



THE rockschool® Drums

METHOD

Popular Drums For Beginners

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Video & Audio Content
12 Lessons in Six Styles



on this stick lines up with the edge of the drummer's hand). This will make it quicker and easier to find the balance point in future.

5 Place the rest of your fingers gently on the stick as shown.

6 Now pick up your other stick with your left hand and place the stick between your thumb and forefingers at the same point as your right hand. When you hold your sticks next to each other they should line up as they do in the photo. If you like, repeat step 4 for the stick in your left hand.



HOW TO USE THE HI-HAT PEDAL

The hi-hat can be open or closed. It is open until you press your left foot down on the pedal. Once your foot is pressed down fully, the hi-hat cymbals come together and the hi-hat is closed. In this book you will only play closed hi-hat. You can use heel up or heel down technique.



HOW TO PLAY THE BASS DRUM

There are two ways to play the bass drum. The first is the heel down technique. Place your right foot on the pedal so that the whole of your foot is touching it. Your toes and heel – everything – should be flat against the pedal. To play the bass drum just press down on the pedal until the beater strokes (hits) the bass drum. This

will help you keep good posture and stay balanced on the throne. If you are unable to reach the bottom of the pedal with your heel, don't worry, you can use the ball of your foot to press down on the pedal instead. This is the other way of playing the bass drum we mentioned and is known as heel up technique.



Example 1

SINGLE STROKES

Playing single strokes means you should play once with your right hand (R) and once with your left (L). This is usually repeated many times in a bar, giving the pattern 'R L R L' which you can see above the notes in this example.



Example 2

DOUBLE STROKES

Playing double strokes, which are shown in the notation as 'R R L L', means you should play twice with your right hand and twice with your left. Make all the notes even and of the same volume.



Example 3

PARADIDDLE

A paradiddle is a combination of single and double strokes: 'R L R R L R L L'. Try counting the beats in the bar ("1 2 3 4") while playing the exercise. This will help you to keep a steady pulse.



Teacher's Notes

Teacher's Rating



METAL

PART 2

In your second metal lesson you will learn how to play your **first full drum beat**



Practise playing the snare and hi-hat at the same time slowly until it feels comfortable



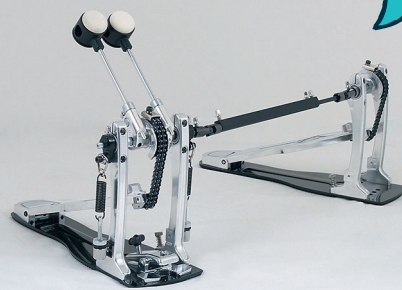
Once you can play the snare and hi-hat at the same time, you can add the bass drum

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- ✓ Playing drum voices together
- ✓ Your first drum beat

Playing two drum voices at the same time can be challenging at first. It is important that you practise slowly and take your time until this feels comfortable. You are teaching various parts of your body to move smoothly and at the same time. You will play your first beat in this lesson. It's called the rock beat but it is used in metal and lots of other styles too.

DID YOU KNOW?



Double bass drum pedals are popular in metal because they help make a heavier sound than single pedals. They come as one unit with two beaters and two pedals so you can use both feet to stroke the bass drum quickly.

Example 1

BASIC ROCK BEAT HI-HAT PATTERN

The first part of the basic rock beat to learn is the hi-hat part. In this example you will play constant quarter notes on the hi-hat without any rests.

