
introducing

A NOTATION SYSTEM

for Argentine Social Tango

using the 'musical' pause

why a **notation** system ?

The notation system is a way for leads AND followers to visualize the dance without actually having to do it.

It's also a way to put tango music together with tango vocabulary in a structured way that allows for absolute versatility while at the same time creating the illusion of creativity, and clearly showing that there is a logical order to occurring in the music with our dance!

an example

side - o/c
'close' or 'open'

O

VOCABULARY/MUSIC

W

1/0

beat/on off
1,2,3,4/0,1

speed
-1,0,1
half time, normal, double

track - 2,3,4
#s of tracks

2

3

type
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9

THE VOCABULARY YOU MAY USE

Walking

- 1.) Parallel
- 2.) Cross
- 3.) “Lazy” Ochos
- 4.) Inside Snake
- 5.) Outside Snake
- 6.) Alternate

Crosses

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.) <u>Parallel System</u> | i.) <i>normal</i> |
| 2.) <u>Cross System</u> | ii.) <i>mirror</i> |
| 3.) <u>Double/Multiples</u> | iii.) <i>inverted</i> |
| 4.) <u>Lead Cross</u> | iv.) <i>inverted mirror</i> |
| 5.) <u>Close Embrace</u> | |
| 6.) <u>Alternate Walking Cross</u> | |
| 7.) ‘back’ Crosses (not argentine) | |
| 8.) ‘forward’ Crosses (not argentine) | |
| 9.) ‘Rotating’ Crosses (forward/back) | |

Ochos

- 1.) "Milonguero"
- 2.) Linear
- 3.) Traveling
- 4.) Circular
- 5.) Over-Rotated
- 6.) Anti
- 7.) Milonga
- 8.) Dynamic

Special

- 1.) Sacada
- 2.) Social Colgada
- 3.) Social Volcada
- 4.) Boleo
- 5.) Gancho
- 6.) Patter
- 7.) Wraps/Enganche

Turns

- 1.) Molinete/Giro (Open/Close)
- 2.) Milonguero Turn
- 3.) Rock Step
- 4.) Ocho Cortado
- 5.) Walking Turns
- 6.) Colgada Turns/Single Axis
- 7.) Calecitas
- 8.) Media Luna

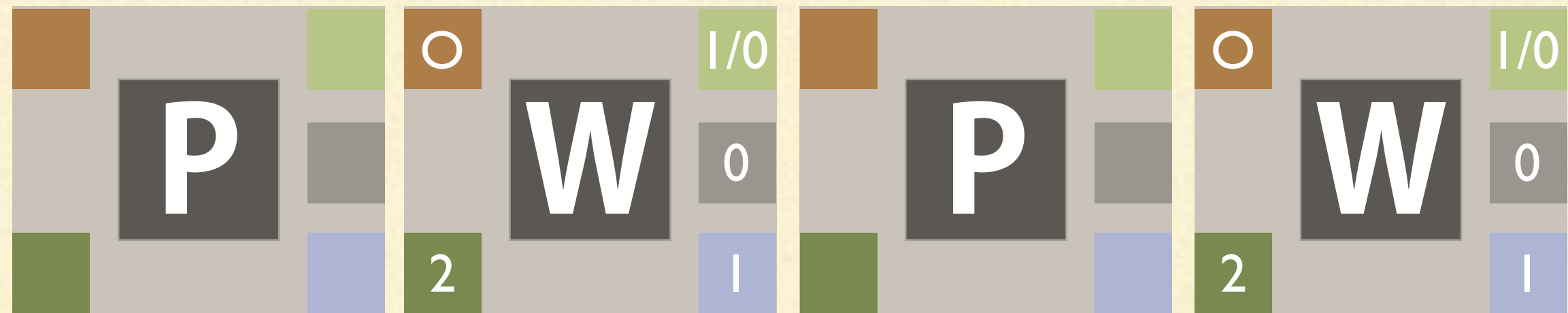
Pauses

- 1.) Stops
- 2.) Flourishes
- 3.) Diminished Note
- 4.) Musical Paragraph
- 5.) Singer’s Breath

Embrace

- 1.) Open
 - 2.) Close
-

THE WALKING EXERCISES TO START WITH



This exercise explores the 6 ways of walking with musical pauses interspersed.



pause type
does not
matter here.



type 1 walk
on 2 tracks
open side
on the 1



pause type
does not
matter here.

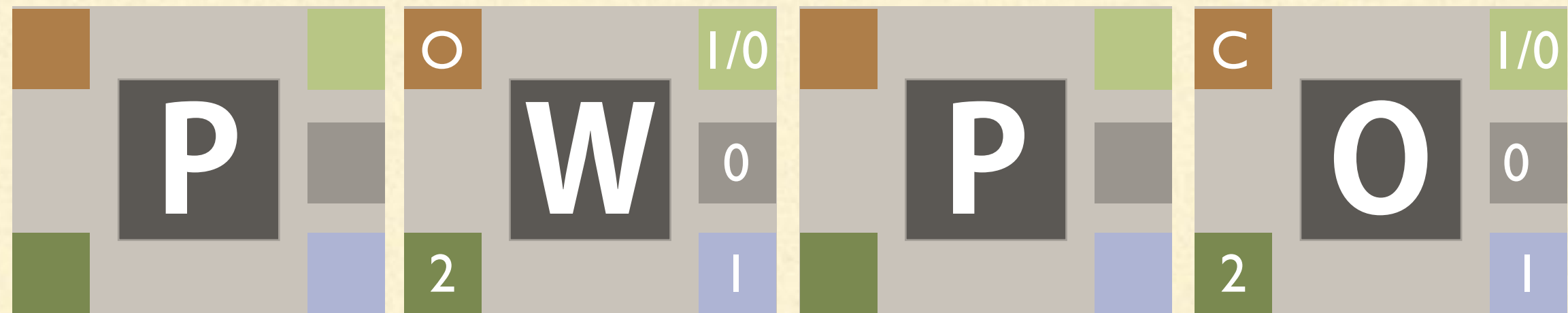


type 1 walk
on 2 tracks
open side
on the 1



This exercise is a walking/traveling ocho transition, to get your mind/body around doing these things frequently.

THE OCHO EXERCISES TO START WITH



This exercise is a walking/lazy ocho transition, to get your mind/body around doing these things frequently.



pause type
does not
matter here.



type 1 walk
on 2 tracks
open side
on the 1



pause type
does not
matter here.



type 1 ocho
on 2 tracks
closed side
on the 1
in half time

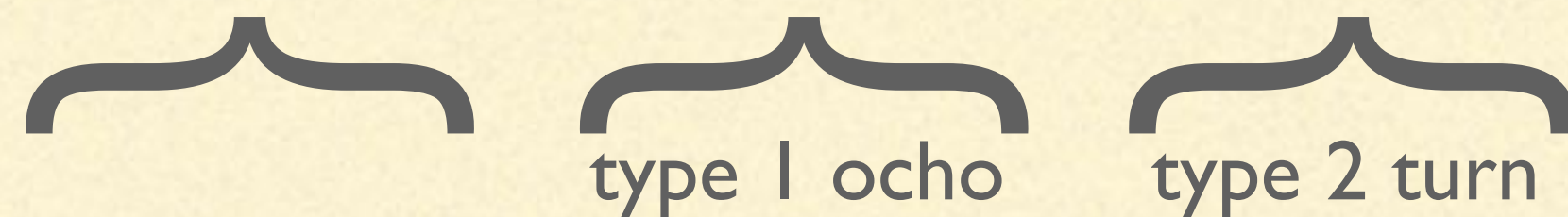
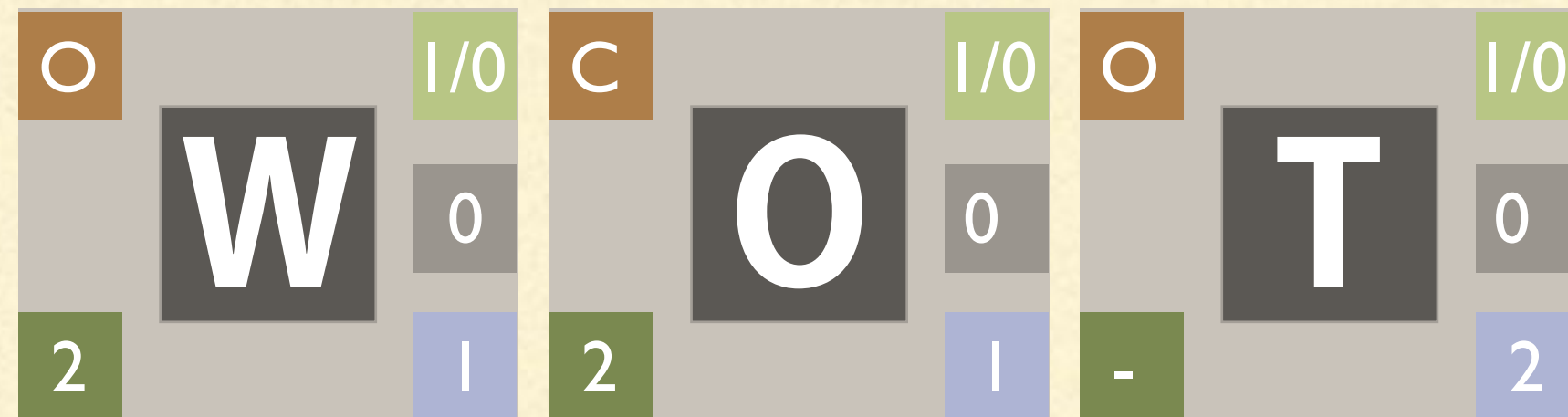
Remember the goal here is to practice this stuff religiously so that it comes out you fluently, without hesitations.



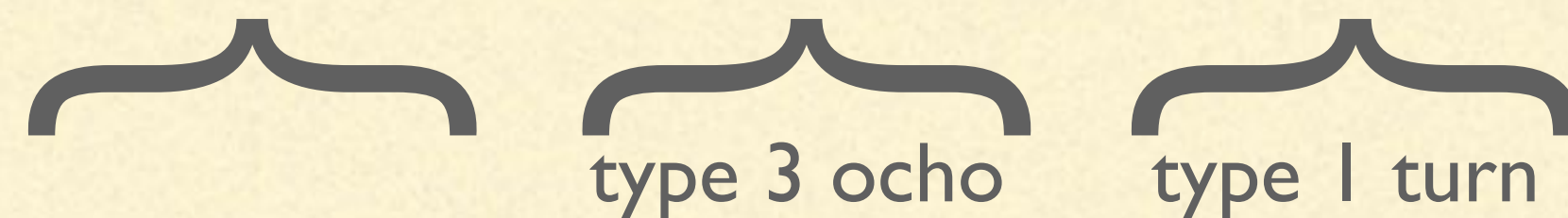
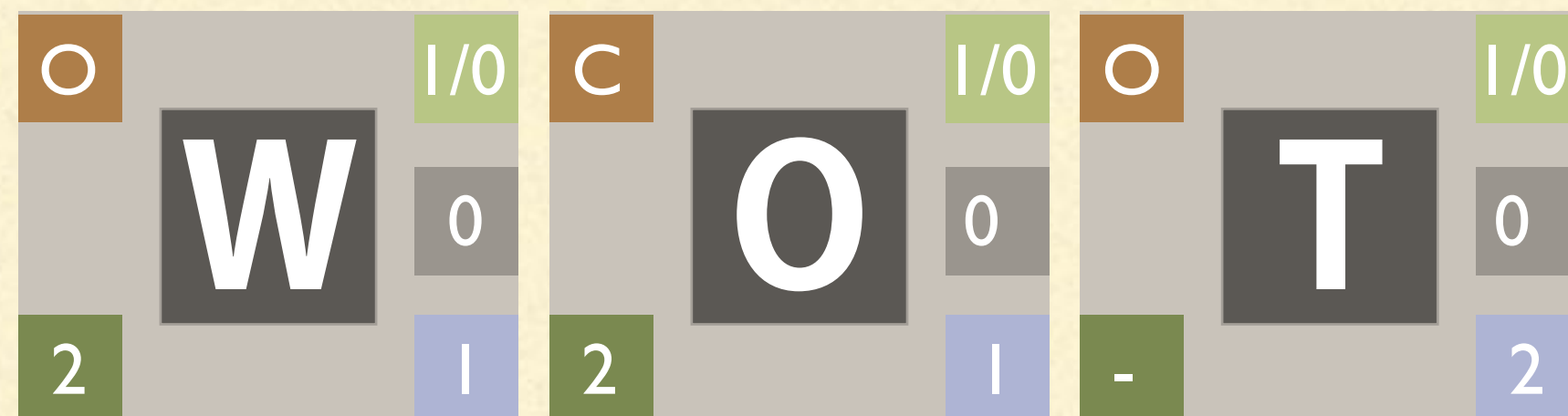
This exercise is a walking/traveling ocho transition, to get your mind/body around doing these things frequently.



THE OCHO/TURNS EXERCISES



there are 4 walks, 3 ochos, and 1 turn, one immediately after the other, no pauses.



there are 4 walks, 3 ochos, and 1 turn, one immediately after the other, no pauses.

This exercise is all about training you to deal with the transition from a type 1 ocho into a type 2 turn or lazy ochos into milonguero turns.

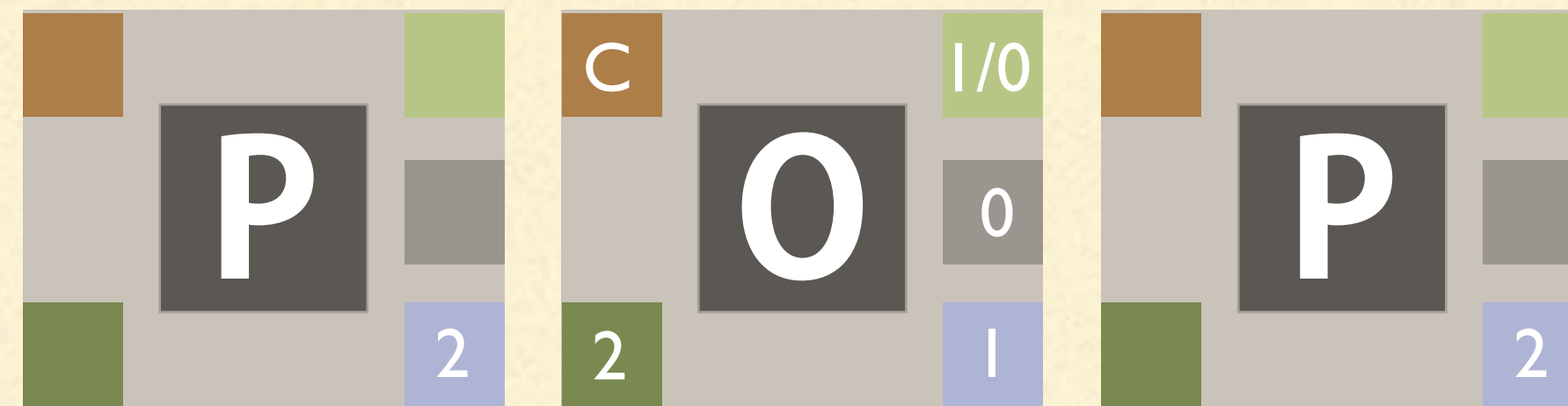
SEE ARTICLE/VIDEO on [Ocho Transitions - Part 1](#)

This exercise is all about training you to deal with the transition from a type 3 ocho into a type 1 turn or traveling ochos into the follower's molinete.

SEE ARTICLE/VIDEO on [Ocho Transitions - Part 2](#)

RULES

'milonguero' or lazy ochos



use as many lazy ochos between
pauses as you like.

THE VOCABULARY YOU COULD USE

Wwalking

- 1.) Parallel
- 2.) Cross
- 3.) Inside Snake
- 4.) Outside Snake
- 5.) Alternate

Pauses

- 1.) Stops
 - 2.) Flourishes
 - 3.) Diminished Note
 - 4.) Musical Paragraph
 - 5.) Singer's Breath
-

RULES

ochos, rock steps, turns



no more than **3** between pauses!

THE VOCABULARY YOU COULD USE

Ochos

- 1.) Lazy
- 2.) Linear
- 3.) Traveling
- 4.) Circular
- 5.) Over-Rotated
- 6.) Anti

Pauses

- 1.) Stops
 - 2.) Flourishes
 - 3.) Diminished Note
 - 4.) Musical Paragraph
 - 5.) Singer's Breath
-

RULES

traveling ochos



a walk must precede an ocho (except lazy)

THE VOCABULARY YOU COULD USE

Wwalking

- 1.) Parallel
- 2.) Cross
- 3.) Inside Snake
- 4.) Outside Snake
- 5.) Alternate

Ochos

- 1.) Lazy
- 2.) Linear
- 3.) Traveling
- 4.) Circular
- 5.) Over-Rotated
- 6.) Anti

Pauses

- 1.) Stops
 - 2.) Flourishes
 - 3.) Diminished Note
 - 4.) Musical Paragraph
 - 5.) Singer's Breath
-

RULES

turns & special vocabulary



a walk must precede a turn/special item

THE VOCABULARY YOU COULD USE

Walking

- 1.) Parallel
- 2.) Cross
- 3.) Inside Snake
- 4.) Outside Snake
- 5.) Alternate

Turns

- 1.) Open Embrace Molinete
- 2.) Close Embrace Molinete
- 3.) Milonguero Turn
- 4.) Rock Step
- 5.) Ocho Cortado
- 6.) Single Axis Turn
- 7.) Colgada Turns
- 8.) Anti Molinete

Pauses

- 1.) Stops
 - 2.) Flourishes
 - 3.) Diminished Note
 - 4.) Musical Paragraph
 - 5.) Singer's Breath
-

RULES

crosses



a walk must precede a cross prior
to the end of musical paragraph

THE VOCABULARY YOU COULD USE

Walking

- 1.) Parallel
- 2.) Cross
- 3.) Inside Snake
- 4.) Outside Snake
- 5.) Alternate

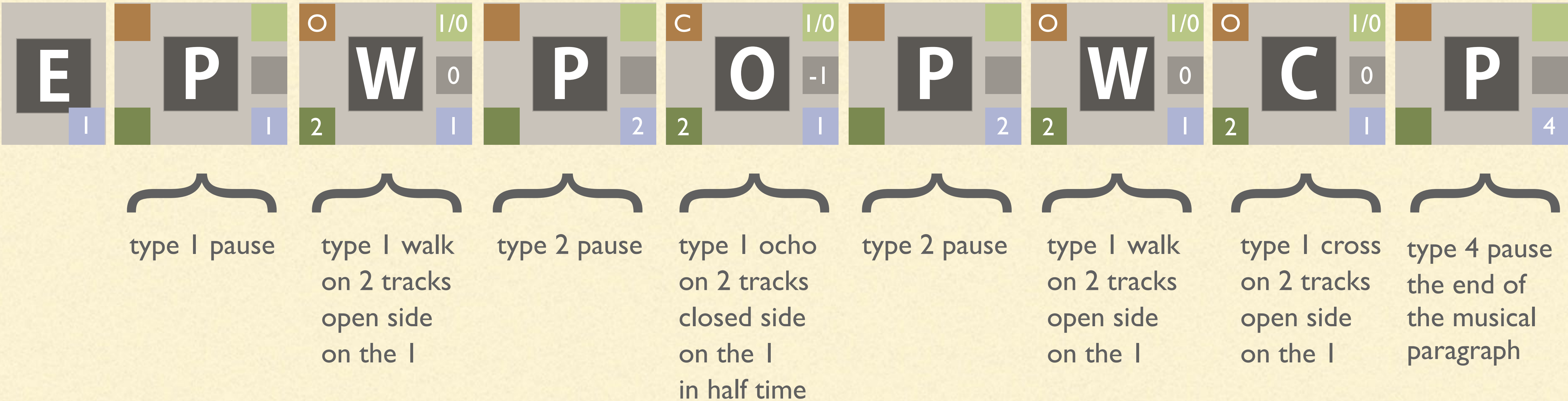
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Pauses

- 1.) Stops
 - 2.) Flourishes
 - 3.) Diminished Note
 - 4.) Musical Paragraph
 - 5.) Singer's Breath
-

SIMPLE WORKING EXAMPLE



COMPLEX WORKING EXAMPLE



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