

Contents

About the Author	3	Chapter 12: Right-Hand Lead	58
Introduction	4	Chapter 13: Tuning and Getting	
Chapter 1: Getting Started	5	the Blues Sound	61
The Blues Drumset	5	How to Install a Drumhead	61
Holding the Drumsticks	6	Tuning for the Blues	62
The Metronome	7	Getting the Blues Sound	65
Chapter 2: Basic Notation and Theory	8	Chapter 14: Some Blues Greats	67
Drumset Notation Key	8	Robert Johnson	67
Notes and Rests	8	B. B. King	67
Note Value Chart	9	Buddy Guy	68
Measures and Repeat Signs	10	Stevie Ray Vaughan	68
Noteheads and Stems	10	Chapter 15: Advanced Blues Shuffles	69
Time Signatures	10	The Rock Shuffle	72
Different Notation Styles	10	Shuffles with a Half-Time Feel	74
Whole Notes, Half Notes, Quarter		The Double Bass Shuffle and Fills	75
Notes, and Their Corresponding Rests ..	11	Chapter 16: Advanced Grooves	80
Quarter-Note Exercise	12	Linear Grooves	82
Whole-, Half-, and		Chapter 17: The Bo Diddley Beat	83
Quarter-Note Exercise	13	Fills for the Bo Diddley Beat	84
Constructing a Beat Using Quarter Notes ..	14	Chapter 18: Paradiddles and Flams	85
Four Basic Drum Rudiments	15	The Paradiddle	85
Chapter 3: Eighth Notes and Rests	16	The Flam	87
Eighth-Note Snare Drum Exercise	17	Flam and Paradiddle Combinations	88
Basic Eighth-Note Blues Beats	18	Flam and Paradiddle Fills	89
Basic Eighth-Note Fills	19	Chapter 19: The Double-Stroke Roll	90
Eighth-Note Beat/Fill Combinations	20	The Thirty-Second Note	90
Chapter 4: Sixteenth Notes and Rests	21	The Double-Stroke Roll	91
Sixteenth-Note Snare Drum Exercises	22	The Pinch Technique	91
Combining Quarter Notes, Eighth Notes,		Time to Burn	92
Sixteenth Notes, and Rests	23	Chapter 20: Odd Time Signatures	93
Basic Sixteenth-Note Blues Beats	24	7/8 Time	93
Sixteenth-Note Fills	25	7/4 Time	95
Sixteenth-Note Groupings	26	5/4 Time	97
Sixteenth-Note Grouping Fills	27	5/8 Time	99
Chapter 5: The Triplet	28	9/8 Time	101
Eighth-Note Triplets	28	11/8 Time	103
Quarter-Note Triplets	29	Chapter 21: Single and Double Bass Drum	
Sixteenth-Note Triplets	30	for the Blues	105
Chapter 6: Basic Blues Beats	31	Single Bass Drum	105
Chapter 7: The Blues Train Beat	34	Double Bass Drum	108
Orchestrating the Train Beat		Chapter 22: Blues Structure and Dynamics	110
Around the Drumset	37	The 12-Bar Blues	110
One-Handed Train Beat	38	Intros	111
More Orchestrations	40	The Verse	113
Chapter 8: More About Straight		Accenting the First Beat	113
and Swing Feels	41	The Chorus and the Ride Cymbal	114
Combining Straight and Swing Feels	43	Head Signals	117
Chapter 9: Funky Blues	44	Jamming the Blues	118
Eighth-Note Rhythms	45	Listening	119
Sixteenth-Note Rhythms	46	The Groove	119
Working the Hi-Hat	48	Chapter 23: Cross-Stick Technique	120
Funky Blues Grooves	49	Appendix	122
Chapter 10: Swing Sixteenths, the Rimshot,		Getting Ready for a Gig	122
and Ghost Notes	50	Doing a Soundcheck	123
Swing Sixteenths	50	Onstage Equipment	124
The Rimshot	51	Studio Equipment	125
Ghost Notes	52	Transporting and Storing	
Chapter 11: Slow Blues Grooves	54	Your Drums Safely	126
6/4 Time Signature	54	Conclusion and Listening Guide	127
6/8 Time Signature and Fills	55		
12/4 Time Signature and Fills	56		
12/8 Time Signature and Fills	57		

Basic Sixteenth-Note Blues Beats

It's time to play some basic sixteenth-note blues beats. In all of the following exercises, you will be playing a steady sixteenth-note rhythm on the hi-hat with your right hand. The snare will be played on beats 2 and 4 throughout. Start slow, and focus on executing these beats correctly.

20
Track
7

♩ = 60-90

Count: 1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a etc.

The Rock Shuffle

Now, let's look at the rock shuffle. The rock shuffle is a direct relative of the blues and is an essential tool for any blues drummer. This rhythm has been the backbone to some of the greatest songs ever recorded. Innovative drummers like Ringo Starr (The Beatles) and John Bonham (Led Zeppelin) used the rock shuffle in ways that have inspired drummers worldwide. In the examples below, you'll notice that this type of shuffle features a lot of variations in the bass drum.

102
Track
39

♩ = 80-110

A B

C D

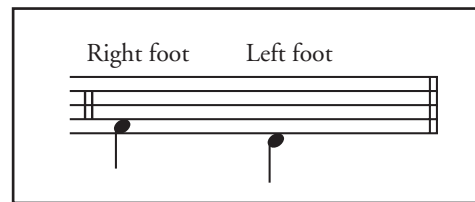
E F

G H

I J

Double Bass Drum

Now, let's look at some double bass drum grooves. You can use two bass drums to play these, but the more cost-effective route is to use a double bass pedal. Remember, a double bass pedal has two beaters. There are many different types of double bass pedals on the market, and it is important to try as many as you can before choosing one. As you learned on page 76, the bass drum notes for the left foot are written on the space below the right foot.



Double Bass Grooves

While playing the following examples, you may find that your left foot is weaker and/or slower than your right. These exercises will help you develop your weaker foot as well as general endurance. Remember to take these examples slowly, and focus on clarity and consistency.

152
Track 78

$\text{♩} = 100-200$

A **B**

C **D**

E **F**

G **H**

I **J**