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# Syncopation

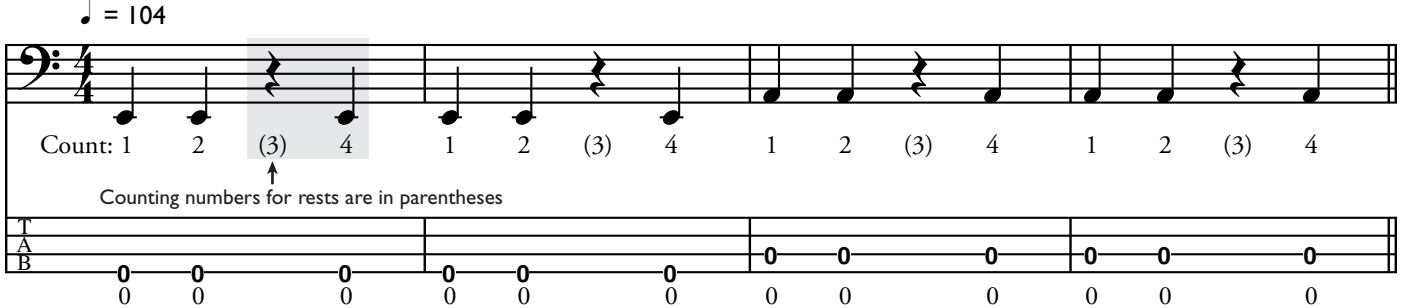
Syncopation occurs in a rhythm when the emphasis is shifted to a beat, or part of a beat, that is not normally emphasized. Syncopation is used in a variety of styles including ska, ragtime, jazz, and rock; it is also a major element of funk.

## Missed-Beat Syncopation

In *missed-beat syncopation*, the absence of a note throws off the expected flow of the rhythm. In Example 7, a rest takes the place of an expected quarter note on beat 3, shifting the emphasis to beat 4. In even-numbered time signatures ( $\frac{4}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{4}$ , etc.), the emphasis is usually placed on beats 1 and 3.

7  **Track 3.1**

$\text{♩} = 104$




Count: 1 2 (3) 4 | 1 2 (3) 4 | 1 2 (3) 4 | 1 2 (3) 4

Counting numbers for rests are in parentheses

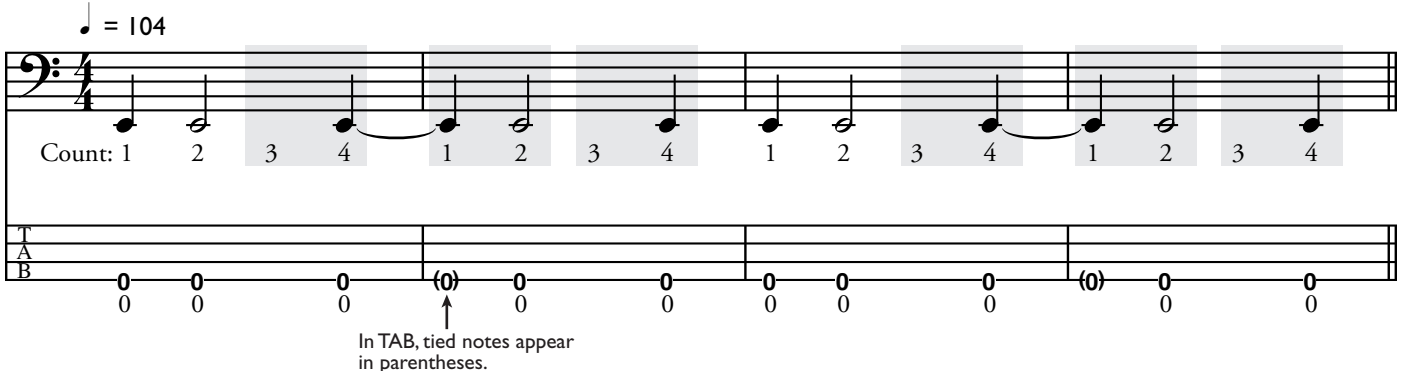
T  
A  
B  
0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0

## Extended-Note Syncopation

*Extended-note syncopation* can occur when note values are extended, through the use of ties, across measures. In the following example, the half notes and tied quarter notes create several points of syncopation. In each measure, emphasis is shifted from the third beat to the fourth beat. In measures 2 and 4, emphasis is shifted from the first beat to the second.

8  **Track 3.2**

$\text{♩} = 104$



Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

In TAB, tied notes appear in parentheses.

T  
A  
B  
0 0 0 0 | (0) 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | (0) 0 0 0

The examples above show that syncopation can occur even in uncomplicated rhythms made up of quarter notes and half notes. However, funk rhythms often consist of syncopated eighth- and sixteenth-note rhythms, so we'll start looking at some of these on the next page.

# Chapter 12: Classic (and Soon to Be Classic) Funk Bass Grooves

Now that we have covered many funk bass techniques and played through lots of examples at a variety of ability levels, it's time to play some examples in the styles of funk classics

we all know and love. We'll be using both the fingerstyle funk and slap & pop style for these grooves. Enjoy!

## In the Style of "Brick House" by The Commodores

194  
Track 68

♩ = 108

5 3 5 3 4 (4) 5 | 5 7 3 5 7 3 (3) 7

3 1 3 1 2 3 | 1 3 1 3 3 1 3

3 5 3 4 (4) 5 | 5 7 3 5 7

3 1 3 1 2 3 | 1 3 1 3 3

Here is another version of the groove, this time using the slap & pop style.

195  
Track 69

♩ = 108

S S P S S S P S S S P H S S S S P

S S P S S S P S S S P H S S S S P

S S P S S S P S S S P H S S S P

5 3 5 3 4 (4) 5 | 5 7 3 5 7 3 (3) 7

3 1 3 1 2 3 | 1 3 1 3 3 1 4

S S P S S S P S S S P H S S S

S S P S S S P S S S P H S S S

5 3 5 3 4 (4) 5 | 5 7 3 5 7

3 1 3 1 2 3 | 1 3 1 3 3