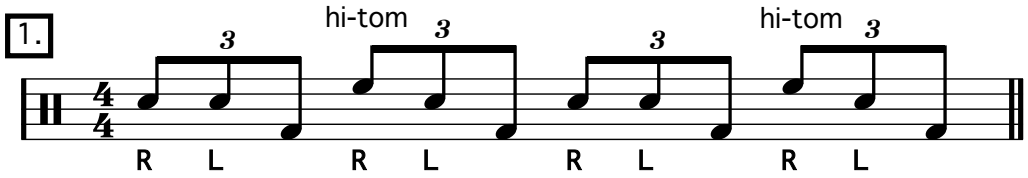
# Jazz Fills

## Part 2 - Triplets

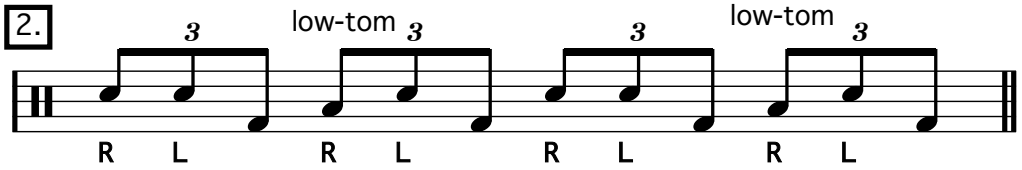
John Xepoleas

This is the second in a two-part "Jazz Fill" drum lesson. In this part, I'm going to teach you how to play a great sounding jazz fill using triplets played between your hands and bass drum. As in part one, your right hand will be the one moving around the set. For this first example, the right hand will move between the snare drum and hi-tom.

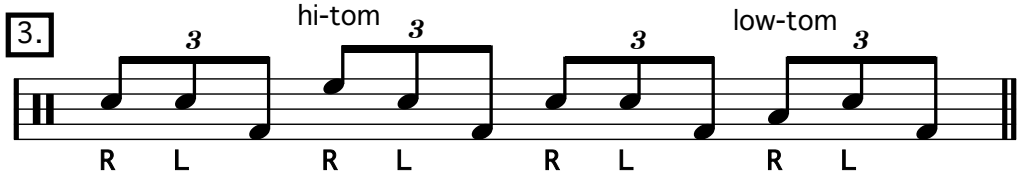
♩ = 108 - 160



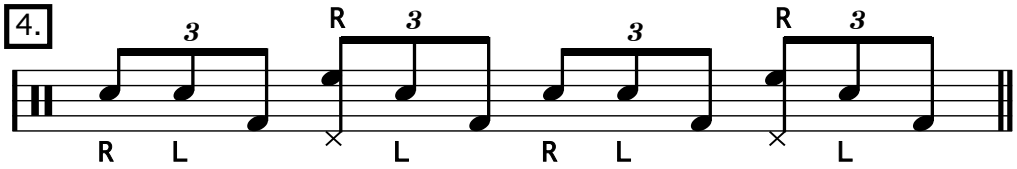

Now we'll move the right hand to the low tom on the 2nd and 4th beats of the measure.



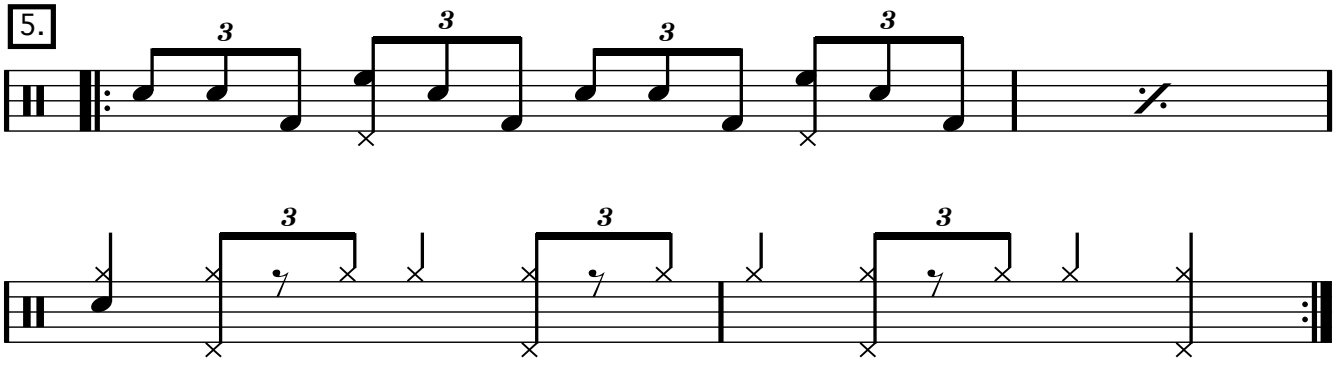

For this example, the right hand will move from the snare to the hi-tom, then the snare to the low-tom.



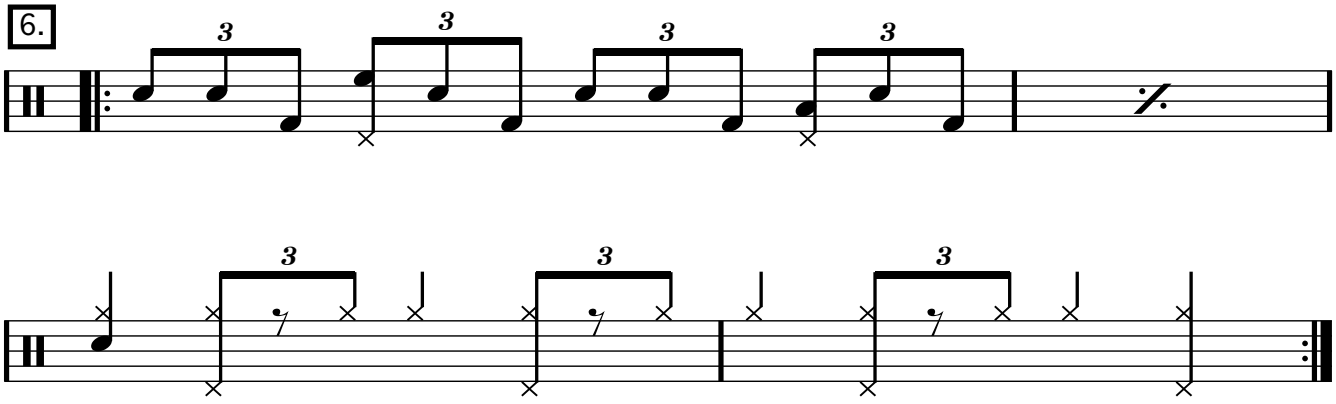

Play the hi-hat with your foot on beats 2 and 4. Notice that the hi-hat plays at the same time the right hand plays on the hi-tom.



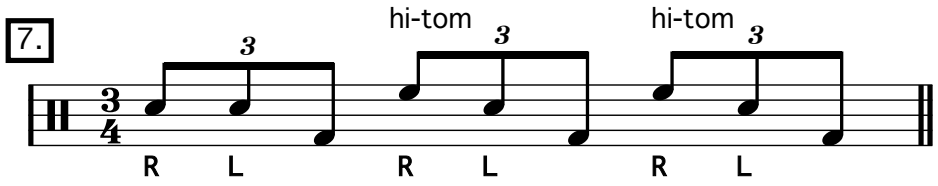

Once you are comfortable playing the previous examples, practice playing them as a two bar fill into two bars of a swing time feel. **NOTE:** To make sooth transitions into the fill from your time feel, be sure to stop your jazz ride pattern with a quarter note on beat 4 of measure two. Also, notice that I'm hitting the snare and ride together when I come out of the fill. *A nice tip I got from Colin Bailey.*

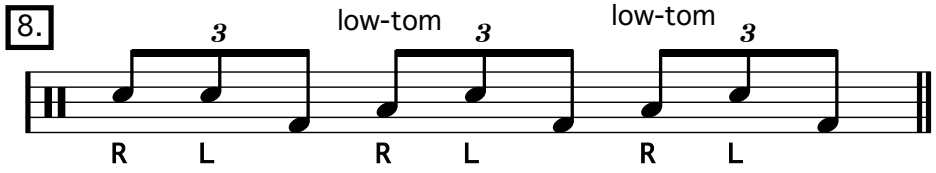


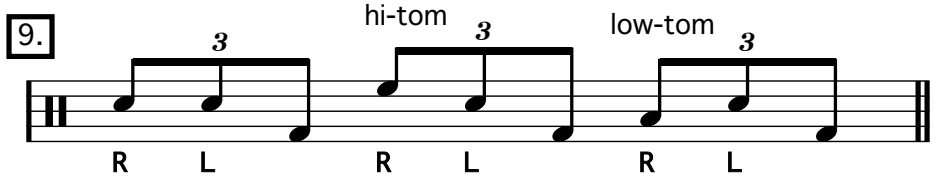
Now we'll play example #3 as a two bar fill into a time feel.




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

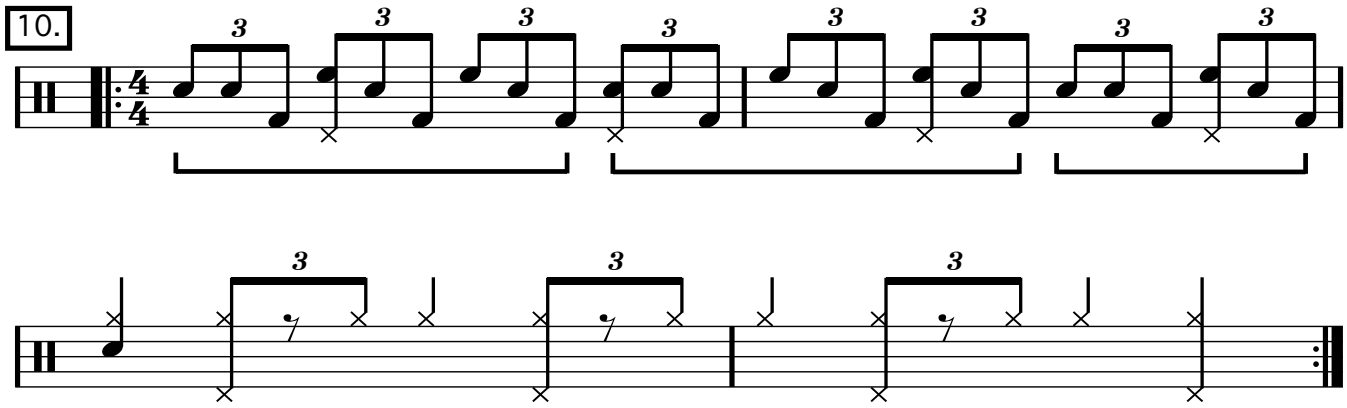


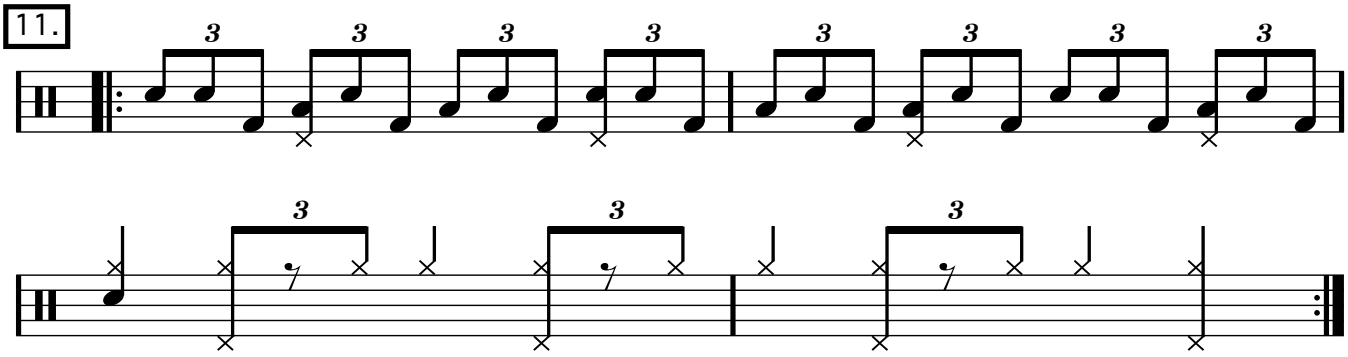



The following three fills all "cross the bar-line". Because the rhythmic pattern is based on a 3/4 time signature, it ends on the 3rd beat of the 4/4 measure and starts again on the 4th beat. It then carries over into the next measure to create a fill that crosses the bar-line. See how the triplets grouped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

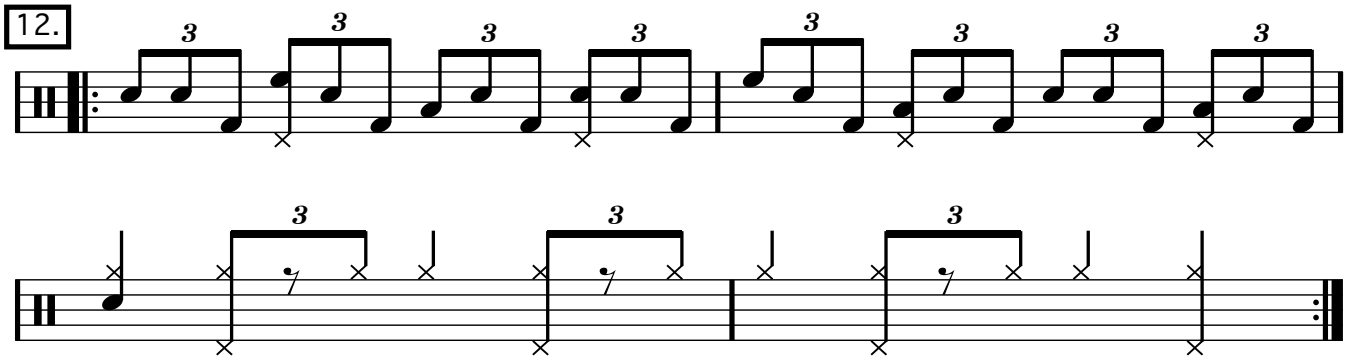
**Example #7 as a two bar fill**




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




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

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