

Euclidean Rhythms

A Euclidean rhythm is a rhythm created by spreading a certain number of notes (hits) as evenly as possible across a bar that's divided into equal subdivisions.

I. 8 subdivisions

1 bar of straight 4/4 time, labeled as |1&2&3&4&|

2 in 8

a |1---3---|
b |1--&----|
c |1----&--|
d |1-2-----|
e |1-----4-|

3 in 8

a |1--&--4-| Tresillo
b |1--&-&--|
c |1-2--&--|
d |1-2---4-|
e |1-&---4-|

4 in 8

a |1&-&--4-|
b |1-2&-&--|
c |1--&-&4-|
d |1-2--&-&|

5 in 8

a |1-2&-&4-|
b |1&-&3-4-|
c |1&2-3-4-|
d |1&2--&4-|
e |1&2-3&--|
f |1&2&--4-|

6 in 8

a |1&2&-&4-|
b |1&2-3&4-|
c |1&-&3&4-|
d |1-2&3&4-|

e |1&2&3-4-|

7 in 8

a |1-2&3&4&|

b |1&-&3&4&|

c |1&2-3&4&|

d |1&2&-&4&|

e |1&2&3-4&|

f |1&2&3&-&|

g |1&2&3&4-|

h |-&2&3&4&|

II. 6 subdivisions (1 bar of 3/4 time)

1 bar of straight 3/4 time, labeled as |1&2&3&|

2 in 6

a |1--&--|

b |1-2---|

c |1---3-|

d |1&----|

e |1----&|

3 in 6

a |1-2-3-|

b |-&-&-&|

c |1-2&--|

d |1--&3-|

e |1-2--&|

4 in 6

a |1&-&3-|

b |1-2&3-|

c |1&2-3-|

d |1-2-3&|

e |1&-&-&|

5 in 6

a |1-2&3&|

b |1&-&3&|

c |1&2-3&|

d |1&2&-&|

e |1&2&3-|
f |-&2&3&|

III. 12 subdivisions

1 bar of triplet-based 4/4 time, labeled as |1&a2&a3&a4&a|

2 in 12

a |1-----3-----|
b |1----a-----|
c |1-----&-----|
d |1---&-----|
e |1-----a---|

3 in 12

a |1---&---a---|
b |1----a---4--|
c |1----a---&-|
d |1--2---&----|
e |1--2----a---|

4 in 12

a |1--2--3--4--|
b |1-a--a--a---|
c |1-a--a---4--|
d |1-a---3--4--|
e |1--2-a--a---|

5 in 12

a |1-a-&--&-4--| fouette
b |1-a--a-&-4--|
c |1&--&--&a---|
d |1--2-a-&--&-|
e |1--2-a--a-&-|

6 in 12

a |1-a-&-3-a-&-|
b |1&-2-a-&-4--|
c |1&-2-a-&--&-|
d |1&-2-a--a-&-|
e |1&-2--3-a-&-|

7 in 12

a |1&-2-a3-a-&-|
b |1-a-&a-&-4-a|
c |1-a2-a-&-4&-|
d |1&-2-a-&a-&-|
e |1-a-&-3&-4-a|

8 in 12

a |1&-2&-3&-4&-|
b |1-a2-a3-a4-a|
c |1&-2-a3&-4-a|
d |1-a2&-3-a4&-|
e |1&-2&-3-a4-a|

9 in 12

a |1&a-&a3-a4&-|
b |1-a2&-3&a-&a|
c |1&-2&a-&a4-a|
d |1&-2&a-&a4&-|
e |1-a2&a-&a4-a|

10 in 12

a |1&a2&-3&a4&-|
b |1&a2-a3&a-&a|
c |1&a2&-3&a4-a|
d |1&a-&a3-a4&a|
e |1&-2&a-&a4&a|

11 in 12

a |1-a2&a3&a4&a|
b |1&-2&a3&a4&a|
c |1&a-&a3&a4&a|
d |1&a2-a3&a4&a|
e |1&a2&-3&a4&a|
f |1&a2&a-&a4&a|
g |1&a2&a3-a4&a|
h |1&a2&a3&-4&a|
i |1&a2&a3&a-&a|
j |1&a2&a3&a4-a|
k |1&a2&a3&a4&-|
l |-&a2&a3&a4&a|

IV. 16 subdivisions

1 bar of straight 4/4 time, labeled as |1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a|

2 in 16

a |1-----3-----|
b |1-----a-----|
c |1-----e-----|
d |1-----&-----|
e |1-----&-----|

3 in 16

a |1----e----&----|
b |1----e-----a----|
c |1----&----a----|
d |1---2-----&----|
e |1----&---&-----|

4 in 16

a |1---2---3---4---|
b |1--a---a---4---|
c |1---2--a---a---|
d |1---2---3--a---|
e |1-&---&---4---|

5 in 16

a |1--a--&---&-4---| Son
b |1--a--&---&--e--| Bossa
c |1--a--&---&a---| Soukous
d |1---2-&---&-4---| Shiko
e |1--a---a--&-4---| Rumba
f |1--a--&---&---&-| Gahu

6 in 16

a |1--e-&---2--a---|
b |1--e---a-2---&--|
c |1---&-a-2---e---|
d |1-e---&--2---a--|
e |1---a-&---2--e--|

7 in 16

a |1--a-e-a--&-4-&-|
b |1--a-e-a-e--4-&-|
c |1e-a--&a--&-4---|
d |1-&-2--a-e-a--&-|
e |1-&--e-a-e--4-&-|

8 in 16

a |1-&-2-&-3-&-4-&-|
b |1e-a-e-a--&-4-&-|
c |1e-a-e-a-e--4-&-|
d |1e-a-e-a-e-a--&-|
e |1e-a-e-a-e-a-e--|

9 in 16

a |1e&-2-&-3-&-4-&-|
b |1e-a2-&-3-&-4-&-|
c |1e-a-e&-3-&-4-&-|
d |1e-a-e-a3-&-4-&-|
e |1e&a-e-a-e-a-e--|

10 in 16

a |1-&a-e&-3-&a-e&-|
b |1-&-2e-a3-&-4e-a|
c |1e-a-e&-3e-a-e&-|
d |1-&a-e-a3-&a-e-a|
e |1e-a2-&-3e-a4-&-|

11 in 16

a |1e&-2e-a3-&a-e&-|
b |1e-a2-&a-e&-4e-a|
c |1-&a-e&-3e-a4-&a|
d |1e&a-e&-3e-a4-&-|
e |1e-a2e-a3e-a4-&-|

12 in 16

a |1e&-2e&-3e&-4e&-|
b |1e-a2e-a3e-a4e-a|
c |1-&a2-&a3-&a4-&a|
d |1e&-2e&-3e&-4e-a|
e |1e-a2e-a3e-a4e&-|

13 in 16

a |1-&a2e-a3e&-4e&a|
b |1e-a2e&-3e&a-e&a|
c |1e&-2e&a-e&a4-&a|
d |1e&a-e&a3-&a4e-a|
e |-e&a2-&a3e-a4e&a|

14 in 16

a |1e&-2e&a3e&-4e&a|
b |1e&a2e&-3e&a4e&-|
c |1e&a2-&a3e&a4-&a|
d |1-&a2e&a3-&a4e&a|
e |-e&a2e&a-e&a4e&a|

15 in 16

a |1-&a2e&a3e&a4e&a|
b |1e-a2e&a3e&a4e&a|
c |1e&-2e&a3e&a4e&a|
d |1e&a-e&a3e&a4e&a|
e |1e&a2-&a3e&a4e&a|
f |1e&a2e-a3e&a4e&a|
g |1e&a2e&-3e&a4e&a|
h |1e&a2e&a-e&a4e&a|
i |1e&a2e&a3-&a4e&a|
j |1e&a2e&a3e-a4e&a|
k |1e&a2e&a3e&-4e&a|
l |1e&a2e&a3e&a-e&a|
m |1e&a2e&a3e&a4-&a|
n |1e&a2e&a3e&a4e-a|
o |1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&-|
p |-e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a|