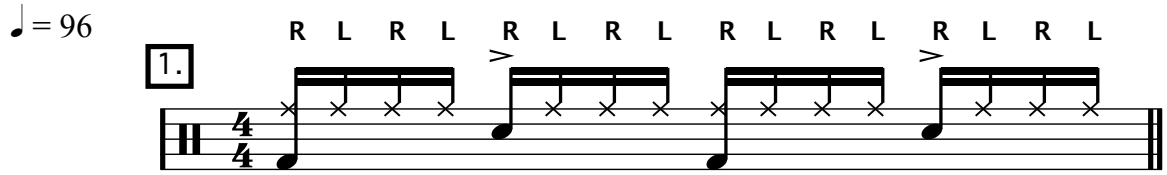
Continuous Ghost Notes - Part 1

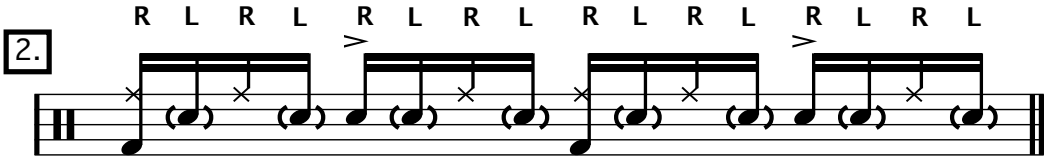
(SDVL5)

John Xepoleas

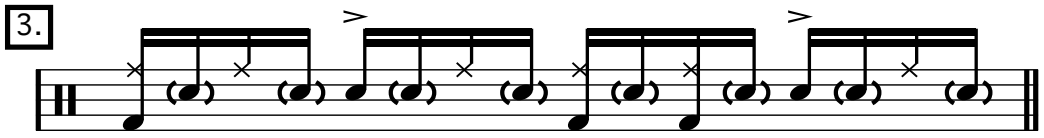
This is the first in a two-part lesson on "Continuous Ghost Notes". In this part, I'll teach you how to apply a variety of bass drum patterns to the continuous ghost note sticking. We'll start with simple 8th note bass drum rhythms, then we'll play some 16th note rhythms. Begin by playing a two-hand 16th note groove on a tightly closed hi-hat. Be sure to lock in the bass drum and hi-hat on beats 1 and 3.

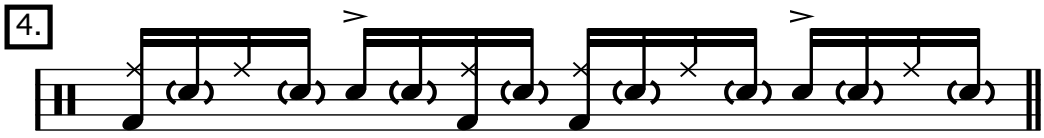


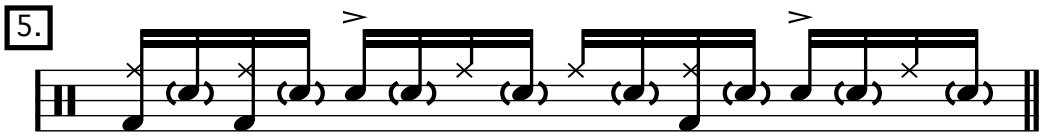
Now, take the left hand part from the 16th note hi-hat groove and play it on the snare drum to create a continuous ghost note sticking. Be sure to play all of the ghost notes (𝅗𝅥) as softly as possible, at about 1" off of the head.

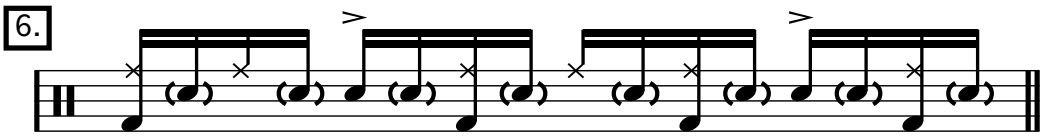


Let's apply some simple 8th note bass drum rhythms to the continuous ghost note sticking. Be sure to lock in the bass drum and hi-hat parts and play the ghost notes as softly as possible.









Now we'll play some 16th notes with the bass drum. The biggest challenge will be to lock in the bass drum parts with the ghost notes. It's a good idea to start out playing the groove using two-hand 16th notes on the hi-hat. Ex7.) Then, when you are comfortable with this approach, move your left hand down to the snare to play the continuous ghost notes. Ex.8)

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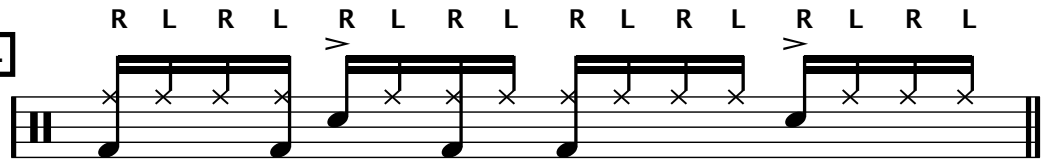

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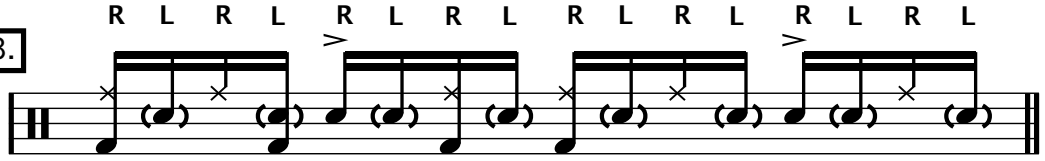

Here are four nice sounding grooves using continuous ghost notes with 16th notes in the bass drum. When the bass drum and ghost notes land on the same beat, be sure not to flam them. They need to be locked in and played at the exact same time

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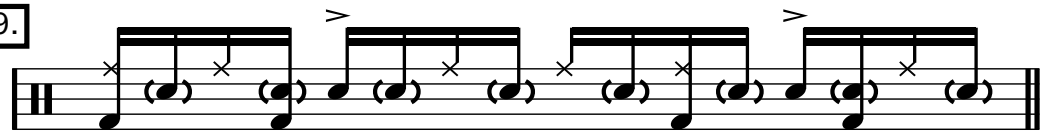

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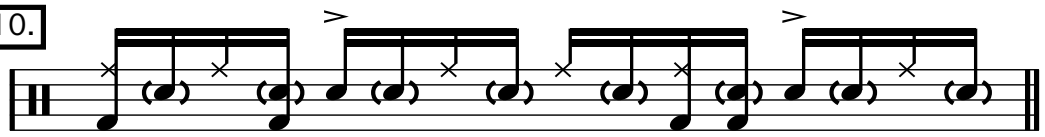

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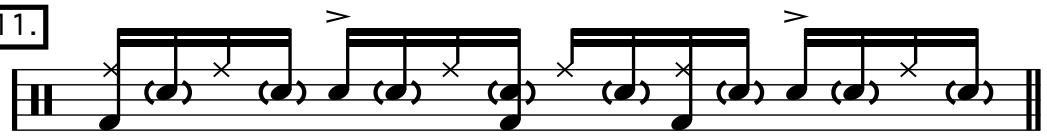

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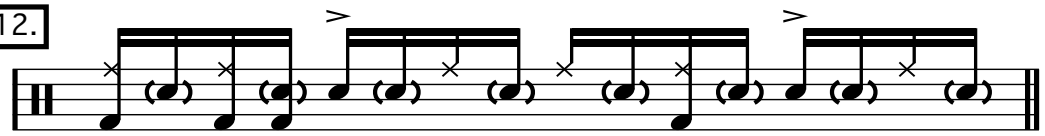

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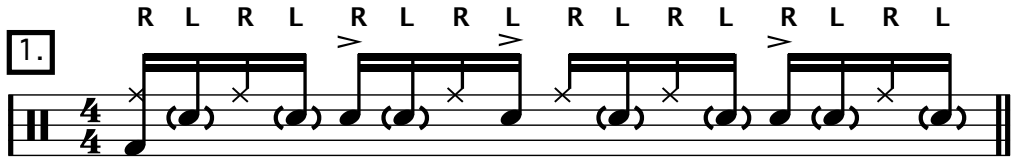
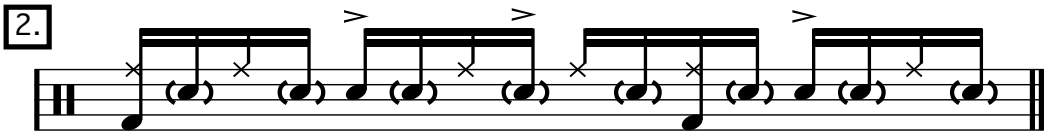
Continuous Ghost Notes - Part 2

John Xepoleas

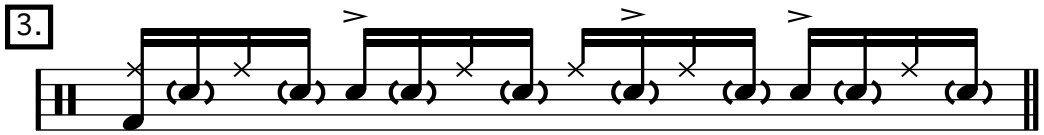
This is the second in a two-part lesson on "Continuous Ghost Notes". In this part, I'll teach you how to apply some additional snare drum accents to the continuous ghost note sticking. For the first two examples, we'll add an accent to the last 16th note of the second beat. Be sure to play all of the ghost notes (𝅗𝅥) as softly as possible, at about 1" off of the head.

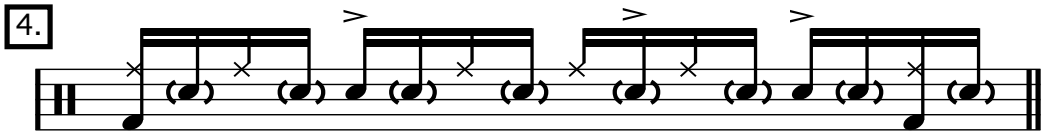
♩ = 102



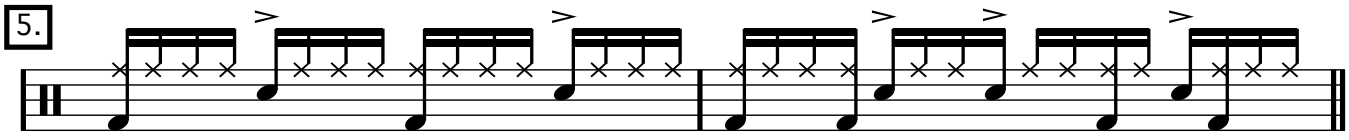


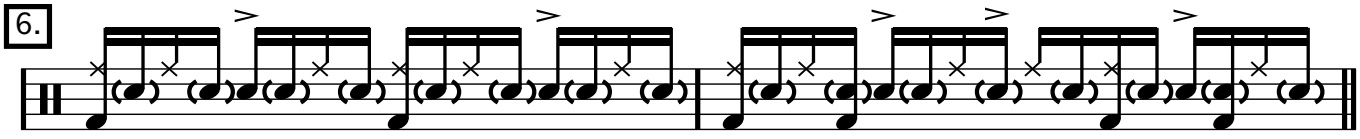
For the next two examples the additional accent is played on the 2nd 16th note of the 3rd beat.





Here are some nice sounding two-bar phrases that incorporate the additional snare drum accents. As in part one of this lesson, start by playing the groove using two-hand 16th notes on the hi-hat. Ex5.) Then, when you are comfortable playing with this approach, move your left hand down to the snare and play the continuous ghost notes. Ex.6)





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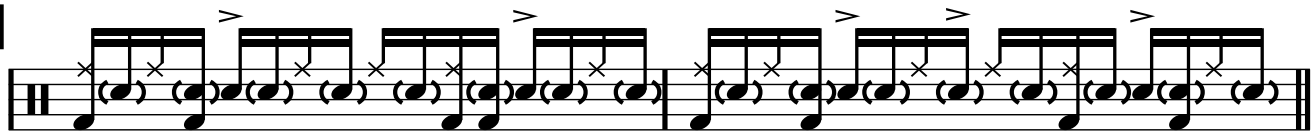

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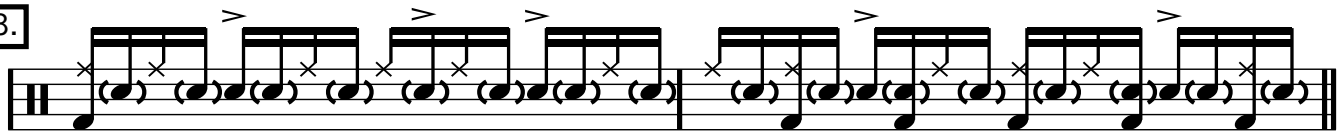

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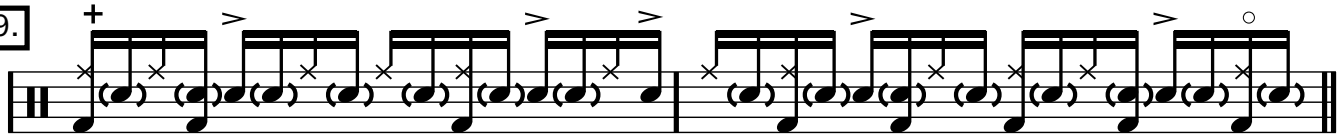

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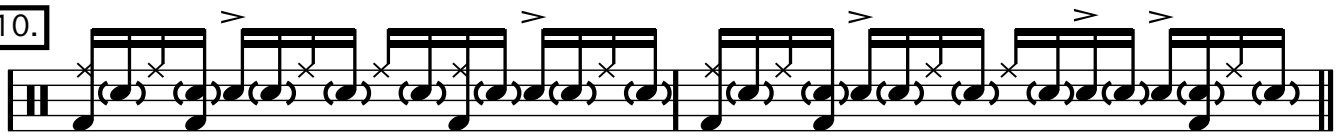

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