

Lesson 10

The Jazz Ride Pattern

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Hi and welcome once again, In last month's issue we looked at how to create a "dotted" or shuffle feel by using 1/8th note triplets. In this lesson we are going to use the same method to create a jazz ride pattern.

Ex 1

We begin this study by looking at the sticking. **Reverse sticking for left handed players.** Start at 50 bpm, remembering to count and keep it even.

Ex 2

Now we move the right hand on to the ride cymbal. It is important that you keep the snare drum "ghosted" and listen to the rhythm the ride cymbal is creating.

Ex 3

As you can see we have now taken the snare drum out of the pattern - this has created space in the rhythm which gives us our jazz ride pattern. Make sure you still count the full triplet to keep the beats in place.

Ex 4

Time to add the bass drum and hi-hat foot. As you can see, unlike any of the basic "rock, pop and shuffle" patterns we have learnt so far, the bass drum is playing all of the 1/4 notes through the bar i.e. beats 1,2,3 and 4. To create a good jazz sound this should be played very lightly - known as "feathering" the bass drum. The hi-hat foot is on beats "2" and "4". It is important that you actually lift the hi-hat foot on beat "1", back down on "2", lift again on "3" and down on "4" - this will be good preparation for the next exercise.

Ex 5

So far we have worked our jazz pattern on the ride cymbal. Now it's time to put it onto the hi-hats. When we play a jazz pattern on the hats we use an "open" sound, indicated by the "o" (lift the hi-hat foot) and the "x" (close the hi-hat). The tie between the two is the duration of the "open" sound. The timing of the hi-hat's opening and closing is what generates the correct sound, so take your time and keep counting.

Ex 6

In exercise 6 we add our "feathered" bass drum.

Ex 7

Since exercise 3 where we established our jazz ride pattern we have left out the snare drum - this is for two reasons. Firstly, it is really important with this style to make sure your jazz ride has a good "feel" - its got to swing. The second is that with jazz we tend not to play "2" and "4" on the snare as much as we would with other styles, but that's next months lesson, so here we are adding a snare just on beat "2".

Ex 8

And finally a snare just on beat "4". Now try playing exercise 7 and 8 on the ride cymbal.

That's all we've got time for folks. Till next time, take care. Steve.

1

R L L R L R R L L R L R

1 Trip Let 2 Trip Let 3 Trip Let 4 Trip Let

2

R L L R L R R L L R L R

1 Trip Let 2 Trip Let 3 Trip Let 4 Trip Let

3

R R R R R R

1 Trip Let 2 Trip Let 3 Trip Let 4 Trip Let

4

1 Trip Let 2 Trip Let 3 Trip Let 4 Trip Let

5

6

7

8

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