

Exercises to help build drum rolls (pt 1)

When you start with these exercises, take each line very slowly and try to make your hands sound as even as possible.

1

R L R L

2

R L R L R L R L

3

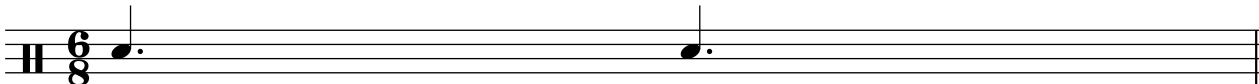
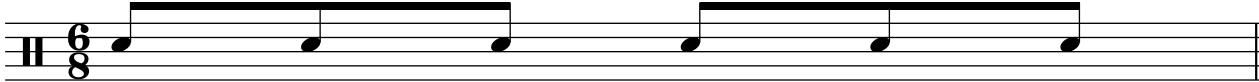
L R L R L R L R

4

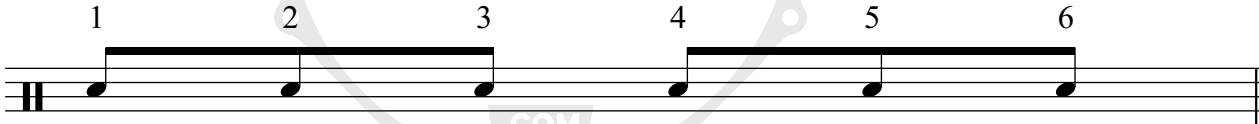
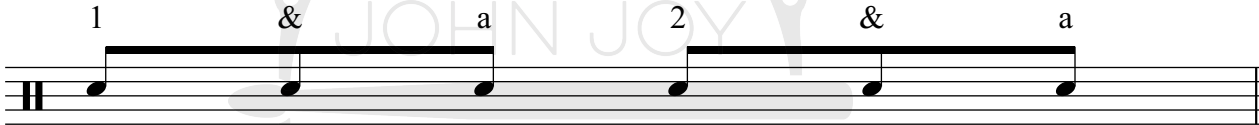
R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

6/8 Time

6/8 means there are six quaver beats or two dotted crotchet beats per bar.

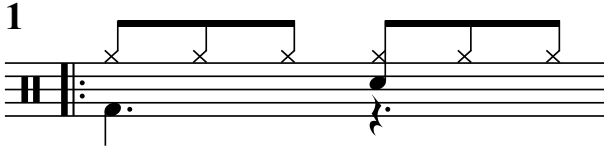
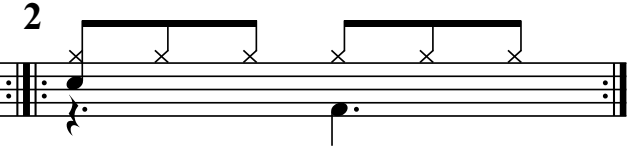


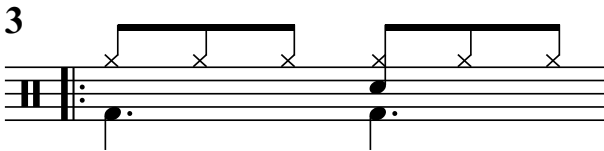
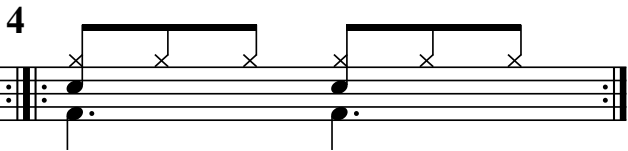
Counting in 6/8 can be done in several ways. Below are the two most popular.

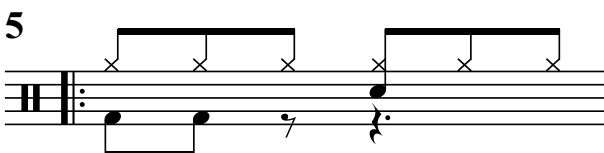
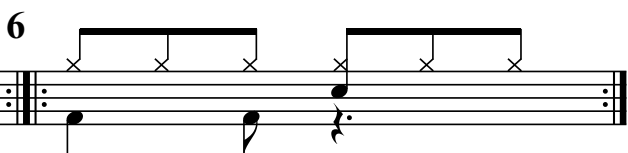


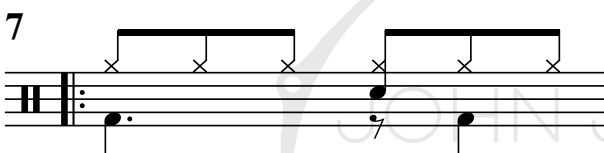
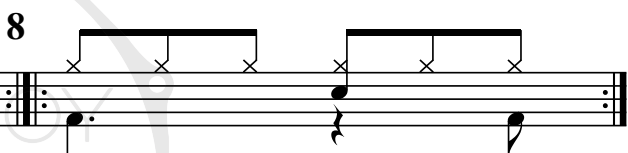
6/8 Grooves


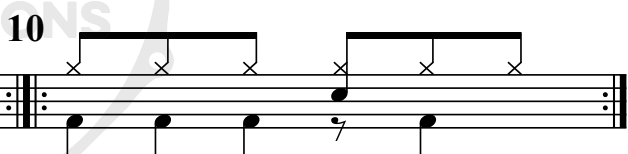
* Play each groove 8 times
* Play them in time to music.

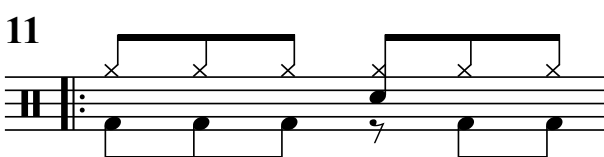
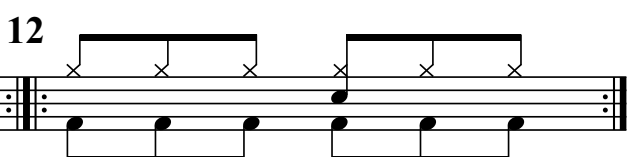
1  2 

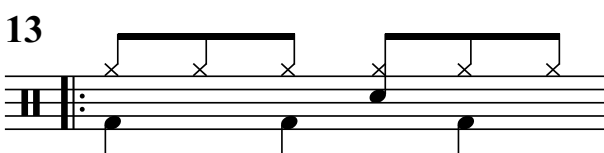
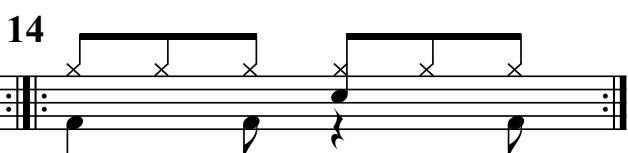
3  4 

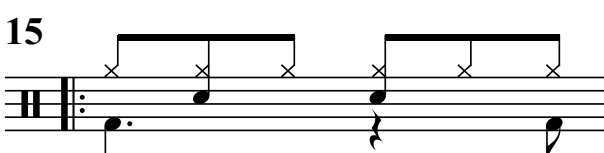
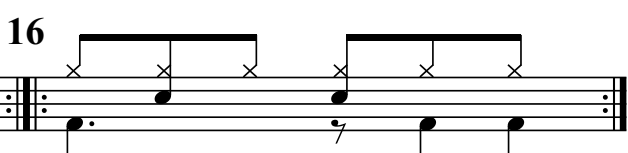
5  6 

7  8 

9  10 

11  12 

13  14 

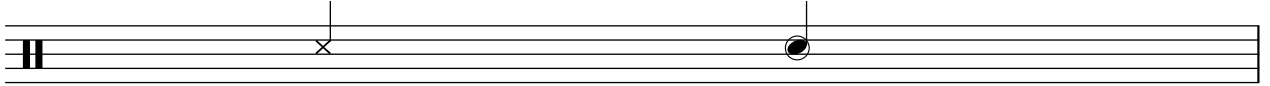
15  16 

16 Bar Groove Review

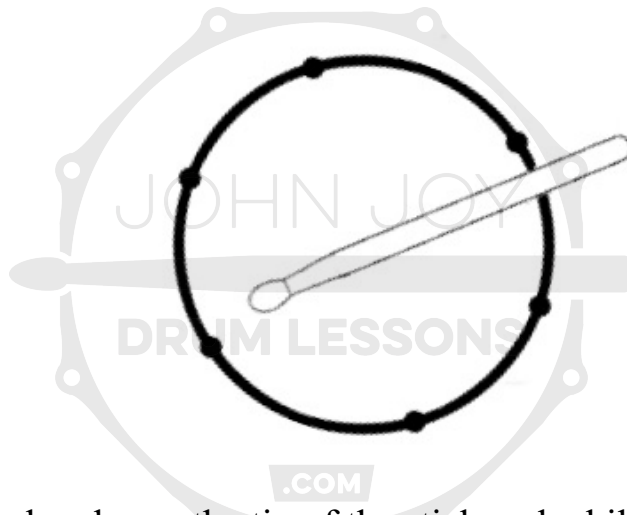
The image displays a 16-bar drum groove review on a single staff. The notation is organized into eight measures, each containing four bars. The first measure includes a key signature change to G major (one sharp) and a common time signature. The notation uses various rhythmic values: quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, often grouped with beams. Above the staff, there are four groups of four 'x' marks, each with a bracket above it, indicating specific rhythmic patterns or accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the eighth measure.

Cross Stick

Cross Stick can be written in several different ways. Below are the two most common.



To play cross stick on the snare drum, place the stick across the drum as shown in the picture.



Place your hand near the tip of the stick and whilst keeping the tip on the head, raise the stick and bring it down so that it strikes the rim.

The sound should be similar to a woodblock.

Cross Stick Grooves

- * Ensure your kick/hats/snare volume is balanced
- * Play each groove 8 times, non stop
- * Play them in time to music

1 2

3 4

5 6

7 8

9 10

11 12

13 14

15 16

17 18

12 Bar Groove Review

- * Play the whole exercise without stopping
- * Don't forget the repeat
- * Play this in time to music

1

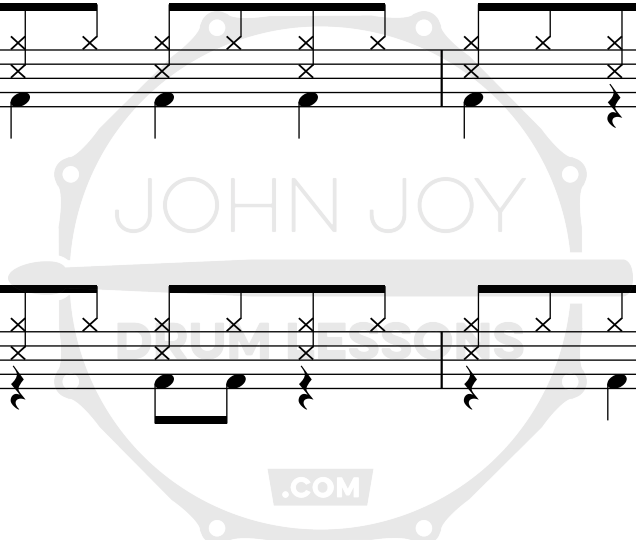
2

3

4

5

6



More Rudiments

* Remember: Grace notes should be soft
* Keep the hand playing the grace notes low

Flams



Musical notation for Flams. The staff shows four measures. The first two measures are labeled 'LR' and the last two are labeled 'RL'. Each measure contains a grace note followed by a main note, with a quarter rest in the second half of the measure.

Drags

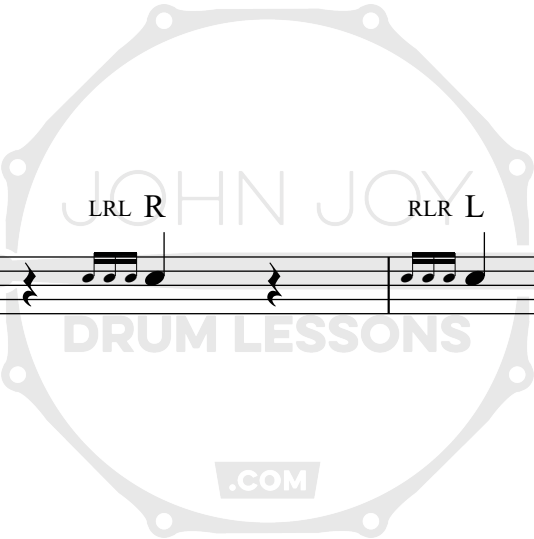


Musical notation for Drags. The staff shows four measures. The first two are labeled 'LL R' and the last two are labeled 'RR L'. Each measure contains a grace note followed by a main note, with a quarter rest in the second half of the measure.

Ruffs



Musical notation for Ruffs. The staff shows four measures. The first two are labeled 'LRL R' and the last two are labeled 'RLR L'. Each measure contains a grace note followed by a main note, with a quarter rest in the second half of the measure.



One & Two Beat Fills Using Flams & Drags

* Use these in time to music
* Try them at different tempos

1 2

3 4

5 6

7 8

9 10

11 12

13 14

15 16

17 18

Even More Grooves

* Play each groove 8 times
* Play them in time to music
* Use the Ride instead of the Hats

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

16 Bar Groove Review

* Try using different dynamics
* Play this in time to music

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

More Rudiments

Five Stroke Roll

R R L L R L L R R L

The musical notation for the Five Stroke Roll consists of two measures on a single staff. The first measure contains five eighth notes with stems pointing up, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains five eighth notes with stems pointing up, followed by a quarter rest. The notes are grouped by beams. Above the notes are the letters R, R, L, L, R in the first measure and L, L, R, R, L in the second measure. The piece begins with a double bar line and ends with a double bar line.

Seven Stroke Roll

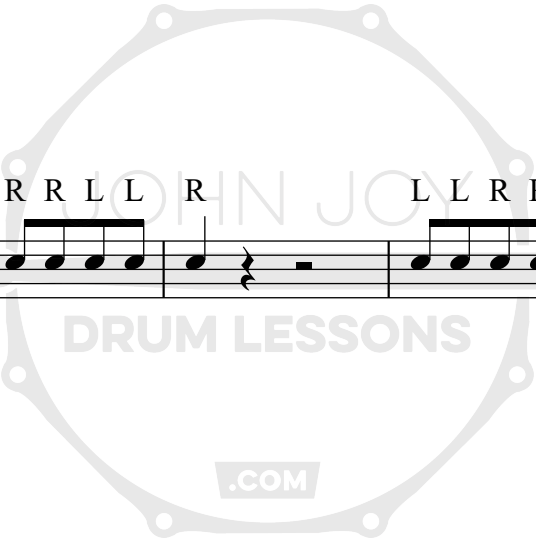
R R L L R R L L L R R L L R

The musical notation for the Seven Stroke Roll consists of two measures on a single staff. The first measure contains seven eighth notes with stems pointing up, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains seven eighth notes with stems pointing up, followed by a quarter rest. The notes are grouped by beams. Above the notes are the letters R, R, L, L, R, R, L in the first measure and L, L, R, R, L, L, R in the second measure. The piece begins with a double bar line and ends with a double bar line.

Nine Stroke Roll

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

The musical notation for the Nine Stroke Roll consists of two measures on a single staff. The first measure contains nine eighth notes with stems pointing up, followed by a quarter rest. The second measure contains nine eighth notes with stems pointing up, followed by a quarter rest. The notes are grouped by beams. Above the notes are the letters R, R, L, L, R, R, L, L, R in the first measure and L, L, R, R, L, L, R, R, L in the second measure. The piece begins with a double bar line and ends with a double bar line.



Quarter Note Grooves in 4

* Play each groove 8 times
* Play them in time to music.

The page contains 20 numbered musical grooves for drum practice, arranged in two columns. Each groove is written on a five-line staff with a drum set icon (H for hi-hat, D for snare, and C for cymbal) at the beginning. The time signature is 4/4. Grooves 1-4 are in the first column, and grooves 5-8 are in the second. Grooves 9-12 are in the first column, and grooves 13-16 are in the second. Grooves 17-20 are in the first column. Each groove consists of a sequence of notes and rests, with some notes marked with an 'x' above them. The grooves are numbered 1 through 20. A watermark 'DRUM LESSONS .COM' is visible in the background.

16 Bar Groove Review

* Don't forget the repeat
* Try this in time to music

1

2

3

4

5

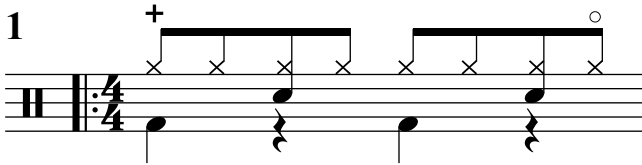
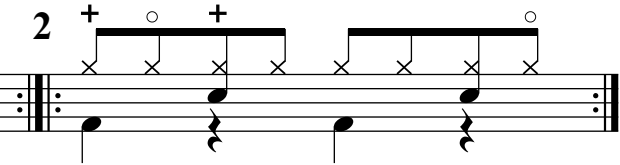
6

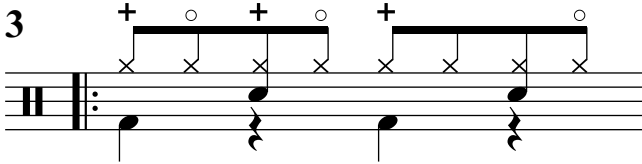
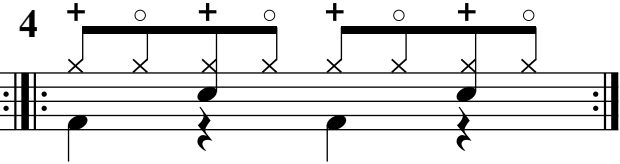
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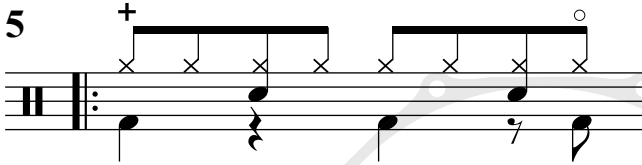
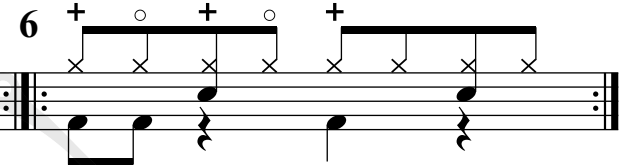
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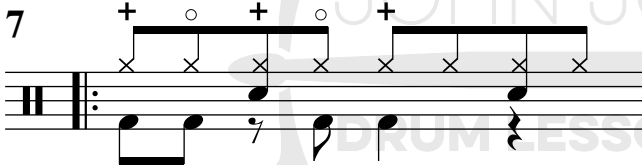
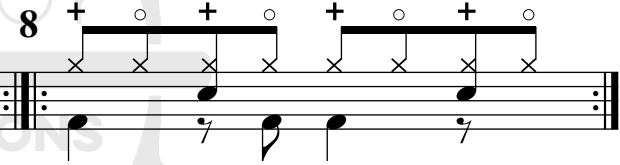
Open Hi-Hat Grooves

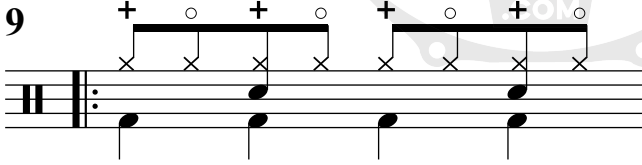
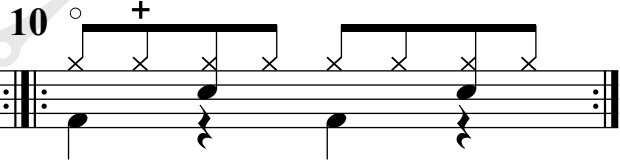
* Start all of these slowly
* Make sure each one is comfortable before moving on

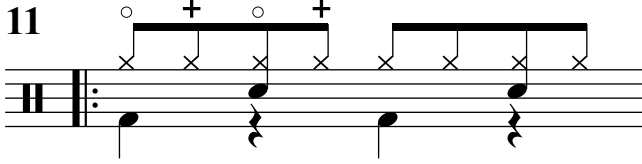
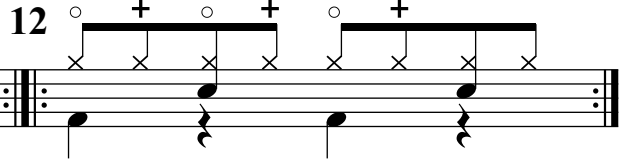
1  2 

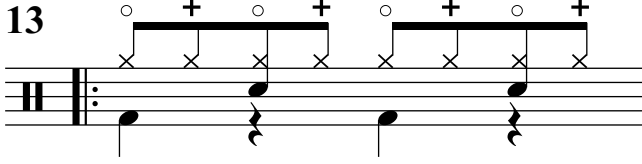
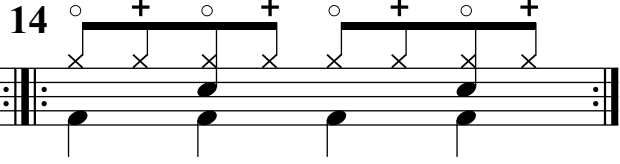
3  4 

5  6 

7  8 

9  10 

11  12 

13  14 

16 Bar Groove Review

1

4/4

2

Fine

3

4

5

6

D.C. al Fine

Bossa Nova

The Bossa Nova is a groove from Brazil. Unlike Rock grooves, the Bossa Nova should be played gently making sure that the balance of the drum kit is correct. The bass drum & hi-hat should be softer than the snare drum. Remember when you're playing this groove that the Bossa Nova is a dance.

Hi-Hat & Bass Drum

Musical notation for Hi-Hat & Bass Drum in 4/4 time. The top staff shows the hi-hat pattern with 'x' marks for hits on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd beats of each measure. The bottom staff shows the bass drum pattern with quarter notes on the 1st and 3rd beats of each measure.

Hi-Hat & Snare Drum

Musical notation for Hi-Hat & Snare Drum in 4/4 time. The top staff shows the hi-hat pattern with 'x' marks for hits on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd beats of each measure. The bottom staff shows the snare drum pattern with quarter notes on the 2nd and 4th beats of each measure.

Bossa Nova

Musical notation for Bossa Nova in 4/4 time. The top staff shows the hi-hat pattern with 'x' marks for hits on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd beats of each measure. The bottom staff shows the bass line with quarter notes on the 1st and 3rd beats of each measure.

Bossa Nova w/Ride

Musical notation for Bossa Nova w/Ride in 4/4 time. The top staff shows the hi-hat pattern with 'x' marks for hits on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd beats of each measure. The bottom staff shows the bass line with quarter notes on the 1st and 3rd beats of each measure, and a ride cymbal pattern indicated by 'x' marks on the 2nd and 4th beats.

Reverse Bossa Nova

Musical notation for Reverse Bossa Nova in 4/4 time. The top staff shows the hi-hat pattern with 'x' marks for hits on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd beats of each measure. The bottom staff shows the bass line with quarter notes on the 2nd and 4th beats of each measure.

Reverse Bossa Nova w/Ride

Musical notation for Reverse Bossa Nova w/Ride in 4/4 time. The top staff shows the hi-hat pattern with 'x' marks for hits on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd beats of each measure. The bottom staff shows the bass line with quarter notes on the 2nd and 4th beats of each measure, and a ride cymbal pattern indicated by 'x' marks on the 1st and 3rd beats.

Mambo

The Mambo originated in Cuba and, like the Bossa Nova, is also a dance. Although here it is written for the Ride Cymbal, you can also play the Ride pattern on a special cowbell called a Mambo Bell.

R.C. Bell

Musical notation for the Ride Cymbal pattern. It consists of two staves. The top staff shows the rhythmic pattern with 'x' marks above the notes. The bottom staff shows the notes with stems. The pattern is in 4/4 time and consists of two measures. The first measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The second measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The notes are on the second line of the staff.

Add in the Snare Drum & Tom-Toms

Musical notation for the Snare Drum and Tom-Toms. It consists of two staves. The top staff shows the rhythmic pattern with 'x' marks above the notes. The bottom staff shows the notes with stems. The pattern is in 4/4 time and consists of two measures. The first measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The second measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The notes are on the second line of the staff.

Add in the Hi-Hat with foot

Musical notation for the Hi-Hat with foot. It consists of two staves. The top staff shows the rhythmic pattern with 'x' marks above the notes. The bottom staff shows the notes with stems. The pattern is in 4/4 time and consists of two measures. The first measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The second measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The notes are on the second line of the staff.

Lastly add in the Bass Drum

Musical notation for the Bass Drum. It consists of two staves. The top staff shows the rhythmic pattern with 'x' marks above the notes. The bottom staff shows the notes with stems. The pattern is in 4/4 time and consists of two measures. The first measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The second measure has a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The notes are on the second line of the staff.