

Percussive Ukulele

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This PDF is going to be my best attempt to explain this style on paper, but it is strongly recommended that you watch the tutorial here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hudoDubpufw>

A small understanding of drums would help a little bit, we are trying to recreate the sound of three drums

The bass drum: the bass drum is the big round one in the middle of a drum set, that often times says the name of the band, this drum is played with a pedal and the foot, and it has a low bass sound. In a basic drum beat it is very common to hear this drum on the 1st and 3rd beats of a normal measure in 4/4.

To create this sound on the Ukulele we hit the bridge with the side of our thumbs.

The Snare: The snare is the drum that is common to hear for drum rolls in marching bands, the little drummer boy is based on the snare drum. This drum is struck with a stick. In common modern music this drum takes place on the 2nd and 4th beat of a measure in 4/4.

To create this sound we will be doing a mute, or a chunk strum. If you are unfamiliar with this style here is a link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FypFf8YjcM8>

The High-hat: The high hat is two metal cymbals stacked on top of each other that are opened and closed with the foot. They make a brief metallic noise and in a basic drum pattern they are played in 1/8 patterns, or 8 times in one measure, this would be counted as 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &, although we will not be playing, or strumming, in a constant 8th pattern.

After practicing these sounds independently we will put them all together. T = thumb slap on bridge, D = Down strum, U = Upstrum and X = a muted or chunk strum. Note the up strums on the 16th beat before the mutes.

1 &a2 & 3 &a4 &
T DUX D T DUX D