

Cáscara Rhythm for Drum Set



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Son Clave Explanation

Clave is either in 2:3 or 3:2. This means the measure (or side) with 2 hits is first (2:3) or the measure with 3 hits is first (3:2). Cáscara lines up clave's 2 side and 3 side. See page two for examples.

Additionally, clave has accents that are critical to playing cáscara grooves on drum set with the proper feel and musical phrasing. The bombo is a long accent from folkloric styles and the ponche is a common ensemble hit popular Cuban-based dance hall styles.

Palito Patterns - Origins of Cáscara

Palito patterns are played with rumbas like guaguancó. They correspond to the rumba clave, a slightly different rhythm than the son clave explained above. Notice that beat 4 is shifted one eighth note to the right on the 3 side.

The second pattern is basically cáscara without the accent pattern, which is explained on the next page.

Cáscara Breakdown and Variations

Cáscara Accent Pattern

Musical notation for the Cáscara Accent Pattern. It consists of two measures of music on a single staff. The first measure contains four eighth notes with accents (>) above them, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains a quarter note with an accent, followed by a quarter rest, and then another quarter note with an accent. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Cáscara With Clave

Musical notation for Cáscara With Clave. It consists of two measures of music on a single staff. The first measure contains four eighth notes with accents (>) above them, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains a quarter note with an accent, followed by a quarter rest, and then another quarter note with an accent. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Cáscara, Clave, Hi-Hat (Foot)

Musical notation for Cáscara, Clave, Hi-Hat (Foot). It consists of two measures of music on a single staff. The first measure contains four eighth notes with accents (>) above them, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains a quarter note with an accent, followed by a quarter rest, and then another quarter note with an accent. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Cáscara, Clave, Hi-Hat, Kick Drum

Musical notation for Cáscara, Clave, Hi-Hat, Kick Drum. It consists of two measures of music on a single staff. The first measure contains four eighth notes with accents (>) above them, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains a quarter note with an accent, followed by a quarter rest, and then another quarter note with an accent. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Cáscara With Conga Tumbao

Musical notation for Cáscara With Conga Tumbao. It consists of two measures of music on a single staff. The first measure contains four eighth notes with accents (>) above them, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains a quarter note with an accent, followed by a quarter rest, and then another quarter note with an accent. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Cáscara With Conga Tumbao and Clave (Foot)

Musical notation for Cáscara With Conga Tumbao and Clave (Foot). It consists of two measures of music on a single staff. The first measure contains four eighth notes with accents (>) above them, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains a quarter note with an accent, followed by a quarter rest, and then another quarter note with an accent. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.