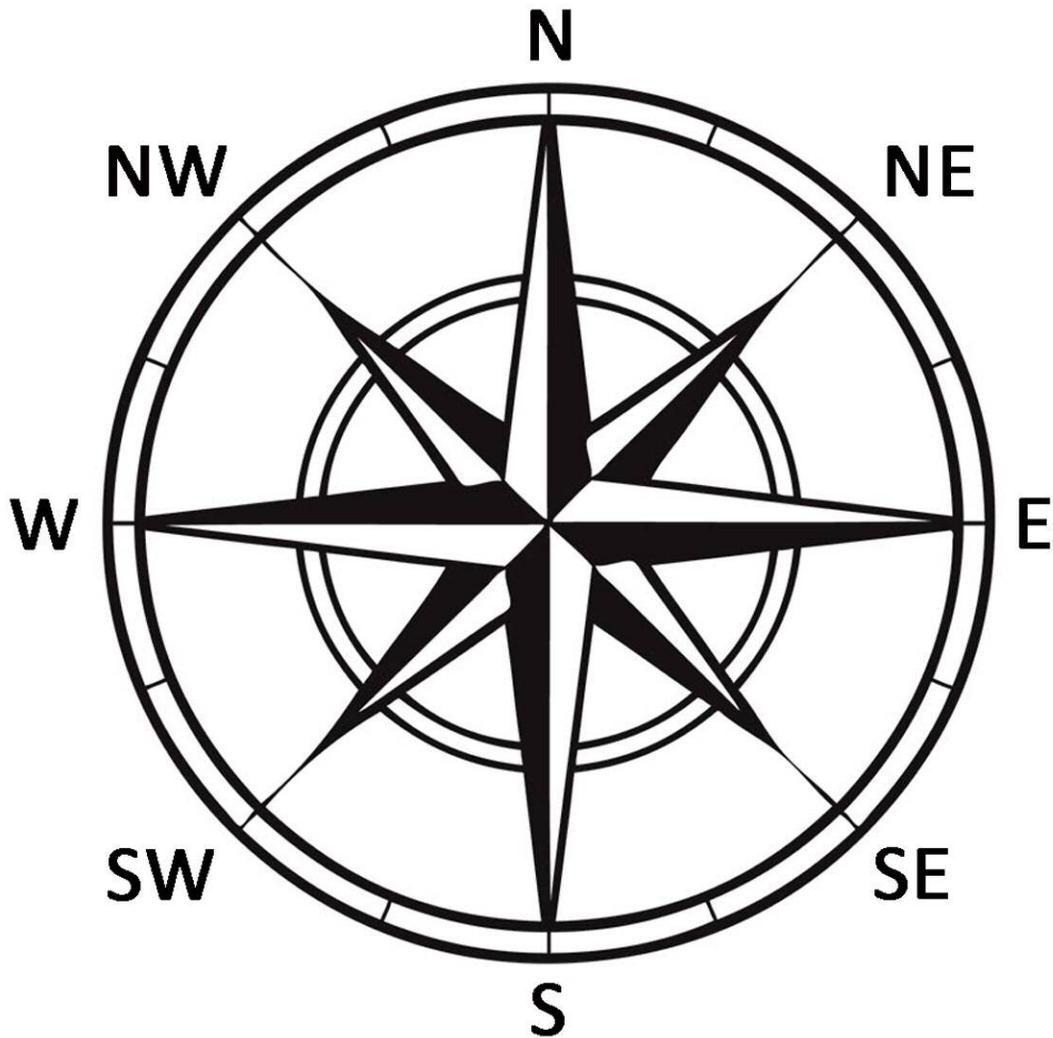
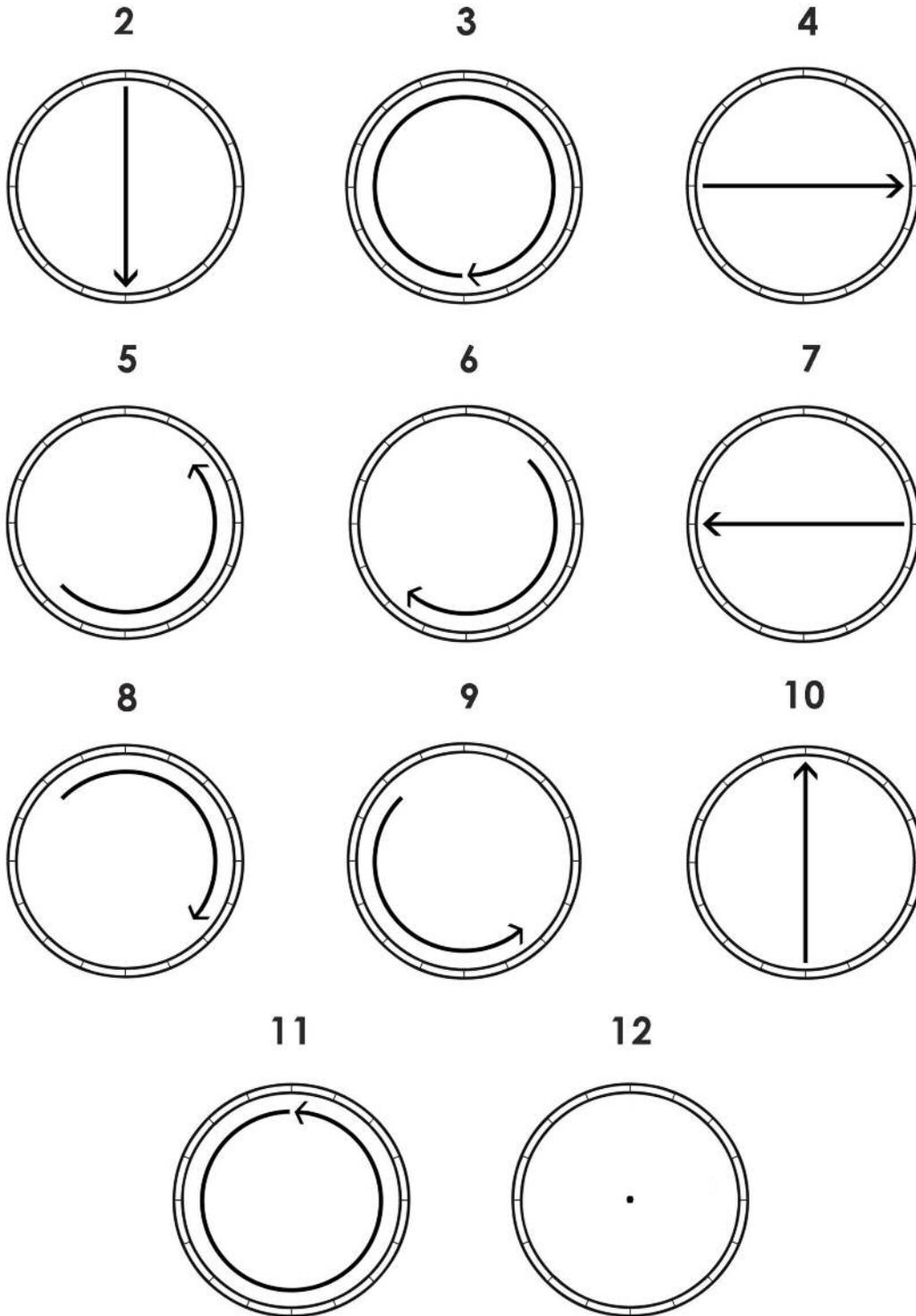


**Directions of Travel**  
for percussion (solo or ensemble)  
Matt Hannafin, December 2015



This is a compass with eight directional points and many ways of traveling between those points.

For the purposes of this piece, there are 11 possible directions of travel between the directional points:



## FOR SOLO

By rolling a pair of dice, the player acquires the directions for playing – literally.

Each roll acquires one direction. A performance may include any number of directions.

The player rolls the dice as many times as s/he wishes, and notes the direction numbers in order. This is the score.

The player then assigns a percussion instrument (or instruments) to each directional point. For a more chance-informed performance, instrument assignments may be made before rolling the dice, so any trends or structure perceived in the score do not influence those assignments.

In executing **straight-line directions** (2, 4, 7, 10), the player begins with the instrument assigned to the starting point and ends with the instrument assigned to the end point.

**Curved directions** (3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11) are accretive: The player begins with the instrument assigned to the starting point, then adds each new instrument reached along the curve (e.g., by the end point of Direction 3, the player will have a palate of eight instruments). The instrument assigned to the end point should be played last.

**Direction 12** can be interpreted any way the player chooses, but it must retain that meaning if more than one Direction 12 appears in the piece.

All musical content is at the discretion of the performer, but don't rush: Travel is about the journey, not how fast you get there.

## FOR ENSEMBLE

Augment the rules above with the following:

- A common duration should be agreed for the performance.
- There are two possible approaches to acquiring directions: (1) Dice rolls may determine directions for the whole ensemble, or (2) players may conduct their own dice rolls, creating individual scores. If opting for individual scores, the number of directions (and how quickly they're played) may vary by performer.
- Instrument choices and assignments may be discussed among the group or left to the discretion of the individual players.