUNK PATTERNS

Now that we're ready to combine the slapping and popping techniques, the most obvious way to begin is by playing octaves — the basic building blocks of many funk lines. In the following exercises, strive for precision and accuracy. Octave patterns seem simple to play, but the hard part is executing them *consistently, with a perfect time feel, for a long time!*

To make the downbeats sound like downbeats, and the upbeats, upbeats, slap a little harder (or in some cases, a little harder) than you pop. That way, you'll sound more like you're grooving, rather than just floating.

Metronome markings have been deliberately omitted. The best way to "nail" these exercises is to start slowly, and increase the tempo gradually. See how long you can play these octave eighth notes without stopping.

3.1

Staff 1: T P T P T P T P *Simile*

Staff 2: 2 2 2 2 | 3 3 3 3 | 4 4 4 4 | 5 5 5 5

Staff 3: 0 0 0 0 | 1 1 1 1 | 2 2 2 2 | 3 3 3 3

Staff 1: T P T P T P T P

Staff 2: 6 6 6 6 | 7 7 7 7 | 8 8 8 8 | 9 9 9 9

Staff 3: 4 4 4 4 | 5 5 5 5 | 6 6 6 6 | 7 7 7 7

Staff 1: T P T P T P T P

Staff 2: 10 10 10 10 | 11 11 11 11 | 12 12 12 12 | 12 12 12 12

Staff 3: 8 8 8 8 | 9 9 9 9 | 10 10 10 10 | 10 10 10 10

Staff 1: T P T P T P T P

Staff 2: 13 13 13 13 | 14 14 14 14 | 13 13 13 13 | 12 12 12 12

Staff 3: 11 11 11 11 | 12 12 12 12 | 11 11 11 11 | 10 10 10 10

Staff 1: T P T P T P T P

Staff 2: 11 11 11 11 | 10 10 10 10 | 9 9 9 9 | 9 9 9 9

Staff 3: 9 9 9 9 | 8 8 8 8 | 7 7 7 7 | 7 7 7 7

Staff 1: T P T P T P T P

Staff 2: 8 8 8 8 | 7 7 7 7 | 6 6 6 6 | 5 5 5 5

Staff 3: 6 6 6 6 | 5 5 5 5 | 4 4 4 4 | 3 3 3 3