

EIGHTH NOTE GROOVES: PAIRED VOICES

Ex. 1 is the most important groove you will learn as a drummer. Practice playing this groove until you can play it effortlessly.

TIP: You may want to start with just the hi hats and count '1&2&3&4&' out loud or in your head. Once you are comfortable with this, you can add the bass drum notes on beats 1 and 3, and then the snare drum notes on beats 2 and 4. Aim to keep a balanced kit sound.

Now we are going to start adding notes to the groove. Each time we add a note, it will be the same **voice** (drum) as the previous note. Think of them as 'paired' together.

The following exercises will cover 'paired' voices across each beat of the bar and explore various combinations:

EIGHTH NOTE GROOVES: SPLIT VOICES

In these exercises, the added notes will no longer be the same **voice**, but will be two different voices.

Ex. 1

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 2

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 3

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 4

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 5

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 6

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 7

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 8

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 9

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Ex. 10

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

EIGHTH NOTE GROOVES: ADDING RESTS

A rest is simply an **absent note**. In our grooves, rests usually appear in the form of quarter note or eighth note rests. At this level, we will master the **eighth note rest** first. A good way to think about it is to imagine what the note *would* have been if it wasn't a rest. This gives you a bit of context.

Imagine this beat:

Ex. 1a

Now take away this bass drum

Ex. 1b

This is a **eighth note rest** (worth 1/2 a beat)

Ex. 2

Ex. 3

Ex. 4

Ex. 5

Ex. 6

Ex. 7

Be careful, these last two start with a rest!

Ex. 8

Ex. 9