

Intro to Ghost Notes

John Xepoleas

Ghost notes are defined as notes that are, “felt more than heard”. They are a great sounding embellishment that will add depth and personality to the most simple groove. In this lesson you'll learn eight basic ghost note patterns, then apply them to some great sounding grooves.

When practicing the following patterns be sure to play all of the ghost notes (●) as softly as possible. Play them about one inch off of the drumhead. Play the accented snare notes using a rim shot or a full volume stroke. **Note:** Be sure to keep the bass drum at a consistent volume throughout. Be careful that it isn't played softer when following a ghosted note.

♩ = 92

A.

B.

The following patterns combine the ghost notes from the two previous two examples

♩ = 92

1.

2.

3.

4.

Double Ghost Note Patterns

♩ = 92

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

Here are some nice sounding grooves that incorporate ghost notes. Once you are comfortable playing them, practice in "eight bar phrases" with a short fill at the end of each phrase. Be sure to play the ghost notes at one consistent volume throughout the phrase.

PLAY 6




Ghost Note Grooves

♩ = 92

1. 

2. 

♩ = 96

3. 

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4. $\text{♩} = 96$

5. $\text{♩} = 92$

Two Bar Grooves

6. $\text{♩} = 92$

Based on "Cold Sweat" groove

7. $\text{♩} = 110$