

Funk/Rock Fills - Part 4

(SDVL40)

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Welcome to lesson #4 in my "Funk Fill" lesson series. In this lesson, you will learn how to super-impose a common triplet pattern over 16th notes to create a funky polyrhythmic fill.

The three-note pattern we'll be using for this fill consists of two hands and one bass drum. You'll play this pattern 4 times over 3 beats in the measure. This creates a 4 over 3 polyrhythm. We'll play a quarter note on beat 4 to keep the fill in a 4/4 time signature.

♩ = 80

Basic Fill Pattern

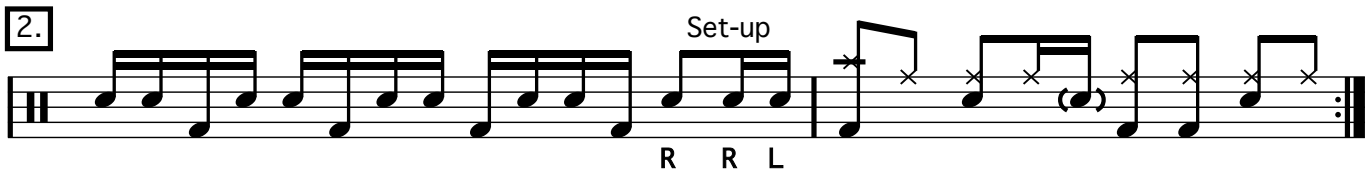
1.



Let's play this as a one bar fill into one bar of a groove. We'll use a "4-and-uh" rhythm on the 4th beat of the measure to set-up the groove.

♩ = 96

2.



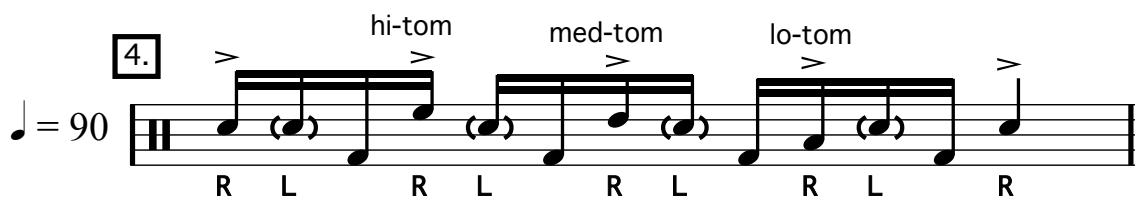
Here's the same fill played on the last measure of a four bar phrase. As I mentioned in lesson #1, it's always a good idea to practice in "four bar phrases". We don't want to fill every four bars when we're playing a song, but we do want to have a good feel for "four bar phrases".

3.



Now, we'll play accents with our right hand and move it around the kit. It starts on the snare drum, moves to the hi-tom, medium tom, then to the lo-tom. The left hand plays ghost notes for this version of the fill.

4.



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Let's play this version of the fill into one bar of a groove. Once again, we'll use a "4-and-uh" rhythm on the 4th beat of the measure to set-up the groove.

♩ = 96

5.

R R L

For this version of the fill, the right hand starts on the hi-hat, moves to the hi-tom, then moves back to the hi-hat, back to the hi-tom and finally ends on the medium tom with a flam on the 4th beat of the bar.

6.

R L R L R L R L

♩ = 100

Let's play this version of the fill into a groove.

7.

R R Ls

Now, the right hand will move around the set in a clockwise fashion and the left hand will stay on the hi-tom. I'll demonstrate the fill pattern then play it into a groove.

8.

R L R L R L R L

♩ = 104

9.

R R L

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For this version of the fill, we'll play one accented note with the right hand and two ghost notes with the left. I'll move the right hand around the set in a clockwise fashion.

10. $\text{♩} = 90$

Sd Hi Med Lo

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

$\text{♩} = 104$

Here it is played in a 4 bar phrase.

11.

For the final version of the fill, we'll play one accented note with the right hand, one ghost notes with the left and one bass drum note. The right hand will move around the set in a counter-clockwise motion. I'll demonstrate the fill pattern then play it into a groove.

12. $\text{♩} = 94$

snare lo-tom med-tom hi-tom

R L R L R L R L R

$\text{♩} = 100$

13.