

# Lesson 21

## Split Fills 1

Printed in *Drummer Magazine*, May 2008

Hello and welcome once again. Over the next few lessons we are going to look at ways in which we can split 1/8th notes, 1/16th notes and triplets between the hands and bass drum to create more interesting fills. We'll begin this study by splitting triplets into groups of 2 whilst keeping the hi-hat foot on the pulse.

### Ex 1

Here we have a bar of 1/8th note triplets split into sets of 2 beats between the bass and snare drum. It is very important to count the triplets as you play through the bar - this will help you when you add the hi-hat foot on beats 1, 2, 3 and 4. You should also try both stickings to allow you more options around the kit and to develop your co-ordination.

### Ex 2

In this exercise we lead with the hands rather than the bass drum. Remember to count every beat, try both stickings and add the hi-hat foot.

### Ex 3

Now we have the co-ordination under control, let's move around the kit. Here we are playing exercise 1 but this time moving to the small tom on beat 3 and floor tom on beat 4.

### Ex 4

Here we are playing exercise 2 but moving to the small tom on beat 2 and with the floor tom crossing over from beat 3 to beat 4.

### Ex 5

Having worked on 1/8th note triplets (which will work well with anything that "swings") in previous lessons, let's see how we can apply the same fills to a straight 1/8th note groove.

In this exercise we are playing 1/8th notes on the hi-hats with a bass drum on beat 1 and the snare on beat 2. We then start the fill on beat 3 which carries over the 3,

&, 4, &. This is the same fill as in exercise 3 but played as 1/16th notes. Keep counting!

### Ex 6

This is exercise 4 played as 1/16th notes triplets, starting on beat 3.

### Ex 7 & 8

In these exercises we start to split the hands up on to different drums. This really alters the sound of the fill without having to change your pattern. From here you should then try making up some of your own fills by using the set patterns but moving the hands around the kit.

That's it for this month. For more exercises checkout my site

www.back2thebeat.co.uk If you have any questions or comments contact me at info@back2thebeat.co.uk

Until next time, take care - Steve.

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