

JAZZ

Mastering the elusive "swing eighth note" is essential for playing jazz. To get started, simply phrase all your eighth notes like triplets.

For example, the ride cymbal pattern is written:  but is played: 

These next 5 grooves are good examples of a steady swing beat with various snare drum comping. Don't forget your dynamics: the ride cymbal is strong, the hi-hat is tight and snappy, the bass drum is very soft (called "feathering") and your snare drum "comping" rhythms are clear, but not as loud as your cymbal pattern. Listen to great jazz drummers to hear their interpretation of swing. As always, listening is your best teacher.

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Musical notation for exercise 22, a 4/4 drum pattern. The snare line features eighth notes with beams, and the bass line features eighth notes with beams. The pattern is: snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass.

jazz shuffle 23

Musical notation for exercise 23, a 4/4 jazz shuffle drum pattern. The snare line features eighth notes with beams and accents, and the bass line features eighth notes with beams. The pattern is: snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass.

two feel 24

Musical notation for exercise 24, a 4/4 two feel drum pattern. The snare line features eighth notes with beams and accents, and the bass line features eighth notes with beams. The pattern is: snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass. (ALSO PLAY ON RIDE)

jazz waltz (IN THREE) 25

Musical notation for exercise 25, a 3/4 jazz waltz drum pattern. The snare line features eighth notes with beams and accents, and the bass line features eighth notes with beams. The pattern is: snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass.

jazz waltz (IN ONE) 26

Musical notation for exercise 26, a 3/4 jazz waltz drum pattern. The snare line features eighth notes with beams and accents, and the bass line features eighth notes with beams. The pattern is: snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass, snare, bass.