

**The Rhythm Generator**  
**www.GuitarLessonsIthaca.com**

**1-Bar Groupings of 2 and 3 in 4/4**

- A. 3 + 3 + 2
- B. 3 + 2 + 3
- C. 2 + 3 + 3

**Subdivisions - Possibilities within Groups of 2 and 3**

- |                          |                          |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. none                  | 4. 3 <sup>rd</sup> group | 7. groups 2, 3 |
| 2. 1 <sup>st</sup> group | 5. groups 1, 2           | 8. all groups  |
| 3. 2 <sup>nd</sup> group | 6. groups 1, 3           |                |

**Rests - Possibilities within Groups of 2 and 3**

- |                          |                          |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| t) none                  | w) 3 <sup>rd</sup> group | z) groups 2, 3 |
| u) 1 <sup>st</sup> group | x) groups 1, 2           |                |
| v) 2 <sup>nd</sup> group | y) groups 1, 3           |                |

**Using a pencil, write in a combination of 1- bar groupings, subdivisions & rests:**

1. Choose one of each category

Group      Subdivision      Rests

(A-C)      (1-8)      (t-z)

+                  +

2. Underline groups to be subdivided

3. Erase groups where rests take place

4. Play your rhythm both in 8<sup>th</sup> notes (or 16<sup>th</sup> notes for more advanced players)

## **2-Bar Groupings of 2 and 3 in 4/4**

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 2 | I. 2 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 |
| B. 3 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 3 | J. 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 2 |
| C. 3 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 3 + 3 | K. 3 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 |
| D. 3 + 2 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 | L. 2 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 3 |
| E. 2 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 | M. 3 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 2 |
| F. 3 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 2 | N. 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 |
| G. 3 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 2 + 3 | O. 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 2 |
| H. 3 + 2 + 3 + 2 + 3 + 3 |                          |

## **Subdivisions - Possibilities within Groups of 2 and 3 over 2 bars in 4/4**

- |                          |                    |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. none                  | 15. groups 2, 5    | 29. groups 1, 3, 5 |
| 2. 1 <sup>st</sup> group | 16. groups 2, 6    | 30. groups 1, 3, 6 |
| 3. 2 <sup>nd</sup> group | 17. groups 3, 4    | 31. groups 1, 4, 5 |
| 4. 3 <sup>rd</sup> group | 18. groups 3, 5    | 32. groups 1, 4, 6 |
| 5. 4 <sup>th</sup> group | 19. groups 3, 6    | 33. groups 2, 3, 4 |
| 6. 5 <sup>th</sup> group | 20. groups 4, 5    | 34. groups 2, 4, 5 |
| 7. 6 <sup>th</sup> group | 21. groups 4, 6    | 35. groups 2, 5, 6 |
| 8. groups 1, 2           | 22. groups 5, 6    | 36. groups 2, 4, 6 |
| 9. groups 1, 3           | 23. groups 1, 2, 3 | 37. groups 2, 3, 5 |
| 10. groups 1, 4          | 24. groups 1, 3, 4 | 38. groups 2, 3, 6 |
| 11. groups 1, 5          | 25. groups 1, 5, 6 | 39. groups 3, 4, 5 |
| 12. groups 1, 6          | 26. groups 1, 2, 4 | 40. groups 3, 5, 6 |
| 13. groups 2, 3          | 27. groups 1, 2, 5 | 41. groups 3, 4, 6 |
| 14. groups 2, 4          | 28. groups 1, 2, 6 | 42. groups 4, 5, 6 |

- |                       |                          |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 43. groups 1, 2, 3, 4 | 51. groups 1, 3, 5, 6    | 59. groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 |
| 44. groups 1, 2, 3, 5 | 52. groups 1, 4, 5, 6    | 60. groups 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 |
| 45. groups 1, 2, 3, 6 | 53. groups 2, 3, 4, 5    | 61. groups 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 |
| 46. groups 1, 2, 4, 5 | 54. groups 2, 3, 4, 6    | 62. groups 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 47. groups 1, 2, 4, 6 | 55. groups 2, 3, 5, 6    | 63. groups 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 48. groups 1, 2, 5, 6 | 56. groups 2, 4, 5, 6    | 64. all groups           |
| 49. groups 1, 3, 4, 5 | 57. groups 3, 4, 5, 6    |                          |
| 50. groups 1, 3, 4, 6 | 58. groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 |                          |

#### **Rests - Possibilities within Groups of 2 and 3 over 2 bars in 4/4**

- |                          |                    |                       |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| a) none                  | q) groups 3, 4     | gg) groups 2, 3, 4    |
| b) 1 <sup>st</sup> group | r) groups 3, 5     | hh) groups 2, 4, 5    |
| c) 2 <sup>nd</sup> group | s) groups 3, 6     | ii) groups 2, 5, 6    |
| d) 3 <sup>rd</sup> group | t) groups 4, 5     | jj) groups 2, 4, 6    |
| e) 4 <sup>th</sup> group | u) groups 4, 6     | kk) groups 2, 3, 5    |
| f) 5 <sup>th</sup> group | v) groups 5, 6     | ll) groups 2, 3, 6    |
| g) 6 <sup>th</sup> group | w) groups 1, 2, 3  | mm) groups 3, 4, 5    |
| h) groups 1, 2           | x) groups 1, 3, 4  | nn) groups 3, 5, 6    |
| i) groups 1, 3           | y) groups 1, 5, 6  | oo) groups 3, 4, 6    |
| j) groups 1, 4           | z) groups 1, 2, 4  | pp) groups 4, 5, 6    |
| k) groups 1, 5           | aa) groups 1, 2, 5 | qq) groups 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| l) groups 1, 6           | bb) groups 1, 2, 6 | rr) groups 1, 2, 3, 5 |
| m) groups 2, 3           | cc) groups 1, 3, 5 | ss) groups 1, 2, 3, 6 |
| n) groups 2, 4           | dd) groups 1, 3, 6 | tt) groups 1, 2, 4, 5 |
| o) groups 2, 5           | ee) groups 1, 4, 5 | uu) groups 1, 2, 4, 6 |
| p) groups 2, 6           | ff) groups 1, 4, 6 | vv) groups 1, 2, 5, 6 |

ww)	groups 1, 3, 4, 5	bbb)	groups 2, 3, 4, 6	ggg)	groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 6
xx)	groups 1, 3, 4, 6	ccc)	groups 2, 3, 5, 6	hhh)	groups 1, 2, 3, 5, 6
yy)	groups 1, 3, 5, 6	ddd)	groups 2, 4, 5, 6	iii)	groups 1, 2, 4, 5, 6
zz)	groups 1, 4, 5, 6	eee)	groups 3, 4, 5, 6	jjj)	groups 1, 3, 4, 5, 6
aaa)	groups 2, 3, 4, 5	fff)	groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	kkk)	groups 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

**Using a pencil, write in a combination of 2- bar groupings, subdivisions & rests:**

1. Choose one of each category

Group      Subdivision      Rests

(A-O)      (1-65)      (a-kkk)

+                  +                  +                  +                  +

2. Underline groups to be subdivided

3. Erase groups where rests take place

4. Play your rhythm both in 8<sup>th</sup> notes

**More advanced students can:**

1. Also play the rhythms in 16<sup>th</sup> notes
2. Choose 2 combinations and link them back to back
3. Choose groups with more subdivisions (as in 43 to 64)
4. Choose groups with fewer rests (as in a to v)
5. Choose only a grouping and vary where the subdivisions (and rests) on the fly
6. Use a rhythm as a bass line, and have the melody address more of the subdivisions
7. Explore the permutations of only 1 rhythm through lots of different tempos and harmonic contexts