

The Drumset Toolbox

Tools for Figuring out Drumset Music

↪ Find the “fastest” notes - those are your subdivisions of the beat (eighths? sixteenths? triplets?)

↪ Now, using that subdivision, count out loud or in your head. Counting helps fit the rhythms in time accurately

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↪ Slow down the tempo FIRST. Give your brain a chance comprehend what’s going on

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↪ BEAT-BY-BEAT - Break down ride, snare and bass drum rhythms one beat at a time in the measure(s) and notice what lines up when

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↪ Figure out the challenging rhythm first while counting, hear it in your head, and then sing the rhythm to yourself (helps you internalize the rhythm)

↪ Sing the “complex rhythm” to yourself while playing ride and/or bass and/or snare

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↪ Figure out the ride pattern first and let it be your metronome

↪ AUTO PILOT - Put ride hand on “auto pilot” and focus on bass-snare rhythms

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↪ LIMB-BY-LIMB - play 2 limbs at a time in different combos -snare with bass- -bass with ride- -snare with ride-

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↪ REPETITION - play through the beat, fill, or rhythm as many times as necessary until you don’t have to think about it - then you’ll own it for life!

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ALWAYS learn the pattern slow while counting - then gradually increase your tempo. Take your time and reward yourself for great practice!!!!