

Fundamental Finger Cymbal Patterns:

In these belly dance spotlights from the Fundamental Finger Cymbals program we'll learn some of the most common of the finger cymbal patterns: Gallop, 337, 355, and 31313, taught here on Datura Online by Rachel, Henna, and Colette. Most of these finger cymbal patterns are composed of units of odd numbers that begin and end with the stroke on the dominant hand. If you're right handed, you'll play RLR, if you're left handed, you'll play LRL. For visual simplicity, the written reference in this worksheet will refer to right-hand dominance. For an added challenge, try switching your dominant hand!

Finger Cymbal Patterns:

LONGA / GALLOP				
Pattern	123	123	123	123
Strokes	RLR	RLR	RLR	RLR
Musical Counts	&a1	&a2	&a3	&a4

3-3-7 / "MILITARY"			
Pattern	123	123	1234567
Strokes	RLR	RLR	RLRLRLR
Musical Counts	&a1	&a2	&a3e&a4

3-3-5			
Pattern	123	12345	12345
Strokes	RLR	RLRLR	RLRLR
Musical Counts	&a1	&a2e&	3e&a4

3-1-3-1-3 (Baladi, Saidi, Maksoum)					
Pattern	123	1	123	1	123
Strokes	RLR	R	RLR	R	RLR
Musical Counts	&a1	&	2e&	3	&a4

Zil Composition (Rachel's Zil-ionaire # 1)	
1st 8 Count	3-3-3-3 (2x)
2nd 8 Count	3-3-7 (2x)
3rd 8 Count	3-5-5 (2x)
4th 8 Count	3-1-3-1-3 (2x)