

Drumset for Jazz and Pep Band

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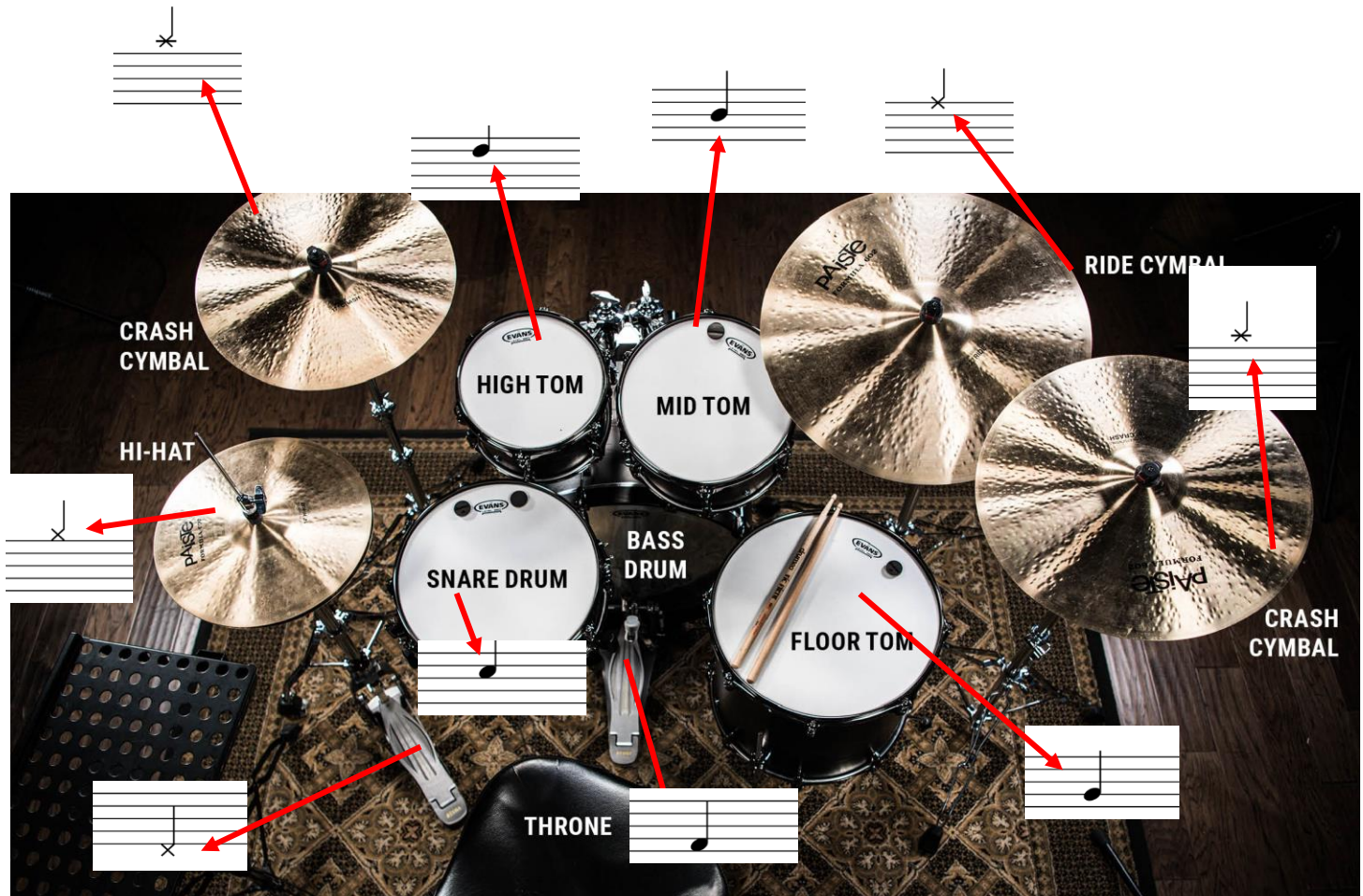
PART 1: The Basics

A drummer's primary role in jazz and pep band is to keep a steady tempo while illustrating the proper style.

TEMPO: Practice with a metronome – always! Play along with videos and/or recordings as often as possible.

STYLE: Most of the music for jazz or pep band is in 4/4 time. The way that the drummer subdivides the main four beats in the measure, determines a great deal about the style.

The image below shows the most standard Drumset notation:

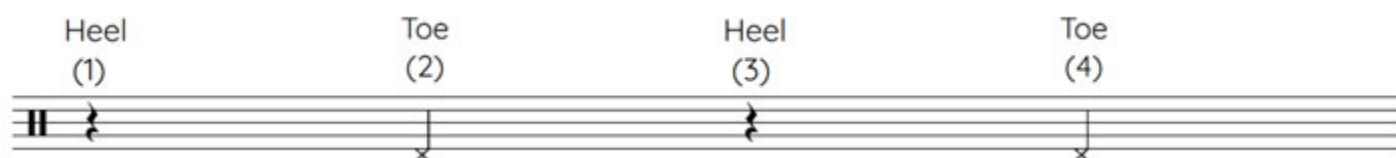


Example 1 below illustrates a basic time-keeping pattern with no discernable style.

Example 1.



The “**Heel – Toe**” technique is recommended when playing the hi-hat on counts “2” and “4” with the left foot.



PRACTICE: Layer the parts of Example 1 using a variety of combinations.

Version 1

- Bass drum and Ride Cymbal together (same rhythm).
- Add Snare on “2” and “4”.
- Add Hi Hat on “2” and “4”.

Version 2

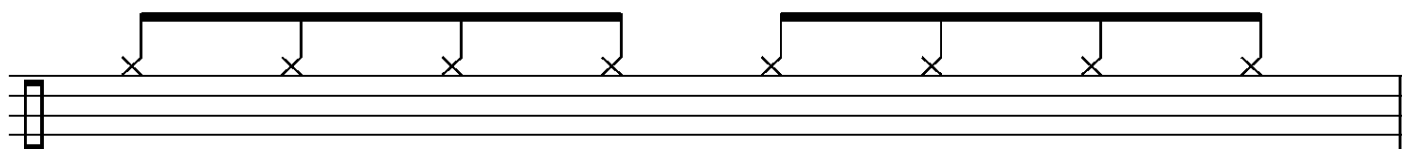
- Hi hat first (using “Heel – Toe” technique).
- Add bass drum (same rhythm as hi hat foot).
- Add ride cymbal (same rhythm as bass and hi hat)
- Add snare drum “2” and “4”.

SUBDIVIDING STYLES:

When the drummer subdivides the main beats into smaller units, different styles begin to emerge.

- Straight or even subdivision.
 - Rock, pop, and funk.

Example 2.

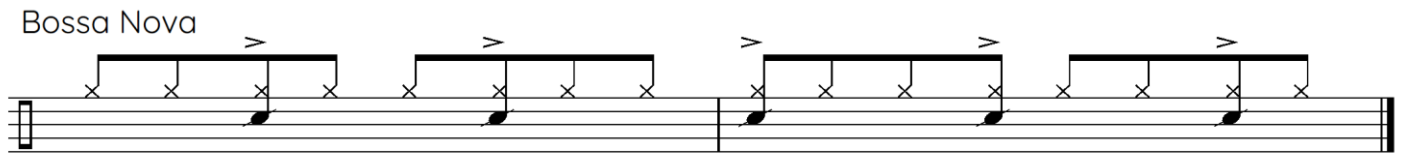


- Latin (syncopation of the main beats, or other parts of the groove).

Example 3.

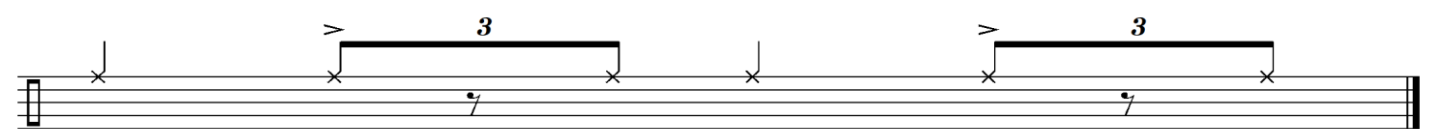


Example 4 (syncopation in the rim-knock part).



- Triplet-based subdivision.
 - Swing.

Example 5.



Drummers playing with jazz or pep bands should strive to master at least one groove in the following styles: **Jazz Swing** (triplets), **Rock/Pop/Funk** (straight, even eighth notes), and **Latin** (even eighths but with syncopation). Videos 2, 3, and 4 explain each of these style in greater detail.