

## UNITED CYMBAL LINE AUDITION OUTLINE

Thank you for taking interest in the United Cymbal Line. Last season was a great year for us, and we are really looking to move forward as the new season approaches.

Attached is a simple exercise which should be learned by the September audition. The exercise was written in four individual parts, and each part should be learned, respectively, by everyone interested in auditioning. Therefore, please be prepared with all parts learned; however, you do not need to memorize the four individual parts.

Auditions this year will be based on an individual's level to demonstrate and perform basic crash techniques, movement, as well as visuals. The United Cymbal Line plays a basic "East Coast" technique, which might also be known as an "A-V" crash, therefore individuals looking to audition must be prepared to demonstrate his/her understanding of basic vertical and horizontal (or orchestral) open crashes, as well as chokes.

A very basic diagram of the crash will be attached to audition information as to better help you with the sub-division of the counts for both and explain what we will be looking for.

As for other sound and effect techniques, please take a look at the "Cymbal Technique Quick Overview" which has been attached as well, as to get a general understanding of the technique we play.

If you have an individual audition that you would like to perform aside from learning the audition piece, please feel free to do so, however you are not obligated. Anything and everything is welcome! Creativity is encouraged!

I look forward to meeting you all at the audition, if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get email me before the audition camp.

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## **Cymbal Technique Quick Overview**

**Crash (C.)** – Typically refers to the vertical or valuation crash.

**Crash Choke (C/C)** - Vertical crash choke.

**Horizontal Crash (Hor.)** - (or Orchestral)

**Horizontal Crash Choke (Hor. C/C)**

**Tap (T)** – Cymbals are placed in 90 degree angle in front of the face. Creates a short and slightly sustained tone. mp

**Zichen (Zich)** – Also known as a zing or a scrape- Cymbals are placed in a 90 degree angle in front of the face, the right edge is scraped along the inside edge of the left in an upward motion. Created a quick, but lingering tone as well. mp

**Bong** – Also know as a bell tap – The right edge strikes the inner bell of the left cymbal in a quick motion. Creating a lower timbre overtone sound. Between mp/mf.

**Side Tap (S.Tap)**– Cymbals are placed in a 90 degree angle in front of the torso. Same as reg. Tap, however the Side tap is at a mezzo forte / forte.

**Klank (Kl.)** – Also known as a Side Tap Choke – After the right cymbal strikes the tacet left cymbal, both are dampened into the sides of the body. Short, very loud, very impactful sound. Very similar, but can be shorter, than a crash choke.

**Horizontal Hinge Choke (HHC)** – Also known as a Hi Hat) Cymbals placed together horizontally in the upper torso, Tight, short, “chik” sounds. Short and not too dry. **(This can also be converted into a vertical position, hinged in the sternum. (VCC) )**

**Press Choke (PC)** – Both cymbals are parallel horizontally in front of the body and are placed together and immediately dampened into the torso. Creates a louder, more impactful HHC sound.

**Sizzle (Sizz.)** - Cymbals are placed in the start PC position separated from each other and off the body. Right cymbal meets the left to create and elongated raspy sizzle sound. Can either sustain and diminish or be dampened.

**Slide (Sl.)** – Cymbals start in HHC position in the body, the right cymbal attacks the left in a downward motion, proceeds outward for an elongated, dryer, extended sizzle sound, right cymbal comes back in towards the body to meet the edge of the left and both are dampened in the torso together for a release or cut off.

# THE CRASH

(broken down)

Three parts to a crash: The Prep, the Attack, the Release

**Basic structure for a crash on 1:**

**“A- V- Bottom – Top- A- V-Together”**

(/ \)    (\ /)    (M)    (|)    (/ \)    (\ /)    (| |)  
4        +        < --1-->        +        2        3

**When crashing on an upbeat, begin on the downbeat prior –**  
(following example: the upbeat of 2):

(/ \)    (\ /)    (M)    (|)    (/ \)    (\ /)    (| |)  
1        2        < --- + ---->        3        4        1