

The ARTICULATE Jazz Musician

Mastering the Language of Jazz

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Strollin'



TRACK 2 Demo

TRACK 3 Play-Along Track

SWING ♩ = 105

1 DA DA AH DA 2 AH DA AH DA DA 3 DA DA AH DA AH DA 4 AH DA AH DA DA 5 DA DA AH DA

6 AH DA AH DA DA 7 DA DA AH DA AH DA 8 AH DA AH DA DA 9

10 11 12

13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 DU DOT

25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32 33

34 35 36 37 38

39 40 41 42

43 44 45 46 47 DU DOT

UNIT 5 Jazz Articulation Rule Exception #1—DU and DOT syllables

GOALS

Students discover and recognize the DU and DOT jazz syllables. They should also work to describe and understand why these two syllables are an exception to the Jazz Articulation Rule.

STUDY

Two New Syllables

While there is only one rule you need to remember for jazz articulation, there are a few exceptions. To understand the first exception, let's learn two new syllables, DOT and DU.

In jazz, DOT (pronounced "DAHT") is used for an accented note that has an articulated start and end. For wind players, this means the note both starts and ends with the tongue. For rhythm section players, it means playing the note detached but with full value—not staccato or too short.

DOT is used in two instances:

- 1) For all quarter notes (unless notated otherwise)
- 2) For any eighth note followed by a rest

Although accented, DOT is not a short note—it should receive full rhythmic value.

DU (pronounced "DOO") is used for an eighth note that is articulated but has a softer volume than the notes around it. Any eighth note immediately preceding a DOT will be DU.

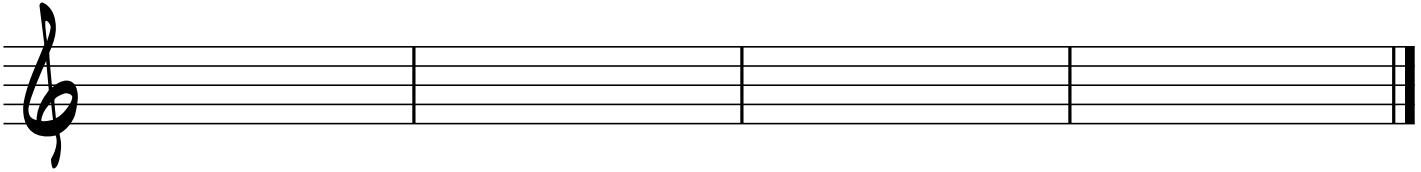
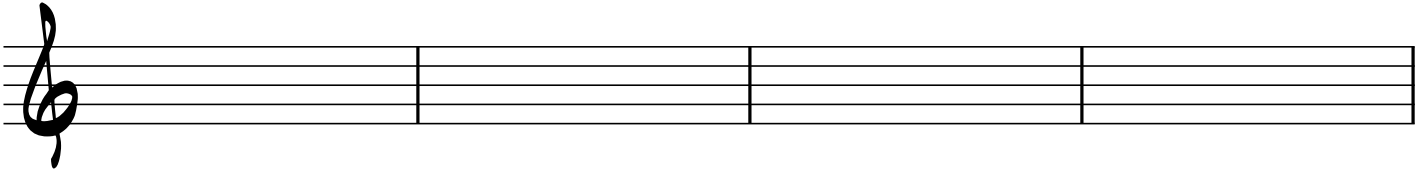
These two new syllables are the first exception to the Jazz Articulation Rule as they will always be articulated, whether or not they occur on the downbeat or offbeat. Take a look at the Unit 5 Example. This example clearly illustrates the DU and DOT syllables in action with eighth notes.

It's easy, just **sing** this example:

The example consists of two lines of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first line contains four measures of music. The notes and their corresponding syllables are: Measure 1: quarter note (DOT), eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT); Measure 2: eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT), quarter note (DOT); Measure 3: eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT), quarter note (DU), quarter note (DOT); Measure 4: quarter note (DU), quarter note (DOT), quarter note (DU), quarter note (DOT). The second line contains four measures: Measure 1: eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT), eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT); Measure 2: eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT), eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT); Measure 3: eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT), eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT); Measure 4: eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT), eighth note (DU), eighth note (DOT).

EXPLORE

1) Compose eight measures of rhythm utilizing only eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests. Be able to say the jazz syllables for the rhythm you notate. You can use only one line or space or vary it, your choice.



2) In the space provided below the notes in the Unit 5 Exercise, write in the proper jazz syllables for this unit. When you have it correct, say the syllables for the entire exercise in time (tempo) with a metronome or someone keeping the beat.

PLAY

Play the Unit 5 Exercise, "One More Once."