

Rhythmic Versatility in Phrasing

A. Be conscious of where you begin a phrase, for example try:

- the “and” of beat 1
- beat 2
- the “and” of beat 4
- etc

B. Be conscious of where you end a phrase, for example try:

- the “and” of beat 4
- beat 4
- etc

C. explore syncopation using a rhythm map

- start with a rhythm that you’re comfortable & remove 1 attack
- remove 1 attack from that rhythm and put it somewhere else
- keep a log/ journal of your favorite rhythms
- combine two 1-bar rhythms to form one 2-bar rhythm
- reverse the order of the 1-bar rhythms from the previous step to form a new 2-bar rhythm

Advanced students:

- use 16th notes or 8th note triplets instead of 8th notes
- use 2 bar rhythms instead of 1
- remove 2 or more attacks from a rhythm then add 2 or more elsewhere in bar
- explore anticipations & delayed resolutions
- add accents on 1, 2, or 3 attacks per bar