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ABOUT THE CD



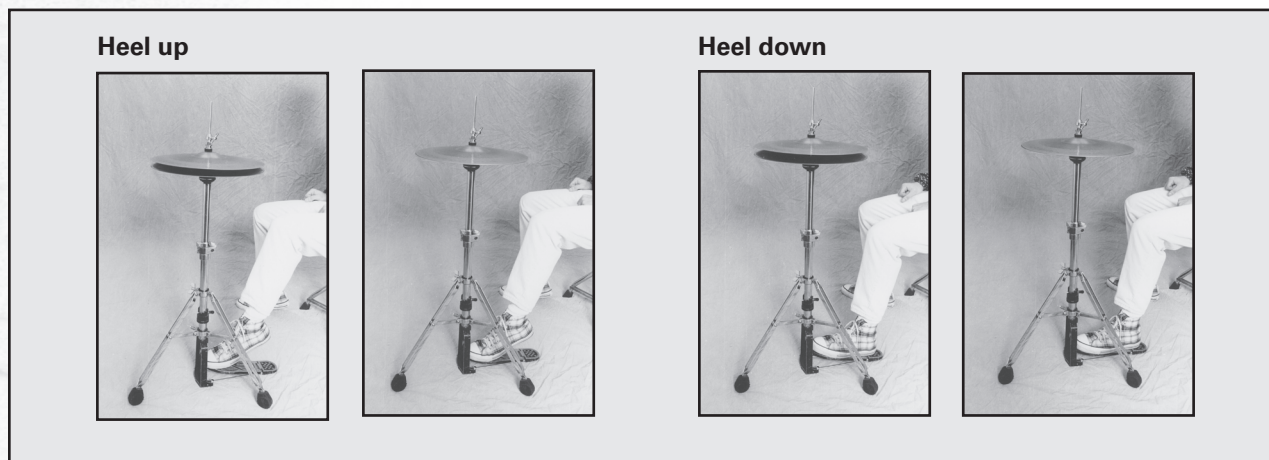
Track 1

The compact disc will make learning with this book easier and more enjoyable. This symbol will appear next to every example that is on the CD. Use the CD to help ensure that you are capturing the feel of the examples and interpreting the rhythms correctly. The track numbers with the symbols correspond directly to the example you want to hear. Track 1 will explain how the CD works. Have fun!

EIGHTH-NOTE-BASED ROCK BEATS: BASIC PATTERNS

Introducing the Hi-Hat

For now, the hi-hat will be closed with the left foot pressing down on the pedal and played with the sticks. As with the bass drum, the hi-hat can be played either with the heel up or down. The following photos show both techniques with the hi-hat open and closed.



Eighth-Note Rock Beats

Let's start by playing eighth notes with the right hand on the closed hi-hat (left-handers can reverse this). Be sure to keep a good consistent pulse and count aloud 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &.

Diagram illustrating the first eighth-note rock beat pattern. The tempo is marked as 84 BPM. The pattern consists of eighth notes played on the right hand (R) on the closed hi-hat, with a consistent pulse. The count is 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &. The diagram shows the first two measures of the pattern, with the second measure continuing the sequence.

Once you feel comfortable with this, add the snare drum with the left hand on pulses 2 and 4. Every snare hit must be exactly in sync with a hi-hat hit. This is called rhythmic unison. As you learned on page 10, this beat is called a backbeat. Crossing the left hand with the right hand may feel strange at first but it can be mastered with practice.

Diagram illustrating the second eighth-note rock beat pattern, which includes a snare drum. The tempo is marked as 84 BPM. The pattern consists of eighth notes played on the right hand (R) on the closed hi-hat, with a consistent pulse. The count is 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &. The diagram shows the first two measures of the pattern, with the second measure continuing the sequence. The snare drum (L) is played on pulses 2 and 4, in sync with the hi-hat hits.

Fill Tips

Fills are often the source of timing problems for the drummer. This is true for a number of reasons. One is that the drummer gets excited during the fill and “rushes” or speeds up the tempo. Another problem may be that the drummer doesn’t know how to get out of the fill on time. It is important to remember as you are practicing that the tempo of a song must remain consistent no matter what fill you play. The time can’t go out the window because the drummer decides to show off! A less complex but well-timed fill will go over better with the other musicians you are playing with. Practice your fills with a metronome and pay attention to how and where you finish your fills.

Getting Around the Set

The following examples are ideas to be practiced around the drumset. They will give you fluidity in moving around the snare and toms, and should be practiced in a variety of tempos. Be careful not to tighten up your grip on the sticks when you play faster or louder. Let the sticks do the work for you. Play the bass drum on all four pulses and the stepped hi-hat on “2” and “4.”

Handwritten musical notation for exercise 76 (66). It shows a 4/4 drum pattern with a tempo marking of 152. The notation includes a snare line with eighth notes and a bass drum line with quarter notes. The pattern is: R L R L R L R L. The exercise is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Handwritten musical notation for exercise 77 (67). It shows a 4/4 drum pattern with a tempo marking of 152. The notation includes a snare line with eighth notes and a bass drum line with quarter notes. The pattern is: R L R L R L R L. The exercise is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Handwritten musical notation for exercise 78 (68). It shows a 4/4 drum pattern with a tempo marking of 152. The notation includes a snare line with eighth notes and a bass drum line with quarter notes. The pattern is: R L R L R L R L. The exercise is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Handwritten musical notation for exercise 79 (69). It shows a 4/4 drum pattern with a tempo marking of 152. The notation includes a snare line with eighth notes and a bass drum line with quarter notes. The pattern is: R L R L R L R L. The exercise is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Handwritten musical notation for exercise 80 (70). It shows a 4/4 drum pattern with a tempo marking of 152. The notation includes a snare line with eighth notes and a bass drum line with quarter notes. The pattern is: R L R L R L R L. The exercise is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

PRACTICE TIP

Practice the hands alone before adding the feet.