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About the DVD

The DVD contains valuable demonstrations of all the instructional material in the book. You will get the best results by following along with your book as you watch these video segments. Musical examples that are not performed with video are included as audio tracks on the DVD for listening and playing along.

GETTING STARTED

Holding the Sticks

Holding the drumsticks in the correct manner and position is very important to developing proper technique, attack and control. There are two primary ways of holding the drumsticks: the *matched grip* and the *traditional grip*. We will use the matched grip throughout this volume.

MATCHED GRIP

When using the matched grip, each hand holds the drumstick in the same manner. Think of the stick as a natural extension of your arm as you follow these steps to form the matched grip:

1. Grip the stick one-third of the way from the butt end with your thumb and the first joint of your index finger.
2. Close the other fingers loosely around the stick; they will be used to help control its movement.
3. Turn your hand so that the back faces upward when playing. The stick should be in line with the wrist and arm.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Figure 4 is a view of both hands using matched grip.

TRADITIONAL GRIP

When using the traditional grip, the right-hand hold is the same as for matched grip. The correct grip for the left hand is formed as follows:

1. Place the stick in the socket between your thumb and index finger so that one-third of the stick at the butt-end extends behind your hand. The grip should be just tight enough to cause a slight drag if you were to try to pull the stick from your hand (fig. 5).
2. Allow the first two fingers to rest lightly on top of the stick (the first more lightly than the second) to act as a guide (fig. 6). Rest the stick across the third finger, which will act as a support. The fourth finger should rest against the third finger (fig. 7).



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 5

Figure 8 is a view of both hands using traditional grip.



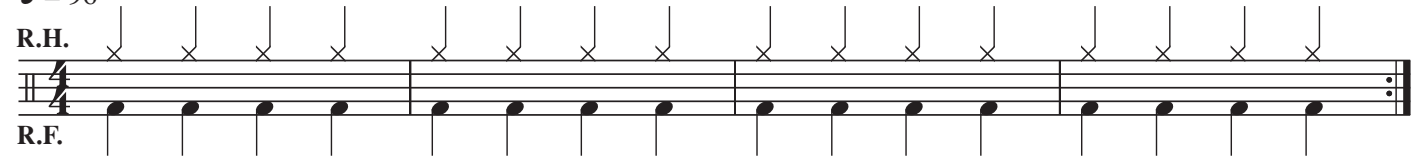
Fig. 8

PLAYING ROCK

Basic Rock Beats

Play the following basic beat in which the right hand (R.H.) on the ride cymbal and the right foot (R.F.) on the bass drum play together.


♩ = 96

1. **R.H.**


In many beats, the left hand (snare drum) and the left foot (hi-hat) play together as in the next example.

2. **L.H.**

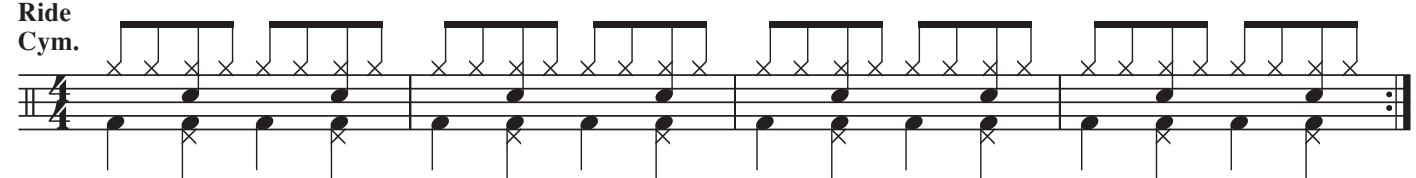

Here's a basic beat that combines the hands and feet. All of the following examples can also be played with the bass drum only on beats 1 and 3.


3. 

Often, the right stick is used to play the hi-hat, which may be partially closed (cymbals lightly touching) or tightly closed. In such cases, the left foot applies light or heavy pressure on the hi-hat pedal.

4. **R.H. on H.H.**


By changing the right-hand quarter notes to eighth notes, we create a more interesting beat. Example 5 uses the right hand on the ride cymbal. In example 6, the right hand moves to the hi-hat.

5. **Ride Cym.**


6. **Hi-Hat**


Left-Hand Independence

♩ = 107

The musical score consists of eight systems, each with two staves. The top staff of each system contains a triplet of eighth notes, with an 'x' above the first note. The bottom staff contains a single eighth note. The patterns alternate between ascending and descending triplets across the systems. The first system has an ascending triplet on the top staff and a single eighth note on the bottom staff. The second system has a descending triplet on the top staff and a single eighth note on the bottom staff. This pattern continues for all eight systems. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 107.