



Cumbia Rhythms: 7 - Guitar and Keyboard



Objective

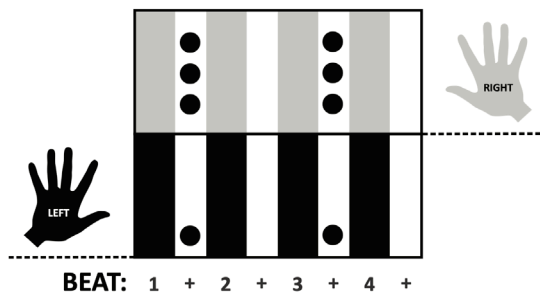
Students will play a cumbia pattern on the guitar and/or keyboard.

Resources

Handout on page 125 showing E minor and A chords

Procedures

1. Students will begin by familiarizing themselves with the cumbia rhythm that corresponds to guitar and keyboard.
2. This pattern involves strumming or playing the chord on the “and” of beat 1 as well as the “and” of beat 3.
3. The chord should be played or strummed as an 8th note, making sure that it cuts off before the start of beat 2 and 4.
4. Students can practice this pattern first by clapping the rhythm, ensuring that they have a good understanding of the phrasing and feel.
5. Once students feel comfortable with the rhythm, they can adapt it to a specific chord on their instrument. In the video example, we use the G chord to practice this concept.
6. Students should practice playing this rhythm on guitar and keyboard while using a practice track or jam track for accompaniment. The focus should be on making sure this rhythm interlocks with the bass part as well as the drum set and any other percussion instrument that is playing.
7. Once students have a good understanding of how to play this cumbia pattern on guitar and keyboard, they can then begin to adapt the rhythm to an entire chord progression such as with the example we’re using of “Vida de Rico.”



Extension

Students can research other ways of playing the guitar and keyboard for cumbia music. One interesting sub-style to research is Chicha music which is a Peruvian/Andean version of cumbia music. Chicha focuses on the guitar as a melodic instrument and typically uses different effects to produce a unique sound.

National Core Arts Standards

MU:Pr4.3.6 - Perform a selected piece of music demonstrating how their interpretations of the elements of music and the expressive qualities (such as dynamics, tempo, timbre, articulation/style, and phrasing) convey intent.

To learn more, visit jamzone.littlekidsrock.org