

Jazz Phrases - Lesson #1

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Welcome to lesson #1 in my 12 part "Jazz Phrasing Series". In this series I will teach you how to create excitement and intensity in your jazz phrasing by combining simple snare drum comping patterns with more complex patterns that utilize both the snare and bass drum. In each lesson you'll learn two simple one bar comping patterns and one two-bar bass/snare combination pattern.

Here are the patterns for the first example. Practice each pattern until you are totally comfortable playing it. Keep the ride cymbal patterns constant throughout and play the hi-hat on 2 and 4 for all of the examples in this series.

♩ = 138

Simple Comping Pattern #1

Musical notation for Simple Comping Pattern #1. It is a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 138. The pattern consists of four measures, each containing a triplet of eighth notes on the snare drum. The first measure starts with a hi-hat on beat 2. The second measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The third measure has a hi-hat on beat 2. The fourth measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The pattern is marked with a box containing the number 1.

Simple Comping Pattern #2

Musical notation for Simple Comping Pattern #2. It is a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 138. The pattern consists of four measures, each containing a triplet of eighth notes on the snare drum. The first measure starts with a hi-hat on beat 2. The second measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The third measure has a hi-hat on beat 2. The fourth measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The pattern is marked with a box containing the number 2.

Snare and Bass Pattern

Musical notation for Snare and Bass Pattern. It is a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 138. The pattern consists of four measures, each containing a triplet of eighth notes on the snare drum. The first measure starts with a hi-hat on beat 2. The second measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The third measure has a hi-hat on beat 2. The fourth measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The pattern is marked with a box containing the number 3.

Once you are comfortable playing all three patterns we'll combine them to create a "4 Bar Phrase". Play a "Push Beat" at the end of the phrase then repeat back to the beginning.

Musical notation for the 4 Bar Phrase. It is a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 138. The phrase consists of eight measures, each containing a triplet of eighth notes on the snare drum. The first measure starts with a hi-hat on beat 2. The second measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The third measure has a hi-hat on beat 2. The fourth measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The fifth measure has a hi-hat on beat 2. The sixth measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The seventh measure has a hi-hat on beat 2. The eighth measure has a hi-hat on beat 4. The phrase is marked with a box containing the number 4. The final measure is marked with an arrow and the text "Push beat".