

Sixteenth Notes - Single-Handed Hi-Hat Beat



Now that you are familiar with playing a basic beat with eighth notes, let's move on to something a little more advanced by playing sixteenth notes on the hi-hat. While it will take some time to develop this, and also take more time to get it sounding smooth, it is a crucial skill that will enable you to play more interesting and exciting beats.

Depending on your skill level and the tempo of the song, these can be played with one hand or two hands (alternating) for fast tempos. We will be looking at both types.

Single-Handed 16th Note Hi-Hat Beat

1	e	+	a	2	e	+	a	3	e	+	a	4	e	+	a
H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
				SN								SN			
K								K							



"Play Along" Songs" - Single-Handed Sixteenth Notes on Hi-Hat

Listed below are just some of the songs that feature sixteenth notes on the hi-hat. With practice and development, all of these songs can be played single-handed on the hi-hat.

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| "Empire" - Queensryche | "Blurry" - Puddle of Mud |
| "Solid Rock" - Delirious | "Paradise" - Coldplay |
| "Whatever It Takes" - Imagine Dragons | "Frayed Ends Of Sanity" - Metallica |
| "Tom Sawyer" - Rush | "Kyrie" - Mr. Mister |
| "Stuck In A Moment You Can't
Get Out Of" - U2 | "Eyes Without A Face" - Billy Idol |
| "Dark Horses" - Switchfoot | "Don't Speak" - No Doubt |
| "I Keep Forgetting" - Michael McDonald | "Baby Come Back" - Player |
| "I'll Be Over You" - Toto | "If It Wasn't For Trucks" - Riley Green |
| "Highway Don't Care" - Tim McGraw | "Careless Whisper" - Wham |
| "Something's Missing" - John Mayer | "Southern Cross" - Crosby, Stills & Nash |

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It is important to get used to using different kick patterns along with the newly added sixteenth notes on the hi-hat. Here are a few exercises that sound great and will help build your coordination.



Try running through each pattern using the "3 + 1" pattern. Be sure to put a fill in the 4th measure with a crash cymbal.

Exercise 1

1	e	+	a	2	e	+	a	3	e	+	a	4	e	+	a
H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
				SN								SN			
K							K	K							K

Exercise 2

1	e	+	a	2	e	+	a	3	e	+	a	4	e	+	a
H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
				SN								SN			
K										K					

Exercise 3

1	e	+	a	2	e	+	a	3	e	+	a	4	e	+	a
H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
				SN								SN			
K			K			K			K	K					