


# Flamacue


The *flamacue* is a rudiment most often associated with old school snare drum etudes and marching band music. Though they are not used outside of those realms regularly, they are beneficial for working on quick up strokes. Flamacues are not easy to play, with the offbeat accent played by the left hand on the second partial of the 16th note ('e'). The flam on the downbeat is unaccented, but the stick for the primary note needs to come up high enough to play a clear flam. Unlike inverted flam taps, they don't work on both hands naturally so make sure to practice with a left hand lead.

While example [a] is how flamacues are written on the rudiment sheet, there are 3 common variations which are based on the last note being accented and/or flammed. When the last note is an accented flam [b], this exercise clearly shows the difference between having no time to use an up stroke and having an extra partial with which to employ an up stroke.


① [a]   
 L R L R L L R    L R L R L L R    L R L R L R    L R L R L R  
 R L R L R R L    R L R L R R L    R L R L R L    R L R L R L


Playing consecutive flamacues with only an 8th note of space places you in  $\frac{3}{4}$ . You can switch the lead hand for the second flamacue (ex. [b]).

② [a]   
 R L R L R    R L R L R

[b]   
 R L R L R    L R L R L

With an added accent at the end of each flamacue.

[c]   
 R L R L R    R L R L R

[d]   
 R L R L R    L R L R L

Adding a quarter note of space places you in  $\frac{5}{4}$ .

③ [a]   
 R L R L R    L R L R L    R L R L R    L R L R L  
 R L R L R    L R L R L    R L R L R    L R L R L

[b]   
 R L R L R    L R L R L    R L R L R    L R L R L  
 R L R L R    L R L R L    R L R L R    L R L R L

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You can mix different variations from example ① within an exercise.

**D**

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

Flamacues combined with other rudiments. For ⑤ and ⑥, play a Full stroke on the ‘e’.

Flamacues with a paradiddle sticking – ‘flamadiddle-cues’

⑤

a

R L R R L L R L L R

b

R L R R L L R L L R

Instead of a flam up front, play a drag – ‘flagacues’

⑥

a

R L R R L L R L L R

b

R L R R L L R L L R

Flamacue and Flamadiddle

⑦

a

R L R L R L R R L R L L R L L L

b

R L R L R L R R L R L L R L L L