

# LINEAR

## DRUMMING

*by Mike Johnston*

- 16th Note Linear Patterns**
- 16th Note Triplet Linear Patterns**
- 32nd Note Linear Patterns**
- 16th Note Linear Grooves**
- 16th Note Triplet Linear Grooves**
- 32nd Note Linear Grooves**



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# LINEAR

## DRUMMING

by Mike Johnston



THE KEY TO SPEED & CREATIVITY  
ON THE DRUMSET!

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# CHAPTER ONE

## 16TH NOTE LINEAR PATTERNS

TAKE YOUR TIME WITH EACH STEP AND REMEMBER, REPETITION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS WITH THESE PATTERNS.



Linear Pattern 1

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

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 2

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

step 1 

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2 

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3 

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4 

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5 

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 3

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

step 1

Musical notation for step 1: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains a quarter rest followed by a quarter note. The second measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. The third measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fourth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fifth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The sixth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The seventh measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure is marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The second measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The third measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fourth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fifth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The sixth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The seventh measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure is marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Musical notation for step 3: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The second measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The third measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fourth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fifth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The sixth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The seventh measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure is marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4

Musical notation for step 4: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The second measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The third measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fourth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fifth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The sixth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The seventh measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure is marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Musical notation for step 5: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The second measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The third measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fourth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The fifth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The sixth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The seventh measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure contains a quarter note followed by a quarter note. The eighth measure is marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 4

16th's

step 1

R L R L R L R L R L

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 5

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

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 6

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

step 1 

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2 

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3 

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4 

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5 

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 7

step 1

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

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

Musical notation for step 1: A 4/4 time signature with a repeat sign. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes on a single staff. Above the staff, the letters "R L R L" are repeated four times, corresponding to the eighth notes in each measure.

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

Musical notation for step 2: Similar to step 1, but with an 'x' above the first eighth note of each measure, indicating a hi-hat sound.

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

Musical notation for step 3: Similar to step 2, but with an accent (>) above the first eighth note of each measure, and a ghost note (x) above the second eighth note of each measure.

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

Musical notation for step 4: Similar to step 3, but with an accent (>) above the first eighth note of each measure, and an 'x' above the second eighth note of each measure, indicating a floor tom sound.

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Musical notation for step 5: Similar to step 4, but with an accent (>) above the first eighth note of each measure, an 'x' above the second eighth note of each measure, and a quarter note on the second half of each measure, indicating a quarter note on the hi-hat.



Linear Pattern 8

R L R L R L R L R L

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 9



R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



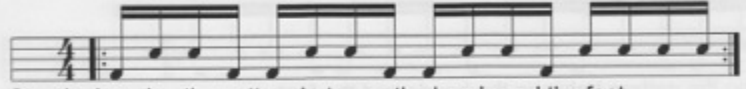
Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 10

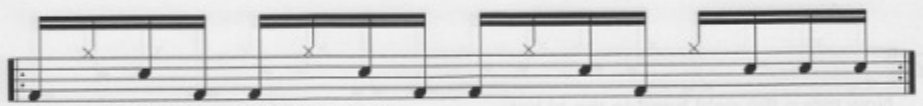
R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



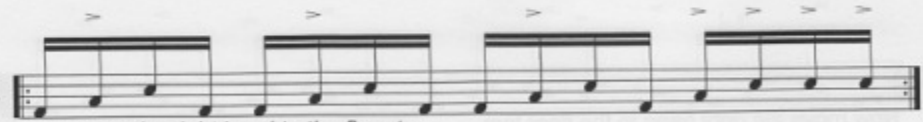
Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



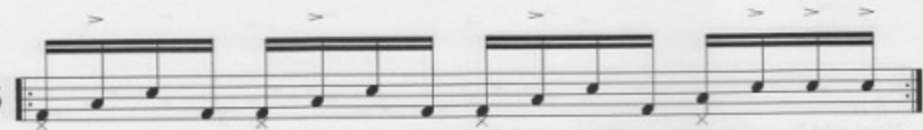
Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 11

16th's

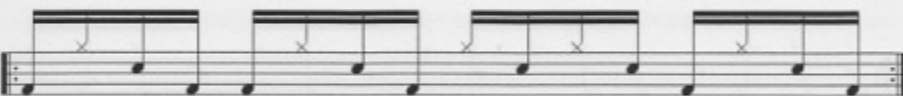
R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 12

R L R L R L R L

step 1 Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2 Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3 Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4 Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5 Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 13

16th's

R L R L R L R L R L

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

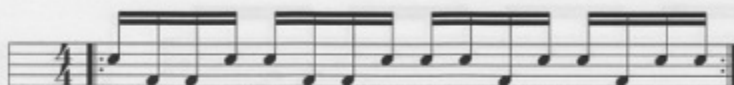
Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 14

R L R L R L R L

step 1



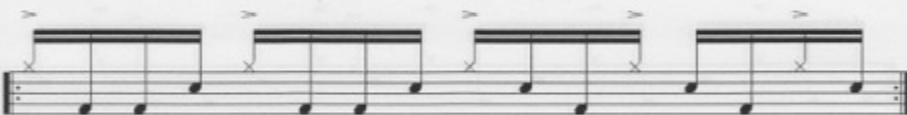
Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



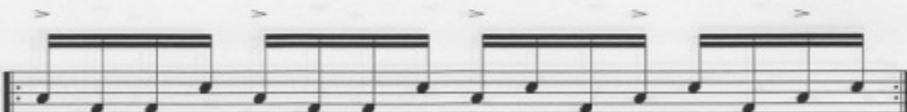
Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 15

16th's

R L R L R L R L L R L

Step 1



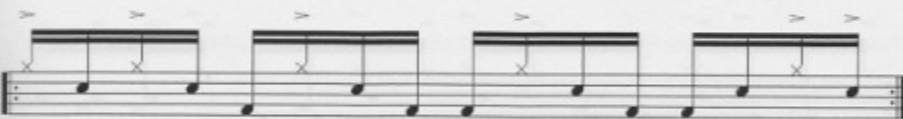
Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

Step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

Step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

Step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

Step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 16



R L R L R L R L

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 17

16th's

R L R R L R L R L

Step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

Step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

Step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

Step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

Step 5



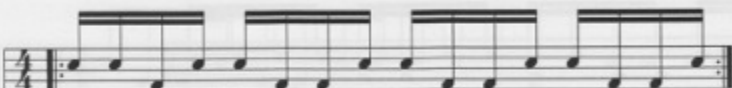
Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 18



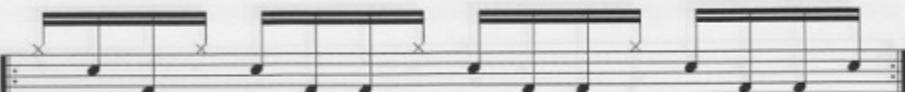
R L R L R L R L L L

step 1



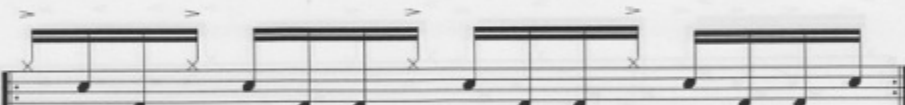
Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 19

16th's

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

Step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

Step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

Step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

Step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

Step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 20

16th's

R L R L R L R L L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 21



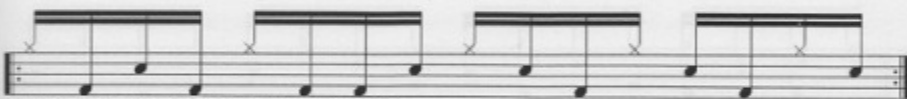
R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 22

16th's

R L R L R L R L

step 1



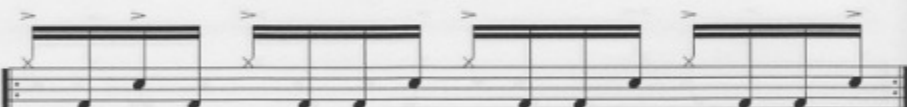
Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



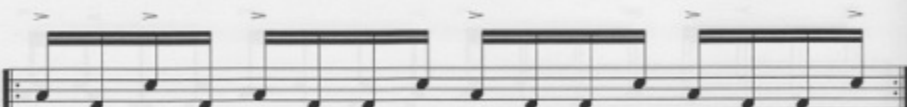
Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 23



R L R L R L R L R L

Step 1



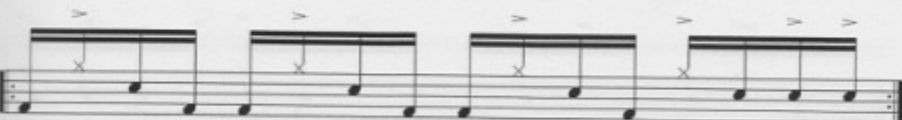
Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

Step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat

Step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

Step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

Step 5




Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat


Linear Pattern 24



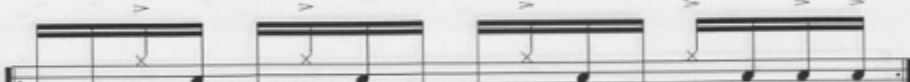
R L R L R L R L R L

step 1 

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2 


Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3 

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4 

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5 

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 25

16th's

R L R L R L R L



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot



Now move the right hand to the hi hat



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

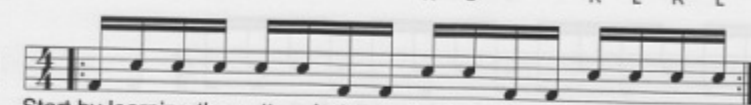


Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 26

16th's


L R L R L R L R L R L

step 1 

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2 


Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3 

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4 

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5 

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

LINEAR DRUMMING

# CHAPTER TWO

## 16TH NOTE TRIPLET LINEAR PATTERNS

TAKE YOUR TIME WITH EACH STEP AND REMEMBER, REPETITION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS WITH THESE PATTERNS.



Linear Pattern 1

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 2



ME 1

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

6            6            6            6

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

ME 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

ME 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

ME 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

ME 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 3



step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

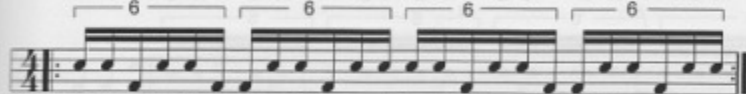
step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 4

16th note triplets

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



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot



Now move the right hand to the hi hat



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)



Now move the right hand to the floor tom



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 5



step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 6



STEP 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

STEP 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

STEP 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

STEP 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

STEP 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 7

16th note triplets

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 8



1

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

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 9

8 שבת

16th note triplets

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



# Linear Pattern 11

16th note triplets

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 12



STEP 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

STEP 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

STEP 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

STEP 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

STEP 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 13



step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 15

16th note triplets

step 1

R 6 R L 6 R L R 6 R L 6 R L

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

6 6 6 6

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

6 6 6 6

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

6 6 6 6

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

6 6 6 6

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 16



step 1

Musical notation for step 1. It shows a 4/4 time signature. The pattern consists of four groups of 16th note triplets. Above the first group is "R L R" with a bracket and "6" below it. Above the second group is "L R L R" with a bracket and "6" below it. Above the third group is "L R L" with a bracket and "6" below it. Above the fourth group is "R L" with a bracket and "6" below it. The notes are beamed together in groups of three.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2. It shows a 4/4 time signature. The pattern consists of four groups of 16th note triplets. Each group has a bracket above it with a "6" below it. The notes are beamed together in groups of three. There are 'x' marks below the notes, indicating ghost notes.

Now move the right hand to the hi hat

step 3

Musical notation for step 3. It shows a 4/4 time signature. The pattern consists of four groups of 16th note triplets. Each group has a bracket above it with a "6" below it. The notes are beamed together in groups of three. There are 'x' marks below the notes, indicating ghost notes. There are also accent marks (>) above the first note of each triplet.

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Musical notation for step 4. It shows a 4/4 time signature. The pattern consists of four groups of 16th note triplets. Each group has a bracket above it with a "6" below it. The notes are beamed together in groups of three. There are accent marks (>) above the first note of each triplet.

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Musical notation for step 5. It shows a 4/4 time signature. The pattern consists of four groups of 16th note triplets. Each group has a bracket above it with a "6" below it. The notes are beamed together in groups of three. There are accent marks (>) above the first note of each triplet. There are 'x' marks below the notes, indicating ghost notes.

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 17



step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 18



step 1

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

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

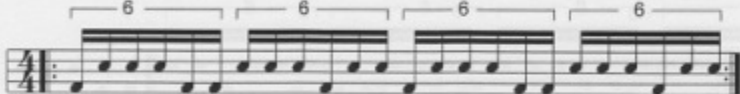
step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 19


16th note triplets

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



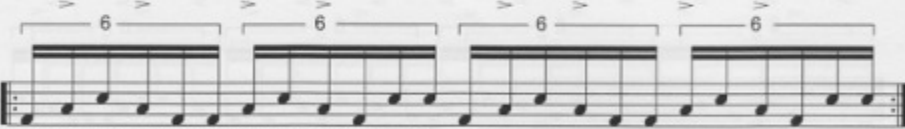
Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



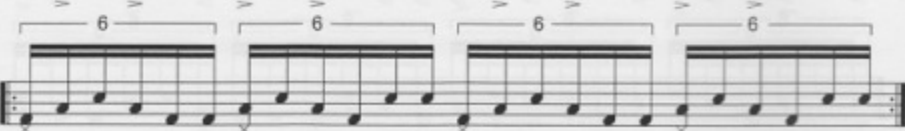
Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 20

16th note triplets

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



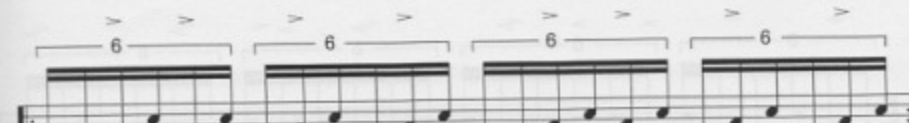
Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 21

16th note triplets

step 1

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

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 22

16th note triplets

step 1

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

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 23

16th note triplets

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 24



step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It contains four groups of 16th note triplets. Above each group, a bracket is labeled with a '6' and a sequence of letters: 'R L', 'R L R L', 'R L R', and 'R L R R L'. The notes are beamed together. The first two groups are on a single staff, and the last two are on a second staff below the first.

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It contains four groups of 16th note triplets. Above each group, a bracket is labeled with a '6'. The notes are beamed together. The first two groups are on a single staff, and the last two are on a second staff below the first. Small 'x' marks are placed below the notes in the second and fourth groups, indicating hi hat accents.

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It contains four groups of 16th note triplets. Above each group, a bracket is labeled with a '6'. The notes are beamed together. The first two groups are on a single staff, and the last two are on a second staff below the first. Small 'v' marks are placed above the notes in the second and fourth groups, indicating accents. Small 'x' marks are placed below the notes in the second and fourth groups, indicating ghost notes.

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It contains four groups of 16th note triplets. Above each group, a bracket is labeled with a '6'. The notes are beamed together. The first two groups are on a single staff, and the last two are on a second staff below the first. Small 'v' marks are placed above the notes in the second and fourth groups, indicating accents.

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It contains four groups of 16th note triplets. Above each group, a bracket is labeled with a '6'. The notes are beamed together. The first two groups are on a single staff, and the last two are on a second staff below the first. Small 'x' marks are placed below the notes in the second and fourth groups, indicating quarter notes on the hi hat.

Linear Pattern 23

# CHAPTER THREE

## 32ND NOTE LINEAR PATTERNS

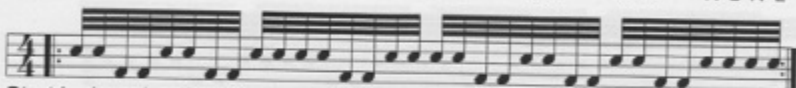
TAKE YOUR TIME WITH EACH STEP AND REMEMBER, REPETITION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS WITH THESE PATTERNS.

Linear Pattern 1

32nd Notes

RL RL RLRL RLRL RL RL RLRL

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

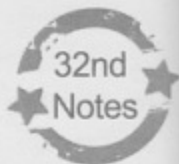


Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 2

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

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



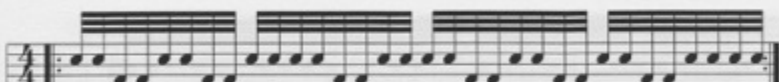
Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 3

32nd Notes

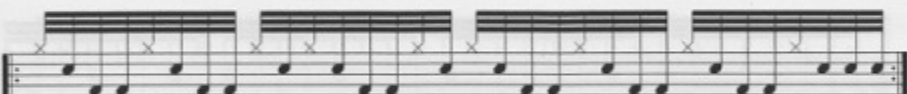
RL RL RLRL RLRL RL RL RLRL

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 4

32nd Notes

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

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



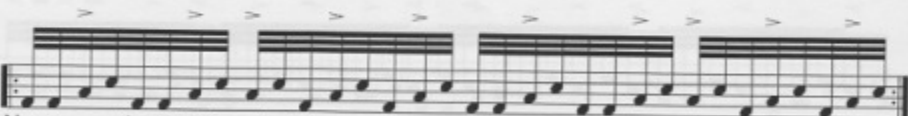
Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



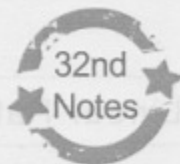
Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 5



RL RLRL RL RL RL RLRL RL RL

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



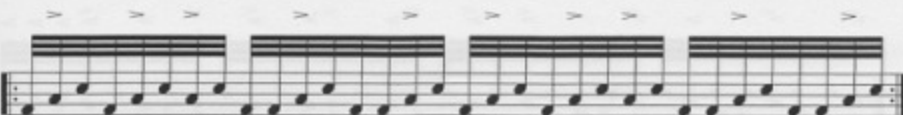
Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat



Linear Pattern 7

32nd Notes

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



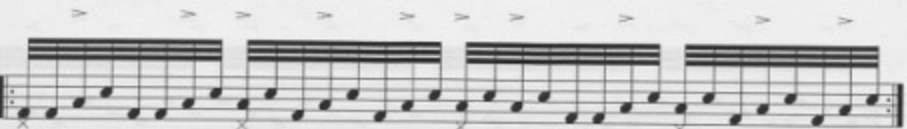
Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



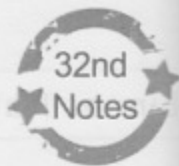
Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 8



RL RLRL RL RLRL RL RLRL RL RL

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3



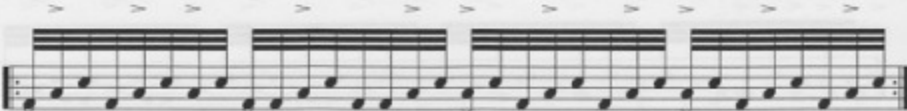
Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4



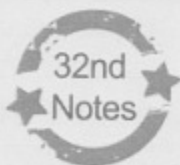
Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5



Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 9



RL RLRL RL RL RL RLRLRL RL

step 1

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

Linear Pattern 10

32nd Notes

step 1

RL RL RLRL RL RL RLRL RL RL

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Now move the right hand to the hi hat (unless notated otherwise)

step 3

Now accent the hi hat and ghost note the left hand (unless accent falls on left hand)

step 4

Now move the right hand to the floor tom

step 5

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

## LINEAR DRUMMING

# CHAPTER FOUR

## LINEAR GROOVES

TAKE YOUR TIME WITH EACH STEP AND REMEMBER, REPETITION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS WITH THESE PATTERNS.



Groove Pattern 1

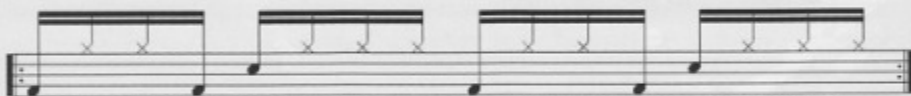
R L R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



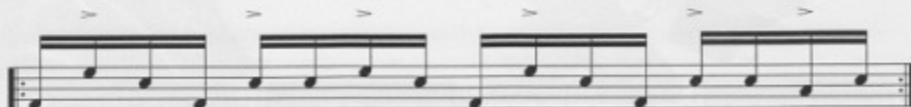
Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Now add in quarter notes with your left foot on the hi hat

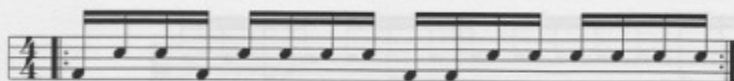
05

Groove Pattern 2



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

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



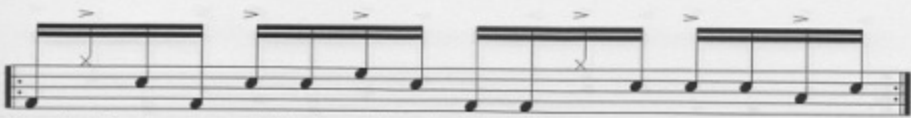
Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove



Groove Pattern 3

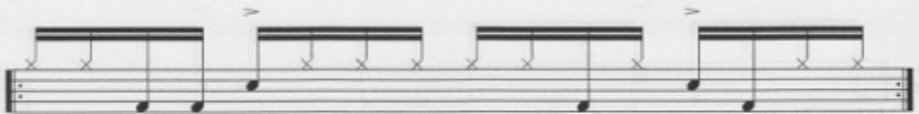
R L R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



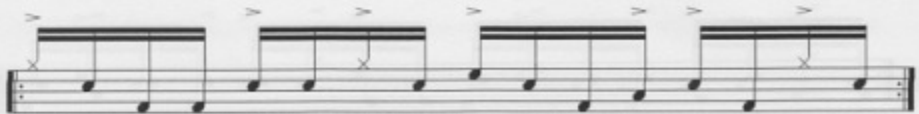
Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



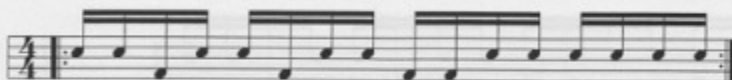
Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 4



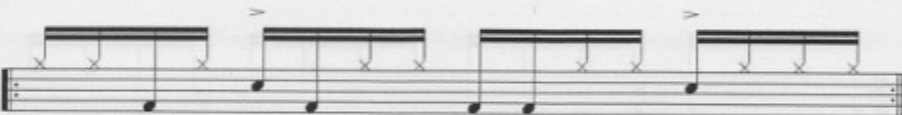
R L R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



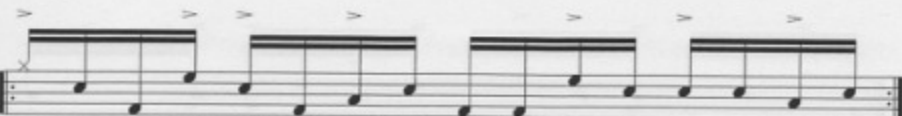
Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



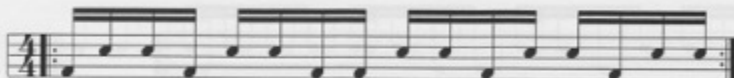
Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 5



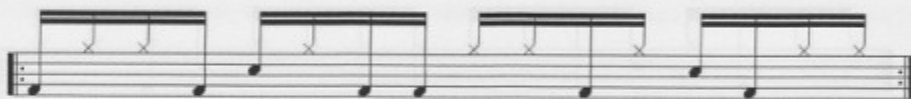
R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove



Groove Pattern 6

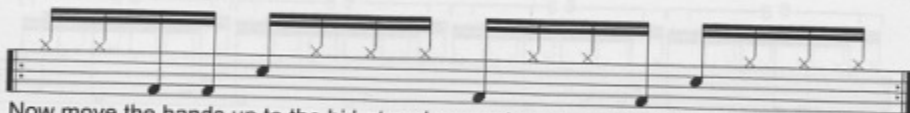
R L R L R L R L R L

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove



Groove Pattern 7

step 1

Musical notation for step 1 in 4/4 time. It shows a sequence of four sixteenth-note groups, each consisting of six notes. Above the notes are the letters R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, R, L, with brackets underneath each group of six notes labeled with the number 6.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2. It shows four groups of sixteenth-note patterns on a drum set. Each group has a bracket above it labeled with the number 6. The notation includes 'x' marks on the snare and hi-hat lines to indicate specific drum sounds.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3

Musical notation for step 3, similar to step 2 but with a different sticking pattern indicated by 'x' marks on the snare and hi-hat lines.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4

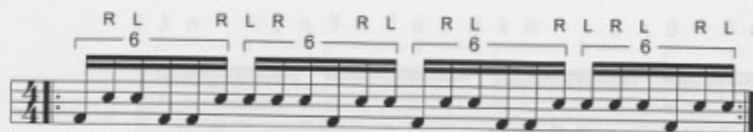
Musical notation for step 4, showing a variation of the pattern with 'x' marks on the snare, hi-hat, and tom lines.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 8



step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



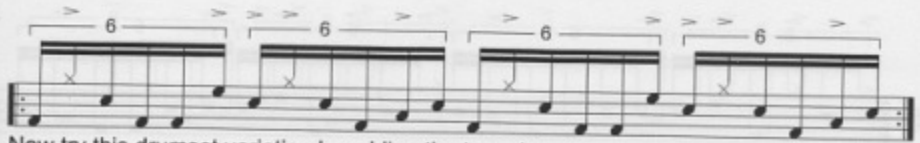
Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove



Groove Pattern 9

step 1

Musical notation for step 1 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes grouped into four sets of six, each set starting with a '6' above it. Above the notes, the letters 'R L R R L R L R L R L R L R L R L' are written, with brackets indicating the six-note groups.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2 in 4/4 time. The notation shows the same sequence of eighth notes as in step 1, but with 'x' marks above the notes on beats 2 and 4 of each four-beat group, indicating a change in drumming technique.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3

Musical notation for step 3 in 4/4 time. The notation shows the same sequence of eighth notes as in step 2, but with 'x' marks above the notes on beats 2 and 4 of each four-beat group, and 'v' marks above the notes on beats 1 and 3 of each four-beat group, indicating a change in drumming technique.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4

Musical notation for step 4 in 4/4 time. The notation shows the same sequence of eighth notes as in step 3, but with 'x' marks above the notes on beats 2 and 4 of each four-beat group, and 'v' marks above the notes on beats 1 and 3 of each four-beat group, indicating a change in drumming technique.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 10



step 1

Musical notation for step 1 in 4/4 time. The staff shows a sequence of sixteenth notes grouped into four sets of six. Above the staff, the letters "R L R L R R L R" are written, with brackets underneath each group of six notes. The first two notes of each group are marked with "R" and "L", and the remaining four are marked with "R".

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2 in 4/4 time. The staff shows the same sequence of sixteenth notes as in step 1, but with 'x' marks above the notes on beats 2 and 4 of each measure, indicating a change in drum part.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3

Musical notation for step 3 in 4/4 time. The staff shows the same sequence of sixteenth notes as in step 2, but with 'x' marks above the notes on beats 2 and 4 of each measure, and 'v' marks above the notes on beats 1 and 3 of each measure, indicating a change in drum part.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4

Musical notation for step 4 in 4/4 time. The staff shows the same sequence of sixteenth notes as in step 3, but with 'x' marks above the notes on beats 2 and 4 of each measure, and 'v' marks above the notes on beats 1 and 3 of each measure, indicating a change in drum part.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 11



step 1

Musical notation for step 1 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes on a single staff. Above the staff, there are four groups of notes, each with a bracket labeled '6' and a sequence of letters: 'R L', 'R L R L R', 'R L', and 'R L R R L R'. This indicates a specific sticking pattern for the hands and foot.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes on a single staff. Above the staff, there are four groups of notes, each with a bracket labeled '6'. This indicates a specific sticking pattern for the hands and foot.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3

Musical notation for step 3 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes on a single staff. Above the staff, there are four groups of notes, each with a bracket labeled '6'. This indicates a specific sticking pattern for the hands and foot.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4

Musical notation for step 4 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes on a single staff. Above the staff, there are four groups of notes, each with a bracket labeled '6'. This indicates a specific sticking pattern for the hands and foot.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 12



step 1

Musical notation for step 1: A 4/4 measure with a treble clef. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes grouped into four sixteenth-note pairs. Above the notes, the sticking is indicated as R, R L, R L, R L, R, R L, R L R, R L. Brackets above the notes indicate groups of sixteenth notes.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2: A 4/4 measure with a treble clef. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes grouped into four sixteenth-note pairs. Brackets above the notes indicate groups of sixteenth notes. The notes are marked with 'x' to indicate snare hits on beats 2 and 4.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3

Musical notation for step 3: A 4/4 measure with a treble clef. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes grouped into four sixteenth-note pairs. Brackets above the notes indicate groups of sixteenth notes. The notes are marked with 'v' to indicate hi hat hits on beats 1 and 3, and 'x' to indicate snare hits on beats 2 and 4.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4

Musical notation for step 4: A 4/4 measure with a treble clef. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes grouped into four sixteenth-note pairs. Brackets above the notes indicate groups of sixteenth notes. The notes are marked with 'v' to indicate hi hat hits on beats 1 and 3, and 'x' to indicate snare hits on beats 2 and 4.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 13



step 1

Musical notation for step 1 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes with a 6/8 bracket above each group of six notes. The sticking pattern is indicated above the notes: R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2

Musical notation for step 2 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes with a 6/8 bracket above each group of six notes. The notes on beats 2 and 4 are marked with an 'x', indicating they are played on the snare.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3

Musical notation for step 3 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes with a 6/8 bracket above each group of six notes. The notes on beats 2 and 4 are marked with an 'x' and an accent (>), indicating they are played on the snare.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4

Musical notation for step 4 in 4/4 time. The notation shows a sequence of eighth notes with a 6/8 bracket above each group of six notes. The notes on beats 2 and 4 are marked with an 'x' and an accent (>), indicating they are played on the snare.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 14



RL RL RL RLRLRLRL RL RL RLRLRL

step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 15

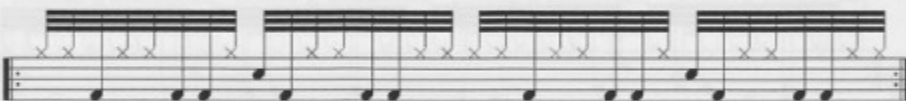


step 1



Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2



Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3



Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4



Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

Groove Pattern 16



step 1 Musical notation for step 1: A single staff in 4/4 time showing a continuous eighth-note pattern across four measures. The notes are grouped in pairs, representing a pattern between the hands and the foot.

Start by learning the pattern between the hands and the foot

step 2 Musical notation for step 2: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first and third measures contain eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks above them, indicating hi-hat strokes. The second and fourth measures contain eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks above them, indicating snare strokes. This represents moving the hands up to the hi-hat and down to the snare on beats 2 and 4.

Now move the hands up to the hi hat and come down to the snare on beats 2 & 4

step 3 Musical notation for step 3: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first and third measures contain eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks above them, indicating hi-hat strokes. The second and fourth measures contain eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks above them, indicating snare strokes. This represents breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi-hat and the snare.

Now try breaking up the sticking a bit between the hi hat and the snare

step 4 Musical notation for step 4: A single staff in 4/4 time. The first and third measures contain eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks above them, indicating hi-hat strokes. The second and fourth measures contain eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks above them, indicating snare strokes. This represents adding the toms into the groove.

Now try this drumset variation by adding the toms into the groove

# LINEAR

## DRUMMING

*by Mike Johnston*

As a young drummer I was always amazed by drummers that could fly around the kit with what seemed to be an actual conversation between their hands and their feet. It was the perfect balance of power and creativity and LINEAR drumming was the key to all of it. I spent over 10 years developing my system to master any LINEAR pattern around the kit. The amazing result was that after mastering 5, 10, 20, 100 patterns they all just started to flow out of me like a conversation. I am so excited to be able to give you my system and I look forward to all of the amazing LINEAR patterns that you will undoubtedly create for yourself after you have completed this book.

*Mike Johnston*

