Clave Direction Check

Is it the 3-side or the 2-side? Son or rumba? Practice reading the clave on one line and on a 16-step grid.

A · WHICH SIDE IS IT?

Each figure is **one bar** of a clave. Count the strokes: **three** strokes = the **3-side**, **two** strokes = the **2-side**. Check one box.

1 

☐ 3-side ☐ 2-side

2 

☐ 3-side ☐ 2-side

3 

☐ 3-side ☐ 2-side

4 

☐ 3-side ☐ 2-side

5 

☐ 3-side ☐ 2-side

6 

☐ 3-side ☐ 2-side

B · SON OR RUMBA?

Find the bar with three strokes. Is its third stroke on **beat 4** (son) or on the **& of 4** (rumba)? Check one box. Each box is an eighth note.

1 

☐ son ☐ rumba

2 

☐ son ☐ rumba

3 

☐ son ☐ rumba

4 

☐ son ☐ rumba

C · SWAP THE SIDES

This is the 3-2 son clave. Fill the empty grid with the **2-3** son clave: draw a dot in each box where a stroke belongs.

Given: 3-2 son clave



Write: 2-3 son clave



Hint The 2-3 clave has the same five strokes. Start with the 2-side, then play the 3-side. Check yourself by ear: the audio for patterns 1–4 and for your part C answer is online.

Listen: scan or visit **tissimo.co/worksheets/clave-direction-check**
100 BPM · one-bar woodblock count-in, then the clave on a claves sound.

Answers. (a) 1. 3-side, 2. 2-side, 3. 3-side, 4. 2-side, 5. 3-side, 6. 3-side. (b) 1. rumba, 2. son, 3. son, 4. rumba. (c) 2-3 son clave: boxes 3, 5, 9, 12, 15 (bar 1: 2, 3 | bar 2: 1, 2&, 4).

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