

General Breaks

Silence

4 fingers

1

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 4 Beats of Silence

Double Silence

two hands show
4 fingers

1

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 8 Beats of Silence
2

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Triple Silence

like "Double Silence"
one hand upside down

1

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 12 Beats of Silence
2

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Quad Silence

like "Double Silence"
both hands upside down

1

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 16 Beats of Silence
2

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

4

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Continue One Line

draw a horizontal line in the air with one finger

1

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Continue 4 Beats

Continue Two Lines

like "continue one line"
with both hands

1

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Continue 8 Beats
2

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Continue Three Lines

like "continue two lines"
and then "continue one line"
in the opposite direction

1

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Continue 12 Beats
2

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Continue Four Lines

like "continue two lines"
and then again in the
opposite direction

1

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Continue 16 Beats
2

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3

.
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4

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---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Eight Up

both hands move up
while fingers shaking

1

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 from soft to loud
2

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Eight Down

both hands move down
while fingers shaking

1

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 from loud to soft
2

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Karla Break

rabbit ears OR
finger pistol shooting up

1

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 from soft to loud
2

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3

E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4

E														
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Call Break

... "oi": two arms crossing, with OK-sign
... "ua": two fists, knuckles hit each other

E				[E E E]	E			shout ...
---	--	--	--	-----------	---	--	--	-----------

Cat Break

claws to left and right

m				i				a				u			
---	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

from high to low sound

Democracy Break

shout with your
hands forming
a funnel

1	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
2	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
4	This	is		what	demo		cracy		looks	like							
5	E	E		E	E	E	E	E	E	E							
6	This	is		what	demo		cracy		looks	like							
7	E	E		E	E	E	E	E	E	E							
8	This	is		what	demo		cracy		looks	like							
9	This	is		what	demo		cracy		looks	like							
10	This	is		what	demo		cracy		looks	like							
11	E			E			E				E						

from soft to loud

from soft to loud

Laughing Break

fingers move up
coners of your mouth

ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha	ha
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laughter

from high to low sound

Wolf Break

wolf's ears and teeth

1	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	A	S	S
2	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	A	S	S
3	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	A	S	S
4	E	E	E	E	E	E	a	u	-	-

< a-u = like a howling wolf

Star Wars Break

Move flat hand from top to bottom
of face

1	ms		ms		ms		ls		hs
2	ms		ls		hs	ms		ls	hs

Progressive Break

5 fingers and other
hand grabbing thumb

1	E			E			E			E			E			E	
2	E	E		E	E		E	E		E	E		E	E		E	E
3	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

Clave

Point your thumb and index finger up as if indicating a distance of about 10 cm between them

E		E		E		E		E		E		E		E		E	
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--

Clave inverted

Like "Clave", but with the two fingers pointing down

	E		E			E		E			E		E			E	
--	---	--	---	--	--	---	--	---	--	--	---	--	---	--	--	---	--

Yala Break

all fingertips of one hand gather and shake wrist

E	E			E	E			E			E			E			E
---	---	--	--	---	---	--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	---

Dance Break

First one hand covers the ear and the other turns
the LP like a DJ. Then show a 1 with one finger.

E-	very	bo	-	dy	dance	now
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Everybody sings

After the break, everyone continues to play
walking around dancing randomly for a while.

Hard Core Break

Point up the middle finger

1	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	E	E
	E	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	E	E
	E	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	E	E
2-4	E	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	E	E
	E	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	E	E
	E	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	E	E
	E	e	e	e	E	E	E	E	E	E

3 × from soft to loud

I = Agogo plays low e = everyone play softly

2nd time: everyone except Surdos

4th time: Agogo plays high

Tamborim Stroke

Make a circle with your index finger and thumb, like "OK"

Everyone plays the line of the tamborim once

4 times from soft to loud

Hold one arm vertically in front of your body and move the other up along the arm

When any break or sequence of breaks is shown followed by this sign, it should be played 4 times, starting very quietly and getting louder each time.

In a loop

Hold one arm vertically in front of your body and make a wave over it with the other hand

When any break or sequence of breaks is shown followed by this sign, it should be repeated continuously until the maestra instructs to play something else.

Storming Break

show the arm as a measure with the other hand on elbow don't make a fist

chosen instrument section plays sixteenths with volume indicated by maestra
if you can't stand it anymore: scream

Alerting / Magic Wand Break

show your flat hand and hit it with stick

Stop the Surdos. Give a sign for when the Surdos should hit once, by hitting the stick on the hand in the air. It's easier to follow if you paint a small loop in the air with your stick, just before hitting. Start with just one hit every four beats, then add more.

Chaos Break

Point with index finger at temple

Everyone plays something chaotic, getting louder and louder. No Counting in!

Again

Hit with flat hand on forehead

Repeat the last break (combination)

Improvisation

Point at your nose and at the sambista who can play freely

Show all others what they should do in the meantime, so the length of the impro part is defined

Notation

Call-Response

E Everybody
S Surdos
A All others

Surdos

0 damped with hand
sil silent hit (with one hand resting on the skin)

Repenique

fl flare: multiple hit with rebounding stick
hd hand hits the skin
sil silent hit with one hand resting on the skin
ri hit rim and skin at the same time or hit only the skin near the rim

Agogo

h high bell
l low bell