



Typical Swing Articulations


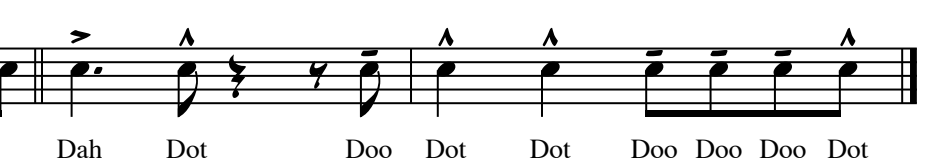
Bb Trumpet


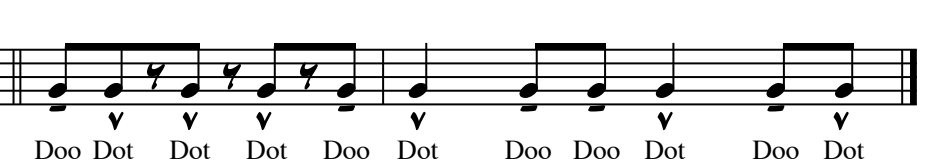
Swing style turns regular 1/8 notes into uneven pairs. The first is held slightly longer than the second, giving us a triplet feel. In the example below, you can see how confusing the rhythms get if we notate the music exactly as how it will be played. This is why you will see your jazz music written "regularly" but the swing style tells you to create the swing feel with your 1/8 notes.

Written:  **Played like:** 

The following 5 examples give you some typical swing rhythms in 2-bar groups. They are first shown how you might see it on your page, and then the articulations are added to show which notes are played short or played legato. Try speaking the rhythms. You can say "Dot" for the short notes and "Doo" or "Dah" for the longer ones.

Written:  **Played like:** 
 Dot Dot Doo Dot Dot Doo Doo Doo Doo Doo Dot

Written:  **Played like:** 
 Dah Dot Doo Dot Dot Doo Doo Doo Dot

Written:  **Played like:** 
 Doo Dot Dot Dot Doo Dot Doo Doo Dot Doo Dot

While 1/4 notes are usually short, sometimes they will be marked long on purpose.

Written:  **Played like:** 
 Doo Dot Doo Dot Dot Doo Doo Doo Dot

The opposite is also sometimes true with 1/8 notes. Also, when 1/8's are marked short they are sometimes played "straight". They are usually marked with words when this happens.

Written:  **Played like:** 
 Doo Dot Dot Dot Dah Dot Dot Dot Doo Dot Dot