

Lesson 4 Master 8-beat

Try changes with the bass drum

Play 8-beat variations by changing the rhythm of the bass drum pattern.

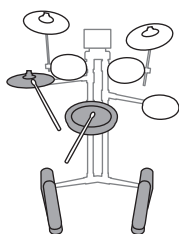
Exercise 4-1

Try playing these three variations of the bass drum pattern you learned in Lesson 3 (p. 10).

CD Track 01~03

LEVEL 1

In this pattern, the sound of the hi-hat and bass drum on counts 5 and 6 is important. Be sure to strike both at exactly the same time.



Hi-hat cymbals
Snare drum
Bass drum

LEVEL 2

At first, you might find the feeling going into the snare drum beat and the hi-hat sound to be deficient. You'll soon get the hang of it if you practice simultaneous striking (see 4-way independence on page 9).

LEVEL 3

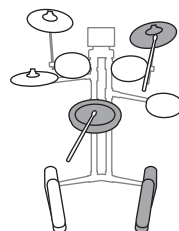
In this pattern, the feel of the back beat on counts 2, 4, 6 and 8 is important. Since the bass drum takes a role in the back beat, you should use a metronome and practice striking the bass drum with consistent timing and velocity.

Try using the ride cymbal

The ride cymbal has a more resonant sound than the hi-hat. When accenting the rhythm, it gives an expansive sound.

Exercise 4-2

Try striking the ride cymbal instead of the hi-hat in the patterns in Exercise 4-1, Levels 1 to 3.



Ride cymbal
Snare drum
Bass drum

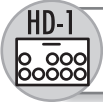
Try snare drum patterns

Stick control

To develop fill skills, try practicing various snare drum patterns.

Exercise 4-3

Without using your feet, concentrate solely on stick control.



Set the dial →

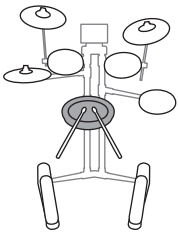


Press the metronome button

Play in time with the metronome.

LEVEL 1

When practicing rolls on the snare drum, you might notice that sounds made with your non-dominant hand tend to be weaker. Pay attention to playing with a uniform sound.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

R L R L R L R L

LEVEL 2

Play to a count of eight beats. Make sure to give proper value to the omitted strike, marked with a star (☆). This is important for giving the rhythm snap and vigor.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

R L R L R ☆ R L

LEVEL 3

Where the rest is marked, it's easier to keep the rhythm if you move the stick, taking care not to actually strike the snare drum.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

R L R L (R) L R

Learn drum notation and basic musical symbols

Learn percussion notation and the symbols for each instrument

Percussion scores use the standard 5-line staff used for musical notation. Match the symbols to the instruments shown on the left page.

Remember the position on the staff by being aware of the pitch of the instrument.

- X Crash/Ride cymbal
- X Hi-hat cymbals
- High tom
- Low tom
- Snare drum
- Floor tom
- Bass drum

Labels for the drum set: Crash cymbal, High tom, Low tom, Ride cymbal, Floor tom, Closed Hi-hat, Closed Hi-hat (When emphasis is needed), Open hi-hat, Foot Closed Hi-hat, Bass drum, Snare drum.

Get acquainted with basic musical-notation symbols

In a percussion score the duration of notes and rests is marked like that of normal music scores. You can use the tables below for reference.

Name of note	Symbol	Fraction of whole note	Fraction of quarter note	Name of rest	Symbol	Fraction of quarter rest
Whole note	o	1	4	Whole rest	—	4
Half note	♪	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	Half rest	—	2
Quarter note	♪	$\frac{1}{4}$	1	Quarter rest	∫	1
8th note	♪	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	8th rest	∫	$\frac{1}{2}$
16th note	♪	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	16th rest	∫	$\frac{1}{4}$

Name of note	Symbol	Duration	Multiple of quarter note
Dotted half note	♪.	♪ + ♪	3
Dotted quarter note	♪.	♪ + ♪	$1 + \frac{1}{2} = 1.5$
Dotted 8th note	♪.	♪ + ♪	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = 0.75$