

ADDING OPEN HI-HATS - AFTER THE SNARE

Adding open hi-hats to your grooves really gives you more sound options to choose from. They could also be used as **accents** in a band context to help pick out key parts. The first of the three main combinations is placing an open hi-hat after the snare drum. This is possibly the most common coordination.

We are going to start by putting an open hi-hat on the **"&" of 4**. It is easier to see this as a **2-bar groove**:

This sign means 'open' This sign means 'close'

Ex. 1

Now try it with some bass drum variations:

Ex. 2

Ex. 3

Ex. 4

Ex. 5

Ex. 6

Ex. 7

Ex. 8

Ex. 9

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We can also try putting our open hi-hats on the "& of 1" or the "& of 3". This can completely change the feel of our groove, both for the player and the listener. You may find it challenging at first because the hi-hat will now close with the **snare drum** rather than the **bass drum**.

Close the hi-hat with the snare

Ex. 1

The following exercises explore opening the hi-hat first on the "& of 1" and then the "& of 3":

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 &

ADDING OPEN HI-HATS - WITH A BASS DRUM

We can also play an open hi-hat **WITH** a bass drum. This creates even more of an **accent**, but is also the most tricky to play. To do this, you lift the hi-hat at the same time as hitting the bass drum - one foot goes **up**, the other goes **down**.

As your hi-hat foot comes up, your bass drum foot goes down:

Ex. 1

The following exercises explore opening the hi-hat **with** the bass drum on varying beats of the bar:

Ex. 2

Ex. 3

Ex. 4

Ex. 5

Ex. 6

Ex. 7

Ex. 8

Ex. 9