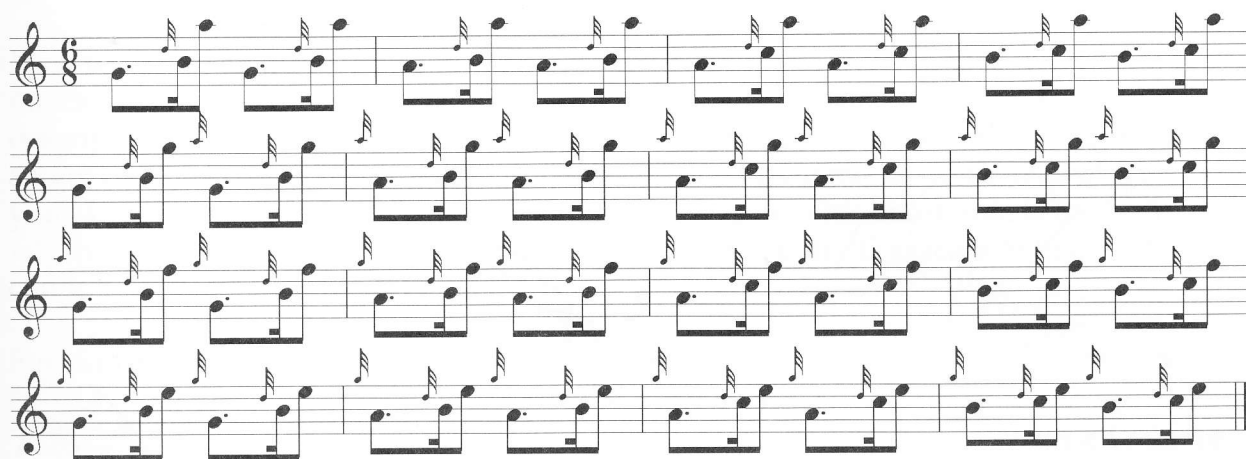


The next exercise is a very practical pattern. It is a typical 6/8-time application of the D gracenote as a 'riser' after a beat note. However, unlike our work so far, the beat does not fall on the D gracenote, but on the first note in each group of three. This is also very typical. You may, if you wish, ignore the G and high A gracenotes to focus on the D gracenote alone.

Play the exercise with rhythm and accuracy. Articulate the short note clearly. If you try it in triple time, listen to the recording for the proper placement of the beats. It can be a bit tricky.

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38-76 / (x3) 114-xxx



If you find this exercise difficult, you may wish to begin by playing it evenly, with no pointing — every note the same length — before moving on to the printed version.

D gracenote — down

This is the only gracenote in piping that is sometimes given its own name — *tachum*. The often fearsome tachum is in reality nothing more complicated than a D gracenote played from one note down to another.

For example, to play a D gracenote from C down to low A, start on C:

- Lift the D finger.
- As you begin to bring the D, C and B fingers down, lift the low A finger*.
- Bring the D, C and B fingers down crisply together.

**You may well find that your low A finger does this naturally. The tachum is one of the few patterns where a finger may follow its own schedule. See the description preceding Figure 5, above, for another.*