

PLAYING ROCK

BASIC ROCK BEATS



Play the following basic beat in which the right hand (on the ride cymbal) and the right foot (on the bass drum) play together.

Track 2 = 96

R.H.

1

R.F.

In many beats, the left hand (snare drum) and the left foot (hi-hat) play together as shown in the following example:

Track 3

L.H.

2

L.F.

Here's a basic beat that combines the hands and feet. All of the following beats can also be played with the bass drum on 1 and 3 only.

Track 4

3

Often, the right stick is played on the hi-hat, which may be partially closed (cymbals lightly touching) or tightly closed. In such cases, the left foot applies light or heavy pressure on the hi-hat pedal.

Track 5

R.H. on H.H.

4

By changing the right-hand quarter notes to eighth notes, we create a more interesting beat. Beat 5 uses the right hand on the ride cymbal. In beat 6, the right hand moves to the hi-hat.

Track 6

Ride Cym.

5

Track 7

Hi-Hat

6

EMBELLISHING THE LEFT HAND

Eighth notes can also be played by the left hand. Practice all of these beats first with the right hand on the ride cymbal and then on the hi-hat.



♩ = 96

1



2

3

The left hand is used to play other drums as well. Beat 4 adds the mounted tom-tom, beats 5 and 6 add the floor tom-tom, while beat 7 incorporates both tom-toms.



4

5

6

7