

*Kendor Solo Series*

# Essential Contest Solos for the Intermediate Snare Drummer

10 Unaccompanied Pieces at Grades 3-4+

by Murray Houllif

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## About the Author



A native of Woodbourne, New York, he holds degrees from the State University of New York at Potsdam (BS Music Education) and the State University of New York at Stony Brook (MM Percussion Performance) plus 63 additional credit hours. His teachers include Raymond Des Roches, Richard Fitz, James Petercsak, Sandy Feldstein, Dom Famularo, and Bey Perry (organist Jimmy Smith's drummer). Having subsequently served as co-coordinator of percussion at North Texas State University in Denton, Murray has recently retired from

32 years as a band director and percussion specialist in the public schools of Smithtown, New York.

As a member of the percussion section of the Long Island Symphony under Seymour Lipkin and the Nassau Symphony directed by Andrew Schenk, he has performed with Dave Brubeck, Marian McPartland, Itzak Perlman, Bryon Janis, Stanley Drucker, Julius Baker, Lynn Harrell and Phil Smith. He co-founded, wrote for and performed with the Ambira Mallet Quartet. Murray performed with Theatre Three as show drummer for 8 years. He was drumset player with Art Rollini (formerly with the Benny Goodman band) for 7 years. He has been the timpanist with the Symphonic Pops Orchestra for the past 5 years. He endorses Pro-Mark sticks and Grover Pro-Percussion products. Murray is also an avid flatpicker of bluegrass on his collection of acoustic steel-string guitars and practitioner of the art of Tai Chi.

With approximately 250 concert and pedagogic publications to his credit, he has written numerous articles for such professional journals as "Percussive Notes", "Modern Drummer", "The Instrumentalist", "School Band and Orchestra Magazine", and the "Music Educator's Journal".

Murray won the Percussive Arts Society Composition Contest twice and the Distinguished Music Leadership Award for excellence in percussion education which was presented to him on May 3, 2015 by the New Jersey Youth Symphony Percussion Ensemble directed by Dr. Kenneth Piascik.

## Essential Contest Solos for the Intermediate Snare Drummer

### 10 Unaccompanied Pieces at Grades 3-4+

Written in conjunction with "Essential Contest Solos for the Young Snare Drummer", the solos in this collection a variety of styles: Rock, Jazz, Latin, Gaelic, Contemporary and Rudimental. They may be used for contest/festival or for study. Special Snare "effects" are used throughout the book such as stick shots, playing on the rim, rim shots, and clave (or cross stick).

Rolls specified are closed-orchestral style (a smooth long tone of indeterminate multiple bounces, buzz roll) and the open-rudimental style (the double-bounce or "mama-dadda" roll, RRLL or LLRR) where a specified number of strokes are indicated.

Some sticking suggestions have been included to help the player achieve the proper style and phrasing. Dynamics and expression marks should be followed carefully. Metronome markings are suggested tempos for performance.

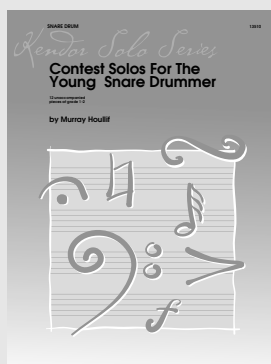
For consistency of sound the player should strike the Drum head in the same area with the left and right sticks listening closely for a matched tone. For a crisp, snappy tone tune the snare head (bottom) to the same or higher pitch as the batter head (top). Many players tune on or close to the note "G".

## PERCUSSION SERIES FROM MURRAY HOULLIF

### Developing the Complete Percussionist with Contest Solos For The Young Series

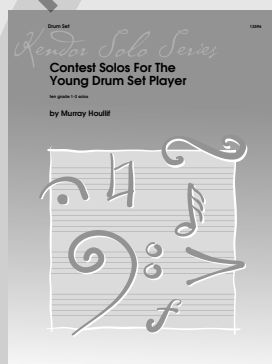
Written by Murray Houllif to provide young students with quality solo material for contest, recital or study, this series features stylistically diverse pieces to develop young percussionists' skills.

#### Contest Solos For The Young Snare Drummer



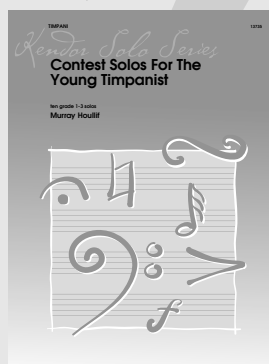
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#### Contest Solos For The Young Drum Set Player



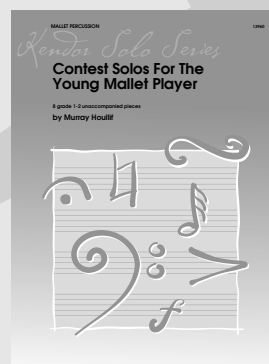
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#### Contest Solos For The Young Mallet Player



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# On the Dotted Line

## Snare Drum

Grade 3, Duration 1:40

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

Allegretto ♩ = 100-108

Solo

4

5

6

7

8

9

*p* (Closed Rolls)

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

*f*



# Bumblebee

## Snare Drum

(All "buzz" rolls)

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

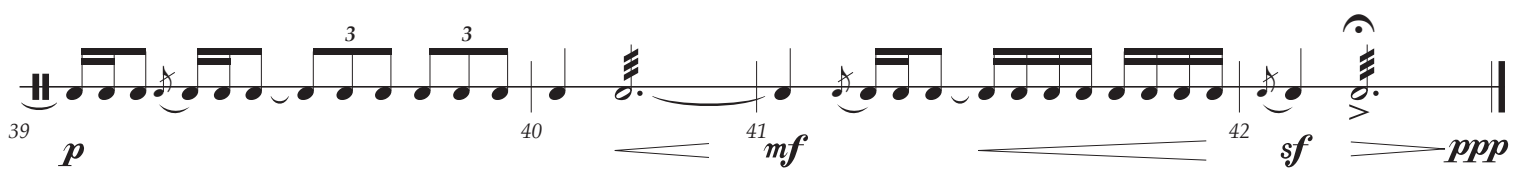
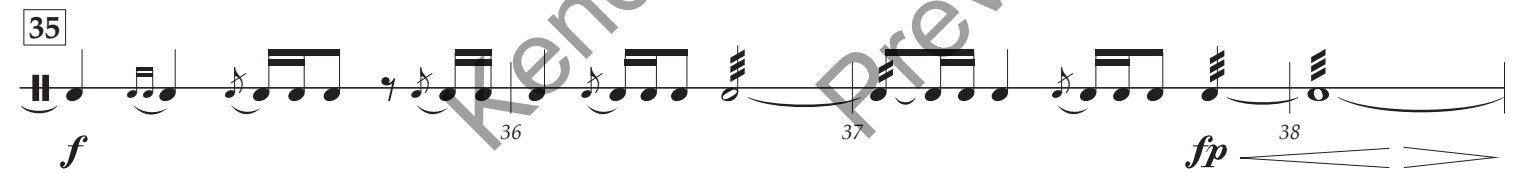
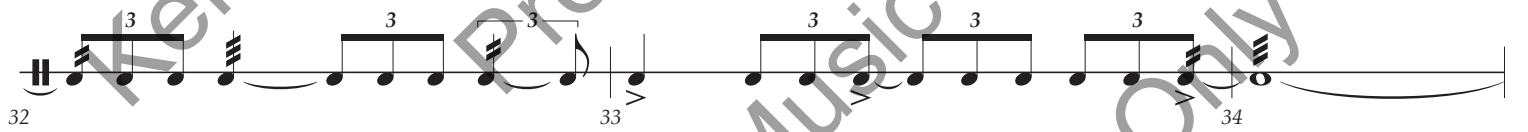
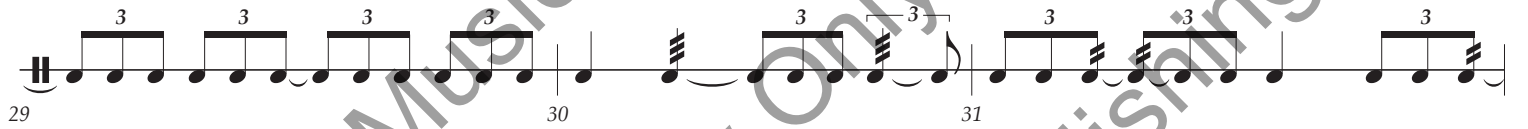
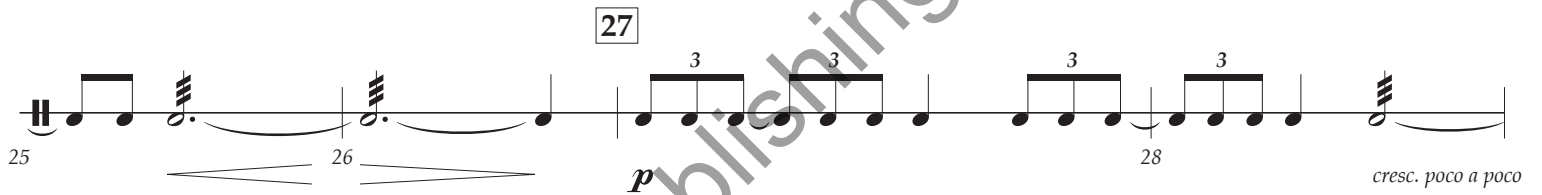
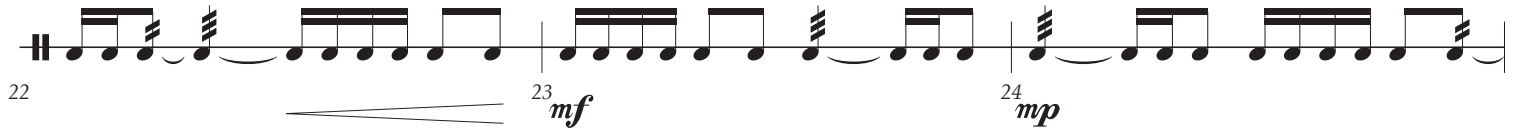
Moderato ♩ = 88-92

Solo

*fp* *f* *mf*

4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

The musical score for Snare Drum, titled "Bumblebee" by Murray Houllif, is in 4/4 time and marked Moderato (88-92 bpm). The piece is a solo for snare drum, featuring various drum rolls and dynamics. The score is divided into measures 4 through 21. Dynamics include *fp* (fortissimo piano), *f* (fortissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano). The score includes a large watermark reading "Kendor Music Publishing Preview Only".



# Hemispheres

## Snare Drum

Grade 3, Duration 1:40

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

March ♩ = 80-88

**Solo**

1st x R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L  
2nd x

**f**

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

**mf**

**f**

31 32 33 34 35

*mf*

36 37 38 39

40 41 42 43 44

*f*

45 46 47 48 49

*mf* *f*

50 51 52

*p*

53 54 55 56

*mf* *cresc.* *sf*

## Six for Sticks

## Snare Drum

Grade 3, Duration 1:30

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

**Solo**

**Bouncy** ♩ = 66-72

*mf*

2 3 4

5 6 7 8

**9**

*f*

10 11 12

13 14 15 16

**17**

18 19 20

21 22 23 24

5

25 *mf* 26 27 *cresc.* 28 *f* *mf*

29 30 31 *cresc.* 32 *f*

33 34 35 36 *mf*

37 38 39 40

41 42 43 44

45 *cresc. al fine* 46 47 48 *sf*

# Tito's Mambo

## Snare Drum

Grade 3+, Duration 1:35

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

**Legend**

(Strike Rim & Head Simultaneously)

(Tip of stick on head - left of center butt strikes rim)

On Head

Rim Shot

On Rim

Cross-stick (Clave)

Latin - snares off

$\bullet = 132$  ( $\text{♩} = 66$ )

**Solo** RH LH

*pp*

2 3 4

5 *cresc. poco a poco* 6 7 8

9 10 11 *f* 12 **Fine**

13

14 15

16 17 R L R L R L R 18 R R L

The musical score is written for a snare drum in 4/4 time. It begins with a 'Solo' section marked 'RH LH' and 'pp'. The first four measures show a pattern of eighth notes and rests, with 'x' marks indicating specific techniques: On Head, Rim Shot, On Rim, and Cross-stick. The tempo is marked as 'Latin - snares off' with a note value of 132 (♩ = 66). The score continues with measures 5 through 12, featuring a 'cresc. poco a poco' marking and a 'Fine' ending. Measure 13 is marked with a box containing the number 13. The final section, measures 14 through 18, includes a sequence of 'R' and 'L' markings, likely indicating right and left hand patterns. The score is watermarked with 'Kendor Music Publishing' and 'Preview Only'.

Staff 19-21: Musical notation for measures 19, 20, and 21. Measure 19 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 20 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 21 contains eighth notes and rests, with a box containing the number 21. Below the staff, the rhythm notation R R L L is written.

Staff 22-24: Musical notation for measures 22, 23, and 24. Measure 22 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 23 contains eighth notes and rests, with a box containing the number 1. Measure 24 contains eighth notes and rests. Below the staff, the rhythm notation R L is written for measure 22, and R R L L is written for measures 23 and 24.

Staff 25-28: Musical notation for measures 25, 26, 27, and 28. Measure 25 contains eighth notes and rests, with a box containing the number 2. Measure 26 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 27 contains eighth notes and rests, with a box containing the number 3. Measure 28 contains eighth notes and rests. Below the staff, the dynamics *p* and *f* are written, along with the rhythm notation R R L.

Staff 29-31: Musical notation for measures 29, 30, and 31. Measure 29 contains eighth notes and rests, with a box containing the number 4. Measure 30 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 31 contains eighth notes and rests, with a box containing the number 31. Below the staff, the dynamics *fp* and *f* are written.

Staff 32-35: Musical notation for measures 32, 33, 34, and 35. Measure 32 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 33 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 34 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 35 contains eighth notes and rests. Below the staff, the dynamics *p* and *f* are written.

Staff 36-38: Musical notation for measures 36, 37, and 38. Measure 36 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 37 contains eighth notes and rests. Measure 38 contains eighth notes and rests. Below the staff, the dynamics *p* and *f* are written.

D.C. al Fine

# Paradiddle Gumbo

## Snare Drum

Grade 4, Duration 1:50

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

**Solo**

$\text{♩} = 72 - 80$

*mf*

1. *mf*

2.

3.

4. *mf*

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13. *mp*

Press Roll

14.

15.

16.

17.

18.

19.

20.

21.

22.

23.

24.

25 R L 9 L 26 R 27 L R 28 L R L L R L

*cresc.* *f*

29 R L R R L L R L 30 R R L R L R L L 31 R L L R L R L

*mf-p*

32 R R L R 33 34 35 36

37 R L R R L R L L R R L R L L 38 R R L R L L R L R R L L 39 R L R R L R L R L L R L

*f*

40 R L R R L R L L R L R L R L R R 41 L R L L R L R R L R L L 42 R L R R L R L L R L R R

43 L R L R L R L L R L R L R L 44 L R L L R L R R L 45 R L L R L R

*mf*

46 47 R L 7 48 R L R 49

50 51 R L R L R R L R L R L L R L R L 52 R L R R

*sf*

# The Bopster

## Snare Drum

Grade 4, Duration 1:40

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

**Solo** **Jazzy** ♩ = 120-126

**4/4**

**fp** *cresc.* **f**

**3** **p** **f** **p** **f** **mf** **5** **L** **R** **R** **L** **R** **L** **L** **R** **R** **L**

**6** **R** **R** **L** **7** **R** **L** **R** **R** **L** **L** **R** **8** **sf**

**9** **mf** **10** **11** **12** **R** **L** **L** **R** **R** **L** **13** **R** **L** **L** **R** **R** **L** **R** **R** **L** **14** **R** **R** **L**

**15** **R** **L** **R** **R** **L** **L** **R** **L** **R** **R** **L** **16** **fp** **f** **17** **18** **19** **20** **21** **R** **L** **R** **L** **22** **23** **R** **R** **L** **L** **24**

**Stick Shot\***

**Press Roll**  
(Both Sticks Simultaneously)

\*Stick Shot: Tip of (L) Stick on drum, strike 5" up w/(R) Stick

25

L L R

*p*

26

27

28

29

*mp*

30

31

32

R R L

*f*

33

*mf*

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

R L

*f*

42

43

44

45

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

*mf*

cresc. al fine.

46

47

48

*sffz*

**MURRAY HOULLIF**  
(b. 1948)

Each beat in the solo represents a Morse Code letter or number. The long rolls represent a period at the end of a sentence.

The rhythmic notation spells out the following:  
Samuel B. Morse invented the code in 1835. It was a major achievement in the  
American 19th Century. We can be most proud!

**Moderato** ♩ = 80 - 84

**Moderato** ♩ = 80 - 84

**Solo**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

*f* *mf* *f* *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

Musical score for Morse Code, measures 19-41. The score is written on a single staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth notes, quarter notes, and sixteenth notes, often grouped in beams. Dynamic markings include *ff* (fortissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *cresc.* (crescendo), *sfp* (sforzando piano), and *sf* (sforzando). Measure numbers 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41 are indicated below the staff. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Kendor Music Publishing Preview Only" is overlaid across the score.

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41

*ff* *mf* *mp* *cresc.* *sfp* *sf*

# Isometric

(Closed Rolls)

## Snare Drum

Grade 4, Duration 1:00

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

Moderato ♩ = 92-96 ♩ = 184-192

Solo

3 *p* 4 5 6 7

8 *f* 9 10

11 *p* 12 13 14

15 16 *f* 17

18 *p* 19 20 21

22 *f* *fp* *f*

24 *p* 25 *fp* 26 *f* *p* 27

28 29 *f* 30 31

32 33 *sf* 34 *p* 35

36 37 38 *sf*

# Permutations

## Snare Drum

Grade 4+, Duration 1:40

MURRAY HOULLIF  
(b. 1948)

March ♩ = 80 - 88

Solo

Measures 1-27 are shown, with measures 17, 25, and 27 marked with box numbers. The score includes various rhythmic patterns and dynamics.

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

*mf-f*

*f*

*mf*

*p*

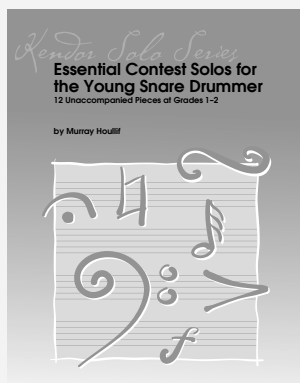
*cresc.*

*sfz*

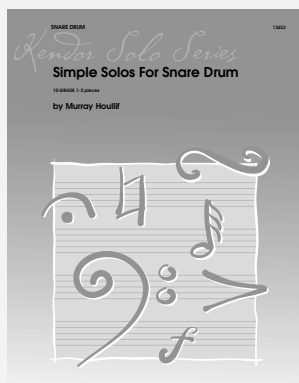
# Shake a Stick at These Solos

(For Snare Drummers at all Ability Levels)

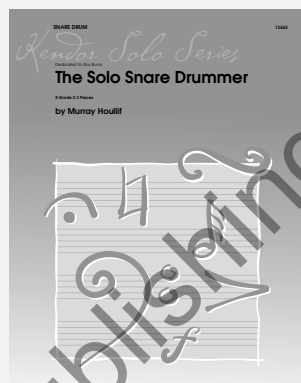
by Murray Houllif



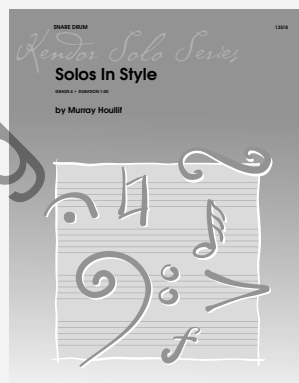
**Essential Contest Solos for the Young Snare Drummer**  
12 Unaccompanied Pieces  
Grades 1-2 ..... PB2501



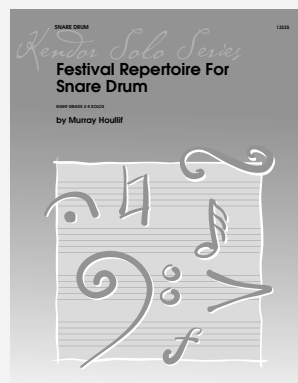
**Simple Solos for Snare Drum**  
10 Unaccompanied Pieces  
Grade 1-2 ..... 13947



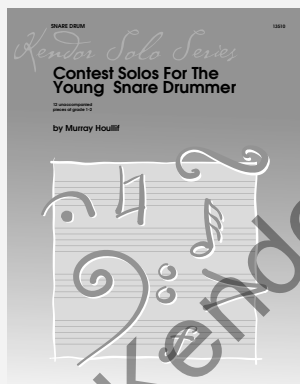
**The Solo Snare Drummer**  
8 Unaccompanied Pieces  
Grade 2-3 ..... 13463



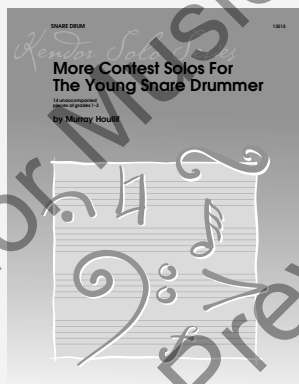
**Solos in Style**  
12 Originals for Intermediate Snare Drum  
Grade 4 ..... 13518



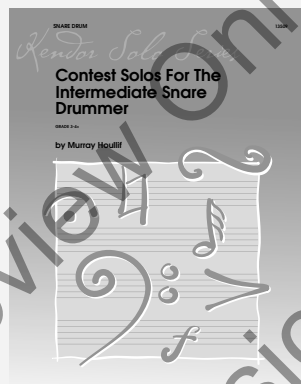
**Festival Repertoire for Snare Drum**  
8 Pieces  
Grade 3-5 ..... 13335



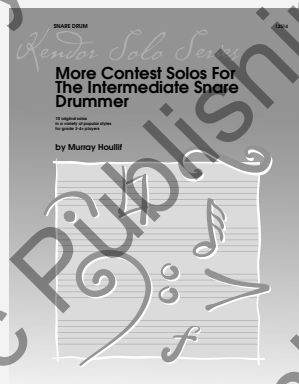
**Contest Solos for the Young Snare Drummer**  
12 Unaccompanied Pieces  
Grades 1-2 ..... 13510



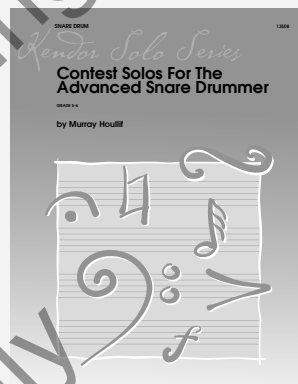
**More Contest Solos for the Young Snare Drummer**  
14 Unaccompanied Pieces  
Grades 1-3 ..... 13515



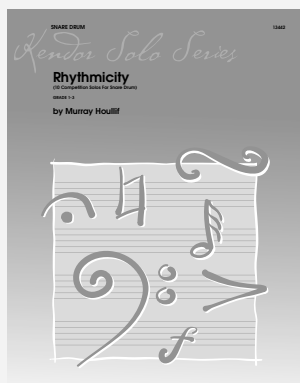
**Contest Solos for the Intermediate Snare Drummer**  
10 Grade 3-4+ Pieces ..... 13509



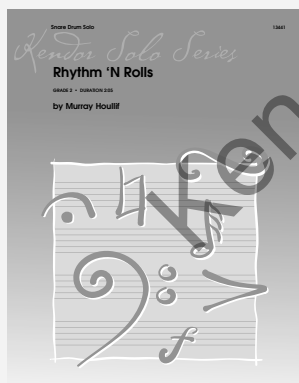
**More Contest Solos for the Intermediate Snare Drummer**  
10 Grade 3-4+ Pieces ..... 13514



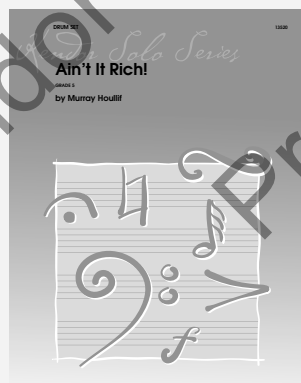
**Contest Solos for the Advanced Snare Drummer**  
5 Grade 5-6 Pieces ..... 13508



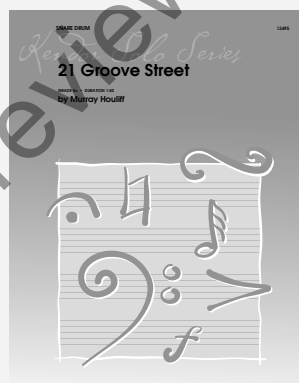
**Rhythmicity**  
(10 Unaccompanied Solos for Snare Drum)  
Grade 1-3 ..... 13442



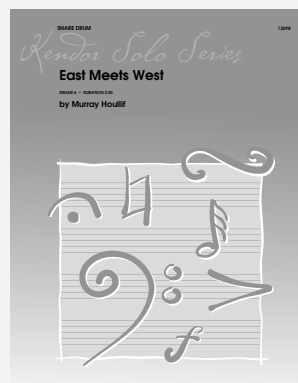
**Rhythm 'N Rolls**  
Grade 2 ..... 13441



**Ain't It Rich!**  
Grade 5 ..... 13520



**21 Groove Street**  
Grade 5+ ..... 13495



**East Meets West**  
Grade 6 ..... 13298