

Suggestions for Learning How to Play Quarter Note Triplets against Four 8th Notes in "Evening on the River Nile."

Playing quarter note triplets against four eighth notes is a variation of playing a triplet against a duplet (two 8th notes).

To start, **learn the passages hands separately** until the patterns are solidly mastered.

If possible, **play the RH and LH as a duet** with someone else. This will ingrain how the pattern sounds and will normalize the sound of RH and LH played together.

To acquire the feel of the rhythm it will be necessary to break down the patterns to a simplified version.

① The original example.

Two breakdowns are suggested on pages 2 and 3:

Page 2 (mathematical deconstruction):

- ②–⑤ *A conversion of the RH into 8th-note triplets (instead of quarter-note triplets).*
- ② The LH is simplified to a downbeat pattern (against RH 8th-note triplets).
- ③ The LH is doubled using 8th notes.
- ④ The RH ties every other two 8th notes to resemble the sound of the original melody.
- ⑤ Step #4 RH is converted into quarter-note triplet patterns (using 8th notes).

Page 3 (simplified deconstruction):

- ⑥–⑨ *Doubling note values to learn as 8th-note triplet vs. duple.*
- ⑥ The original quarter/8th note rhythmic values are converted to RH 8th-triplet with simplified LH.
- ⑦ Practice triplets against simplified LH 8th-note pattern. Dashed lines show correlation between LH and RH.
- ⑧ Pattern #7 doubled in rhythmic value (identical except for the notation).
- ⑨ LH restored to original version, with added 8th notes.

"Evening on the River Nile" Triplets vs Duplets

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1

12 Original

RH mm13-14 subdivided into triplets
LH simplified on the beat.

2

12

RH triplets against LH duplets (2 against 3)

3

12

RH triplet 8th notes tied to sound like original quarter note triplets

4

12

RH sextet 8th notes tied to sound like original quarter note triplets.
(LH is original.)

5

12

Simple Break Down for "Evening on the River Nile"

Before playing hands together, play hands separately until perfected.

This will solidify the separate lines of the RH triplet melody and LH duplet accompaniment.

Melody using RH triplets against LH downbeats

6

Melody using RH triplets against LH duplets (3 against 2)

7

Same as #7 but with doubled rhythmic values (still 3 against 2)

8

Original notation. Play slowly until comfortable.

9