

### FILL-INS

The following fill-ins only scratch the surface of this very important part of Bongo playing. It is hoped that they will give the player a push-in-the-right-direction, and that he will be able to form some of his own once these are mastered. To play just the basic rhythm and a few variations would become very monotonous. However, to use fill-ins too often would be in bad musical taste. Fill-ins are used as a short release from the basic rhythm and variations, and are very effective when the right one is used at the right time. The choice of when to use a fill-in and which one to use will be made by the player. The type of tune and tempo play a large part in the choice of which one to use. Make sure they "fit" and "sound".

All notes - except the last one - are played with the index fingers near the edge of the Bongos. The last note is played with the thumb - as explained for the basic rhythm.

The following fill-ins are used for slow to moderately fast tempos.

1. C

Small Bongo  
Large Bongo  
or: R R R

When each fill-in is mastered, precede it with one bar of basic rhythm.

Example:-

basic rhythm fill-in  
Thumb

Keep repeating these two bars until you are able to go from the basic rhythm to the fill-in and back to the basic rhythm without difficulty. This is done only for the practice of going from basic rhythm to fill-in. Never play a fill-in every other bar.

2.

Small Bongo  
Large Bongo  
Thumb