

# Lesson 7

## 16th Note Bass Drum Exercises

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Hi and welcome. This month we are going to work on our bass drum co-ordination. We are going to take the 1/16th note rhythms we have studied and play them on the bass drum whilst going from 1/4, 1/8th to 1/16th notes on the hi-hats. This can be quite demanding on your bass drum technique and co-ordination so go as slowly as you need to keep good control over your pedal - a good tempo to start would be around 50 bpm. Whilst this may seem very slow especially when your playing 1/4 notes on the hi-hats, it will help build confidence with your bass drum pedal.

### Ex 1

In this first exercise we are playing two 1/16th note patterns on the bass drum whilst the hi-hats are playing the 1/4 notes and the snare drum on beats "2" and "4". The first bass drum pattern is on beat 1 and we are missing out the "e". The second pattern is on beat 3 and we are missing out the "a".

### Ex 2

This time we are playing the same bass drum pattern but are now playing the 1/8th notes on the hi-hats. This will take a bit more co-ordination so don't rush and make sure the 1/8th notes on the hi-hats are even.

### Ex 3

The same bass drum pattern once again but this time we are playing single stroke 1/16th notes on the hi-hats. I have put the sticking with all of the 1/16th note exercises so you can see on which hand the bass drum falls. If you are left handed reverse all stickings.

### Ex 4

Now it's time to change the bass drum pattern and go through the process again - so back to 1/4 notes on the hi-hats. This time the bass drum is missing out the "&" on beat "1" and the "3" on beat "3".

### Ex 5

This is the same bass drum pattern as ex 4 with 1/8th notes on the hi-hats.

### Ex 6

And once again the same bass drum with single stroke 1/16th notes on the hi-hats.

### Ex 7 & 8

So far we covered the four 1/16th note rhythms we have learnt over the last couple of months and in doing this we would have built up both dexterity and co-ordination with our bass drum. The next two exercises are two very common 1/16th note grooves using the co-ordination you have developed by going through these exercises.

Well that's it for another month - I've ran out of bars! For more exercises check out the site [www.back2thebeat.co.uk](http://www.back2thebeat.co.uk) or if you have any questions or comments contact me on [info@back2thebeat.co.uk](mailto:info@back2thebeat.co.uk) Till next time take care. Steve.

The image contains eight staves of musical notation, each representing an exercise. Each staff is in 4/4 time and shows a bass drum line (bottom line) and a hi-hat/snare line (top line). Exercises 1, 3, 5, and 7 include sticking diagrams (R/L) above the notes. Exercises 1-4 use 1/16th notes on the bass drum, while 5-8 use 1/8th notes. Exercises 1, 3, 5, and 7 include sticking diagrams (R/L) above the notes.