

Celtic/Rhythmic Embellishments for the Dulcimer

Drags

Drag: is a controlled double or triple bounce with the same hand/hammer

- used for rhythmic interest or emphasis
- is usually a transitional embellishment - can have a smoothing effect
- where to put in? - experiment
- used in different places can change the feel of a tune

Bay of Fundy – variation 1

Musical notation for Bay of Fundy – variation 1. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notation shows a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The melody is written on a five-line staff. A double bar line with repeat dots is placed after the first measure. Three drag embellishments are indicated by boxed numbers 1, 2, and 3. A 'D' above the first measure indicates a double drag. Rhythmic patterns are written below the staff: 'RRR L' under the first measure, and 'R R L' under the first measure of the second phrase.

Bay of Fundy – variation 2

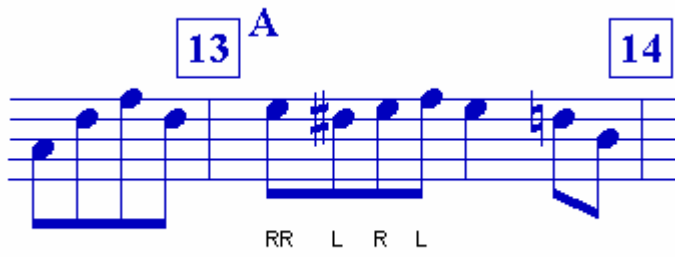
Musical notation for Bay of Fundy – variation 2. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notation shows a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The melody is written on a five-line staff. A double bar line with repeat dots is placed after the first measure. Three drag embellishments are indicated by boxed numbers 1, 2, and 3. A 'D' above the first measure indicates a double drag. The rhythmic pattern 'RRR L' is written below the first measure of the second phrase.

Bay of Fundy – variation 3

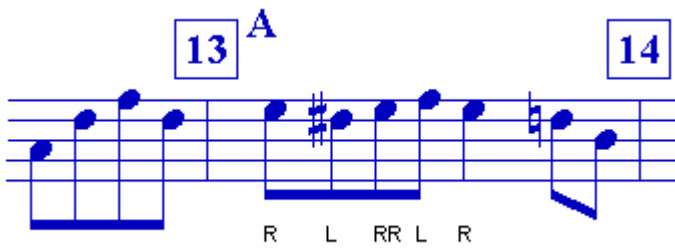
Musical notation for Bay of Fundy – variation 3. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notation shows a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The melody is written on a five-line staff. A double bar line with repeat dots is placed after the first measure. Three drag embellishments are indicated by boxed numbers 1, 2, and 3. A 'D' above the first measure indicates a double drag. The rhythmic pattern 'RR L R L' is written below the first measure of the second phrase.

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Bay of Fundy – B part – 2 rhythmic variations/accents



Musical notation for the first variation. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 13 and 14, with measure 13 marked with a circled 'A'. The second staff contains rhythmic markings: RR L R L. The notes in measure 13 are G4, A4, B4, C5, and the notes in measure 14 are C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4.



Musical notation for the second variation. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 13 and 14, with measure 13 marked with a circled 'A'. The second staff contains rhythmic markings: R L RR L R. The notes in measure 13 are G4, A4, B4, C5, and the notes in measure 14 are C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4.

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Accent Rolls

Rolls can be used to start a strong phase

Mug of Brown Ale – opening note – roll to add strong beat, emphasis

LRRR L R L R L
LLRR L R L R L

Practice

- Start roll a little ahead of the beat
- Move your left hand down to next note while right drags
- Don't have to hammer hard – but be assertive

Triplet **sounds like:** diddle-**ee** dee dee

Feel: moving off the note quickly – left hand needs to get to the next note on time

Dynamics: slight build to emphasis on right double/triple bounce

Adds **zing!**

Ships Are Sailing – B part - LLRR rolls add strong rhythmic emphasis on 1st beat of each measure

- due to the time it takes:
 - need to start a little early with left hand lead-off
 - next note (F) almost feels like it ends the roll
- changes entire rhythm/feel of the song

LLRR L R L LLRR L R L LLRR L R L

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Slides

Not really possible on a hammered instrument, but can be simulated

Ascending or descending

- ascending usually a triplet (Fishers Hornpipe)
- descending easier – just drag your hammers down

Adds smoothness, fullness

Allows you to cover a lot of notes easily and quickly

Lady of the Lake – beginning of B part

- right hand just touches 2nd note on way to 3rd note
- 2nd note - LL played slightly behind/after R
- left hand moves across bridge immediately after LL

Musical notation for the beginning of the B part of 'Lady of the Lake'. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef. It shows two measures, 10 and 11, with a repeat sign at the beginning. Measure 10 is marked with a 'G' chord and contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 11 is marked with a 'C' chord and contains a triplet of eighth notes. The notes are connected by a slur, indicating a slide. Below the staff, the fingerings are indicated: 'RRR L R L R' and 'LL' for measure 10, and 'RRR L R L R' and 'LL' for measure 11.

Ship Are Sailng – beginning of A part

- LL lightly touches the C# while on its way down to the B

Musical notation for the beginning of the A part of 'Ship Are Sailng'. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It shows three measures, 1, 2, and 3, with a repeat sign at the beginning. Measure 1 is marked with an 'Em' chord and contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 2 is marked with a 'D' chord and contains a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 3 contains a triplet of eighth notes. The notes are connected by a slur, indicating a slide. Below the staff, the fingerings are indicated: 'R L RR LL LR' for measure 1, and 'RR R R L' for measure 2.

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Diddley Dees

sounds like: **di**-ddley-dee (dee)

feel:

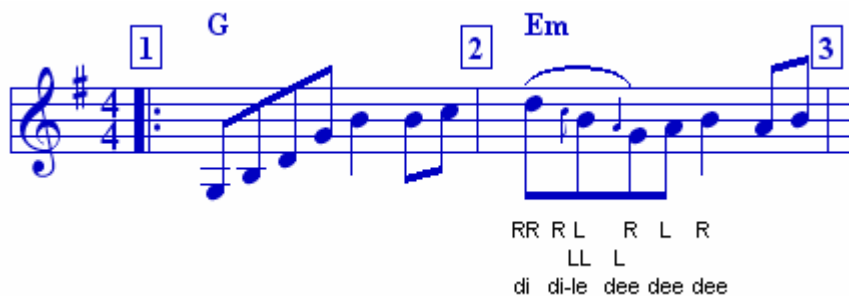
- combined drag and slide with both hands
- rhythm varies slightly – left handed notes played very lightly (lazily) after/behind the right hand playing the same note

Bay of Fundy –adds interest to the ending



Musical notation for the Bay of Fundy ending. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef. It consists of three measures, numbered 16, 17, and 18. Measure 16 has a D chord above it. Measure 17 has an A chord above it. Measure 18 has a D chord above it. A bracket spans measures 17 and 18, with a '1.' above it. A triplet of notes is marked with a '3' below it in measure 17. A cross is placed over the final note of measure 17. The rhythm is indicated by 'RR R LL R' and the sound by 'di dil ley dee'.

Lady of the Lake – A part –adds rhythmic interest



Musical notation for the Lady of the Lake A part. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three measures, numbered 1, 2, and 3. Measure 1 has a G chord above it. Measure 2 has an Em chord above it. Measure 3 has no chord above it. A slur covers measures 2 and 3. The rhythm is indicated by 'RR R L R L R' and 'LL L' below the staff, and the sound by 'di di-le dee dee dee'.

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Lady of the Lake

The musical score for "Lady of the Lake" is presented in five staves, each with a measure number in a box at the beginning. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notes are written in a treble clef. Chord annotations are placed above the staff lines. Repeat signs with first and second endings are used throughout the piece.

Staff 1: Measure 1. Chords: G, Em, C, D.

Staff 2: Measure 6. Chords: G, Em, C, ¹D, G.

Staff 3: Measure 10. Chords: ²D, G, G, C, D.

Staff 4: Measure 14. Chords: A, D, G, C, D.

Staff 5: Measure 18. Chords: ¹G, ²G.