

Single Independent Strokes

Single Independent Strokes are used when only one mallet in each hand is playing. The object is to isolate the unused mallet by staying relaxed and not holding the mallets too tightly.

1. Practice these exercises on the floor (see page five) before applying them on the marimba.
2. Select a playing height. Use a metronome and start slowly. Gradually increase the tempo.
3. The playing height should remain constant.
4. The unused mallet in each hand should remain as still as possible.
5. Keep the mallets above their designated notes at all times.
6. All of the strokes should produce a full sound without accents.
7. Experiment with different intervals and apply these exercises to the chordal progression on page seven.

#1

4 4

1 1

3 3

2 2

#2

#3

1 4 1 4

2 3 2 3

2 3 2 3

3 2 3 2