

"Foremost In Marching And Concert Percussion Literature"
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Flip-uh-duh-Bucket

by Chris Crockarell Medium / 3:00 / 6 Players

Instrumentation

Six 5-gallon plastic buckets (handles removed)

Performance Notes Included

Watch a video performance on the Row-Loff YouTube channel.

- Performance Notes -

Prep - 6 buckets are placed (bottoms up!) in a straight line or slight arc, center stage. (The floor being of hard material, no carpet.) Buckets should be placed approx. 2 feet from each other. Buckets are placed 1 through 6, from right to left, from the audience view. They should be close enough to allow players to strike the tops of their neighbor's buckets. The players will sit on chairs while performing and striking the bottoms of the buckets. Players 1, 2 & 3 are off stage, stage left, (audience view, right). Players 4, 5 & 6 are off stage, stage right. The players will have their sticks with them at this point.

Performance - The piece begins with player three coming from side stage and beginning the stick clicks in bar 1, setting the tempo. Player four follows in bar 2. They each walk to their buckets and take a seat. Players two & five enter the same way, then players one & six. The amount of time given may vary in a particular venue. If more time is needed, it is OK to extend the section until all are seated by bar 13. At bar 13, the players are split and as they play the stick clicks, their arms should be raised over their heads and brought down during rests. This will make for a nice visual in bars 13-16. The downbeat of 17 should be nice and loud and drop immediately to a soft piano dynamic. (Any time there are double stops being played on the sides, the players can dead-stick or lightly press the sticks into the bucket sides.)

Be careful in all sections where the players strike each others buckets. Watch those knuckles, please! The first appearing on beat 4 in bar 20. Make sure the few vocal sections in the piece are nice and *LOUD!* Again, practice the moving from right bucket to left bucket in bar 24. Make sure there is ample room for the neighboring player to strike your bucket. (Note sticking in bar 33.)

During the stomp section at bar 37, the players will hold each stick in the fulcrum between their thumb and index finger while picking up their bucket and slamming it on the floor. The slide section, (bars 38-41), is performed by slamming the bucket on the ground (slightly to the right), then sliding the bucket across the floor, right to left. Bars 50-52 are performed using "air strokes" pulling the arm up to a 90 degree angle and striking air. This is a wonderful visual between players 1-3 and 4-6! In bar 53, every player (except player one) gives a high stick lift after playing their two notes. Making a visual "fan" down the line. There is a slight faster tempo change on beat 2 of bar 62. This is played solo on the rim by player 4, but any of the players 2-6 may take this responsibility. The *flip section* at letter "E" is accomplished by, again, placing each stick in the fulcrum, grabbing the bucket and flipping it while gripping with the middle fingers. At the MM tempo of 138, there is ample time to flip the bucket in 3 beats before placing the bucket back to the floor. This section is another awe-inspiring visual section if done correctly. (If players are having trouble with the flip, they may opt to simply grab the bucket and do a slow lift up and down over head level.) Be sure and adhere to the piano dynamic level in bars 77-80 with the crescendo starting in bar 81. The repeated 2 bar phrase starting in bar 85 should be larger than life with the right arm. Again, being careful not to smash knuckles and leaving room for the neighbor to strike your bucket. (The end players obviously play "air" when striking out to imaginary bucket tops.) In bars 93 & 94, the players are paired off and strike each others sticks while one player strikes and the other holds. This should be practiced so the players will be able to go directly to striking points. The sticks should be held parallel in a horizontal position making for easy strikes by the other player. One stick strikes one stick. With another large right hand stick lift in bar 95 and a final move to the neighbors bucket in the last bar, all that's left is the massive hysteria and applause from your audience! Enjoy that feeling!!





Flip-uh-duh-Bucket



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mf

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Flip-uh-duh-Bucket



