

# Jazz Fills

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## Part 1 - 16th Notes

This is the first in a two-part "Jazz Fill" drum lesson. In this lesson, I'm going to teach you how to play a great sounding 16th note jazz fill using double strokes. For the first example, we'll play the right hand double strokes between the snare drum and hi-tom.

♩ = 120 - 176

1.

hi-tom hi-tom

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

Now we'll move the right hand to the low tom on the 2nd and 4th beats of the measure.

2.

low-tom low-tom

For this example, the right hand will move from the snare to the hi-tom, then the snare to the low-tom.

3.

hi-tom low-tom

Play the hi-hat with your foot on beats 2 and 4. Notice that the hi-hat plays at the same time the right hand plays on the hi-tom.

4.

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

Once you are comfortable playing the previous examples, practice playing them as a two bar fill into two bars of a swing time feel. **NOTE:** To make smooth transitions into the fill from your time feel be sure to stop your jazz ride pattern with a quarter note on beat 4 of measure two.

5.

3 3 3

Now we'll play example #3 as a two bar fill into a time feel.

6.

The next three examples are based on a three-beat 16th note pattern and are written in a 3/4 time signature. The right hand moves to the toms on beats 2 and 3.

7.

3/4

hi-tom hi-tom

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

8.

low-tom low-tom

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

9.

hi-tom low-tom

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

The following three fills all "cross the bar-line". Because the rhythmic pattern is based on a 3/4 time signature, it ends on the 3rd beat of the 4/4 measure and starts again on the 4th beat. It then carries over into the next measure to create a fill that crosses the bar-line. See how the 16th notes are grouped into two groups of three and one group of two.

**Example #7 as a two bar fill**

10.

**Example #8 as a two bar fill**

11.

**Example #9 as a two bar fill**

12.