

Drum Fills I

Drum fills are frequently used to emphasize a transition from one section of music to another. Sometimes the fill itself can be part of the character of the song. They are generally best suited for the last bar of a musical phrase but there are infinite exceptions! Remember that good taste is paramount - always choose a fill that best serves the song.

For the exercises below play 3 bars of beat and 1 bar of fill as indicated. You can also try playing 7 bars of beat and then fill on the 8th bar. Return to the beginning of each line following the drum fill, crashing on count 1 of the first measure. Repeat the entire phrase at least 4 times before moving on. Count out loud as you play.

Hi-Hat

(Repeat previous measure)

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

Tom 1 Tom 2 Floor Tom

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

Quarter notes on h.h. pedal

x x x x

Ride Cymbal

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

x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

> > >

x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

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

x x x x x x x x x x x x x x