

How to Build a Drum Groove

VOLUME THREE

Mastering Drum Fills



RICK STOJAK'S

DRUM STUDIO SERIES

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Beats By Style Using Quarter & 8th Notes

Establish a steady groove, then work in fills. See fill drills on pages 6 and 7 for phrasing.

* 1) Classic Back Beats - The Foundation of Rock 2)

Musical notation for beat 1: Classic Back Beats. It shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first two snare hits are marked 'opt'l'.

3)

4)

Musical notation for beats 3 and 4. Beat 3 shows a steady quarter-note bass line with quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. Beat 4 shows a steady quarter-note bass line with quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats.

* 5) Lindy or Twist - Surf, Roots Rock, Punk

* 6) Double-Time, Upbeat or Two-Beat - Rock, Gospel, Metal, Psychobilly

Musical notation for beats 5 and 6. Beat 5 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first two snare hits are marked 'opt'l'. Beat 6 shows a 2/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 1st and 3rd beats.

* 7) Half-Time - Rock, R&B, Dub Step

8) Tom Beat - Punk, Rock

Musical notation for beats 7 and 8. Beat 7 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first snare hit is marked 'opt'l'. Beat 8 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats.

9) Motown - R&B, Rock

10) Unison - Roots Rock

Musical notation for beats 9 and 10. Beat 9 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first snare hit is marked 'opt'l'. Beat 10 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first snare hit is marked with an accent (>).

11) One-Drop - Reggae, Ska

12)

Musical notation for beats 11 and 12. Beat 11 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. Beat 12 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats.

* 13) Quarter Note Hats - Rock, Pop

14)

Musical notation for beats 13 and 14. Beat 13 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first two snare hits are marked 'opt'l'. Beat 14 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. The first snare hit is marked 'opt'l'.

* 15) Upbeat Hats - Rock, Funk, Reggae

16)

One-Drop - Reggae, Ska

Musical notation for beats 15 and 16. Beat 15 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats. Beat 16 shows a 4/4 time signature with a steady quarter-note bass line and quarter-note snare hits on the 2nd and 4th beats.

Reference: "How to Build a Drum Groove: Volume 1 - Mastering Quarter & Eighth Note Grooves"

Beats By Style Using 16th Notes

Establish a steady groove then work in fills. See fill drills on pages 6 and 7 for phrasing.

*1) Syncopated - Rock, Funk, Hip-Hop 2)

3) 4)

5) 6)

*7) Quarter Note Hats - Rock, Funk 8)

*9) Upbeat Hats - Rock, Funk, Reggae 10)

*11) 16th Notes - Rock, R&B, Hip-Hop 12)

*13) Alternating 16th Notes - Rock, Disco 14) Afro - Funk

15) Linear 16th Notes - Funk, Ska 16) Paradiddle Beat - Funk

Reference: "How to Build a Drum Groove: Volume 2 - Mastering Sixteenth Note Grooves"

Beats By Style - Specialty Beats

Establish a steady groove then work in fills. See fill drills on pages 6 and 7 for phrasing.
Experiment with different degrees of swing feel.

1) Flam Beat

2) Tom Beat

* 3) Train - Country, Rock

* 4) Gallop - Country, Rock

* 5) Punk, Rock, Metal

6) Psychobilly

* 7) Bo Diddley

8) New Orleans

Beats By Style - Specialty Beats

9) Hip Hop, Go-Go, New Jack Swing 10)

Musical notation for beats 9 and 10. Beat 9 consists of three measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign. Beat 10 consists of four measures of sixteenth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign.

Play with swing feel on #9 and #10.

* 11) Linear 12) Unison - House

Musical notation for beats 11 and 12. Beat 11 consists of three measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign. Beat 12 consists of three measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign.

13) Double Paradiddle Funk * 14) Faux Latin

Musical notation for beats 13 and 14. Beat 13 consists of four measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign. Beat 14 consists of four measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign.

15) Double Bass / Kick - Metal, Rock 16)

Musical notation for beats 15 and 16. Beat 15 consists of four measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign. Beat 16 consists of four measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign.

17) 18) Blast Beat (Up-tempo)

Musical notation for beats 17 and 18. Beat 17 consists of two measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign. Beat 18 consists of two measures of eighth-note patterns with accents and a plus sign.

Optional: Reverse Kick and Snare.

Beats by Style - Worldbeats

Establish a steady groove, then work in fills. See fill drills on pages 6 and 7 for phrasing.
Play on Cowbell, Hi-Hat, or Ride Cymbal.

1) Bossa-Nova - Brazillian Styles

Musical notation for Bossa-Nova - Brazillian Styles. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove of quarter notes with a consistent pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes.

2) Samba

Musical notation for Samba. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm features a steady groove with accents (circles) and plus signs (+) above the notes, indicating a syncopated feel.

3) Salsa - Afro-Cuban Styles

Musical notation for Salsa - Afro-Cuban Styles. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including a fill at the end of the phrase.

4) Mozambique

Musical notation for Mozambique. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, featuring a syncopated feel with accents.

5) Mambo

Musical notation for Mambo. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including a fill at the end of the phrase.

6) Cha-Cha-Chá

Musical notation for Cha-Cha-Chá. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including accents (circles) and plus signs (+) above the notes.

7) Songo

Musical notation for Songo. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including accents (>) above the notes.

8) Rhumba

Musical notation for Rhumba. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including a triplet (3) above the notes.

9) Bolero (Snares off)

Musical notation for Bolero (Snares off). It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including a triplet (3) above the notes and accents (>) above the notes.

10) Soca - Jamaican

Musical notation for Soca - Jamaican. It consists of a single staff in 2/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including accents (+) above the notes.

11) Calypso

Musical notation for Calypso. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including accents (>) above the notes.

12) Bembé - West African

Musical notation for Bembé - West African. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time. The rhythm is a steady groove with a consistent pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, including triplets (3) above the notes.

Fill Practice Drills

Two and Four-Bar Phrases

Combine with any beat or fill.

Optional: Crash Cymbal on "1" after fills.

1) 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 Fill

2) 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 4 Fill

3) 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 2 3 4 Fill

4) 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 4 Fill

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 2 3 4 Fill

Two bars of beat with two bars of fill.

5) 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4
Fill Fill

Rhythmic Building Blocks

Including Quarter, 8th, 16th and 32nd Notes and Rests

Experiment with various sticking patterns.

1) Quarter Notes
1 R 2 L 3 R 4 L

2) 8th Notes
R L R L R L R L

3) R L R L

4) 16th Notes
R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

5) R L R R L R R L R R L R

6) R R L R R L R R L R R L

7) R L L R L L R L L R L L or R L L R L L

8) L R L L R L L R L L

9) R L R L R L R L R L

10) L R L R L R L R or L R L R L R L R

11) R L R L R L R L R L

12) R L R L

13) R L R L opt'l - L L L L

14) L R

15) L R

16) R LR R LR

17) R R LR R L

18) R L R L R L R L

19) RRLRLRRLRL

20) RLRLRLRLRL

21) 32nd Notes
1 e + a 2 e + a

*Alternating sticking
RLRLRLRL...