After the Ifa prayer cycle is in place the next step is to learn the marks of Odu. The markings of Odu are made up of single and double lines. The lines are grouped in two pairs of four markings. Each group of four markings is called a leg of Odu. The verses of the scripture are represented by 256 sets of double legs organized in a specific sequence. In my experience the easiest way to learn the marks is to learn the as single legs as follows:

Ogbe       Oyeku       Iwori       Odi

I          II          II          I
I          II          I          II
I          II          I          II
I          II          II          I

Irosun     Owonrin     Obara      Okanran

I          II          I          II
I          II          II          I
II          I          II          II
II          I          II          I

Ogunda     Osa         Ika         Oturupon
It is important for later steps in the training process to learn the Odu in the order of seniority. Different lineages have different orders of seniority. There is no right order, only the order consistently used. Spirit will speak to you through the system you use as long as you use it consistently. The above listed Odu are presented in the order of seniority as used by Egbe Ifa Ogunti Ode Remo.

When I first learned the single legs I marked them on two by five flash cards and sorted through the sequence until I memorized it. If you use flash cards remember to indicate the bottom of the card with some kind of mark so you do not memorize the marks upside down. When you have memorized the marks take an opele (divination chain) and practice reading the legs in combination. Remember the marks are read from right to left, the right leg then the left leg. Most opele have tassels on the end with an even and odd number of strands. The reason for the different in numbers is so that one side of the opele is always used as the right side and the other side is always used as the left side. I use the even numbered side as the right side and the odd numbered side as the left side. Some diviners do it the other way around. Again there is no right way, only the way you do it consistently.
Practice recognition of the marks with the *opele* until the identification is instantaneous and occurs as quickly as you see the mark hit the mat.

*Ire*

*Awo* Falokun Fatunmbi