

Now, if you connect the opposing left and right points of that diamond with a dotted line, you'll find that it intersects the straight line of the stick at a right angle, in the center of the back of the hand. You want to be very sensitive to the **weight** of the stick at that spot, because this is going to be the point that monitors and governs the position, movement and balance of the stick in your hand. Directly *under* that center point, on the bottom of the hand, the stick rests lightly on the pads of the middle and ring fingers.

Regardless of the technical or dynamic demands of a phrase, the diamond shape alignment of the hand and the position of the stick remain consistent as the bead of the stick travels to and from the drumhead.

THE FULCRUM POINT

When we use the term "fulcrum point", we're referring to two things that have to work in conjunction: the specific area of the hand where the stick is allowed to pivot in its movement to and from the drum head, and the natural point of balance for the stick. You'll find that spot to be located just slightly less than one-third of the length from the butt end.

There is one small fly in the ointment. Not only is it the point where the stick must have the freedom to travel down to the drumhead and rebound, but it's also the spot in your hand where you literally "hold" and control the stick. If you squeeze too tightly the free rebound is lost. If you hold the stick too loosely you'll lose control. You only want to hold the stick firmly enough so it doesn't fly away. The amount of **inward** squeeze at the fulcrum should create the minimum amount of tension possible in your hand, simply giving you the feeling that your fingers are "glued" lightly to the sides of the stick. Take a look at photo 4.

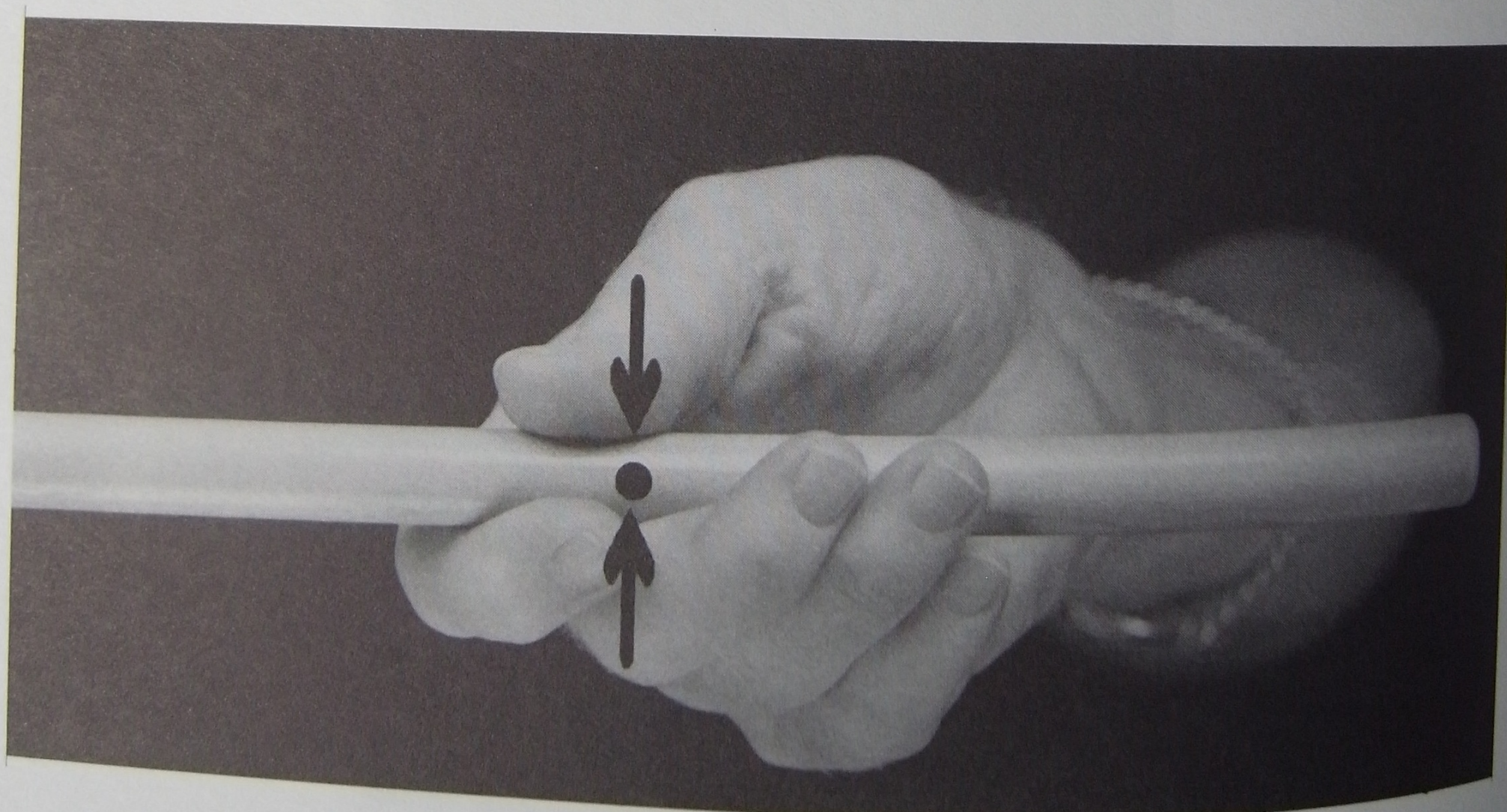


Photo 4.

85. $\text{♩} = 40 - 104$

RL LR RL | LR RL LR | RL LR RL | LR RL LR

LR RL LR | RL LR RL | LR RL LR | RL LR RL

86. $\text{♩} = 40 - 96$

f *p* < *f* *p* < *f* *p* < *f* *p* <

RL LR LLR | RL LR LLR | RL LR LLR | RL LR LLR

LR RL RRL | LR RL RRL | LR RL RRL | LR RL RRL

RL LR LLR | LR RL RRL | RL LR LLR | LR RL RRL

LR RL RRL | RL LR LLR | LR RL RRL | RL LR LLR

87. $\text{♩} = 40 - 96$

f *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

RR LR RL | LL RL LR | RRL LR RL | LLR RL LR

LL RL LR | RR LR RL | LLR RL LR | RR LR RL

88. $\text{♩} = 40 - 80$

p *f* *p* *f*

RL RL | RL RL RL RL | RL RL RL RL | RL RL RL RL

LR LR | LR LL RL RL | LR LL RL RL | LR LL RL RL

RL LR | RL LR RL RL | RL LR RL RL | RL LR RL RL

LR RL | LR RL LR RL | LR RL LR RL | LR RL LR RL

89. $\text{♩} = 40 - 80$

fp *fp*

R L L R R L R | L R R L L R L

L R R L L R L | R L L R R L R

90. $\text{♩} = 40 - 126$

RR LL RR | LL RR LL | LL RR LL | RR LL LL

LL RR LL | RR LL LL | RR LL LL | LL RR LL

91. $\text{♩} = 80 - 176$

f *p* < *f* *p* < *f* *p* < *f* *p* <

R L L | R R L | R R L L R | L L R R L

L R R | L L R | L L R R L | R R L L R