

Welcome to Horizon 2027

Hey everyone, it's Andrew Garrett here. I'm really excited to be back as the battery caption head for Horizon Percussion. I am super motivated to set up the drumline for a successful 2027 season, which is why I have worked hard to get this exercise packet finished and ready before the 4th of July!

I just have to say I was really inspired during my first ever trip to Dayton back in April for the 2026 WGI World Championships. I spent a lot of time in the lot watching World Class drumlines warm up, and this exercise packet is the result of the inspiration I gained that night.

My philosophy for this year's exercise packet is as follows:

1. Keep it condensed. No need to have 17 different exercises. Just focus on the most important fundamentals, while still pushing for some aggressive moments at times to allow for growth.
2. Keep it groovy. If we don't draw in a huge crowd to watch us warmup, we're doing something wrong. Lot warmups are one of the best recruiting tools any drumline can have, so let's have fun with it and crank up the hype!
3. Keep it consistent. Let's play the same exercises, in the same order, all season long to get them as clean as possible. No big changes, no surprise additions.

I have taken a lot of care to make the snare, tenor, and bass parts as fun to play as possible. Please note, if you are interested in cymbals, there will be a separate cymbal packet provided by our cymbal tech, Liv. She is REALLY good at her craft.

Here are the exercises I have chosen for this year's packet:

1. 8-8-16
 - a. For those of you returning vets, you'll know this one. Same as what we played for the 2026 season. HOWEVER, one thing I want to do differently in 2027 during our lot warmups is to leave 8-8-16 to subsectionals only. When we come together as a full line in the lot in 2027, we're going to kick things off with...
2. Stick Control Infinity
 - a. Inspired by one of my favorite WGI lines (Infinity) we are going to kick off our full drumline lot warmups in 2027 with this exercise. For returning vets, please note there is a new Variation 2 that I have added, including a tenor tap-off that will sting the nostrils.

3. DBL

- a. A groovy classic that makes it return from last season. For you vets, there are no new changes to this one. Still as groovy as ever.

4. Skibidi Rolls

- a. You wanted it, you got it. The 2026 Horizon snares played this exercise last year, but I am expanding it to full drumline for 2027. Please note that this version is slightly different from the version the snares played in 2026. There are 5 variations total, and for the 5th variation I wrote it out on its own sheet of paper. So please learn all 5 variations...we'll play each of them 2x (one at piano, one at forte). Also, we can go straight from DBL into Skibidi Rolls if we so choose.

5. Basic Strokes

- a. This is actually fulfilling a long-time dream of mine. I have wanted to teach Basic Strokes to a drumline ever since I learned it at SCV auditions when I was 17. When I heard Infinity play it in the lot at Dayton, it just confirmed to me that we HAVE to play this exercise. We'll end all our lot warmups with this banger. This is a new adaptation of Basic Strokes that I have arranged, but it's based on the Murray Gusseck classic. There are basically three parts to it: the "Countdown," "Thirteen (on two hands)," and the "Coda," which has a singles section and then a big finish.

I hope you all enjoy this packet and I can't wait to see you at auditions in the fall. Let's recruit like crazy, get a huge turnout, and make this an incredible drumline that plays at a world-class level, even if we're not technically designated as one. See you at auditions!

- Andrew