



"3 Family" Fills

The next group is called "3 Family" fills because they start on the "3" position count of the "fill zone" measure. These fills are not as long and are only played over counts "3, 4." These fills are general, all-around fills that sound great in the middle of a verse or even transitioning to a new part of the song.

"3 + 1" Pattern - "3 Family" fill on 4th measure

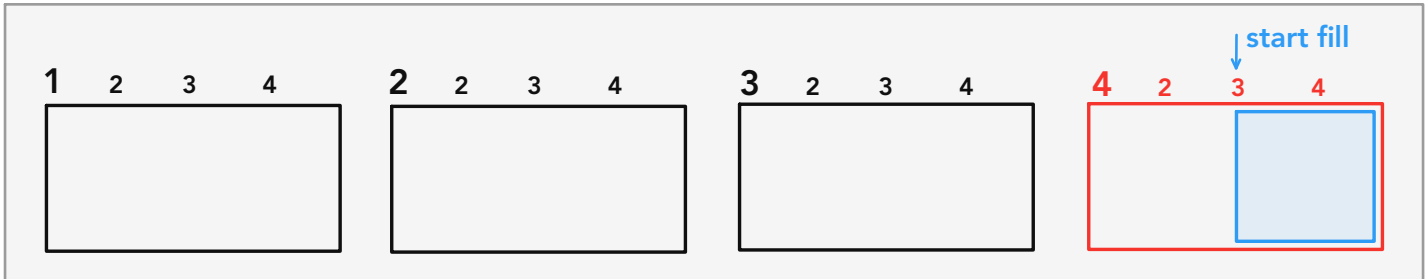


Figure 16-1

15 minutes per day

Lesson 16 - "Hands On" Exercises

- Using exercises on the next page, get familiar with each fill. Play it slowly until you have a feel for it.
- With a metronome set to 70 BPM, play each fill by itself and make sure your timing is solid and the subdivisions are played in the correct time.
- Using the "3 + 1" pattern, give each fill a try. Try and get to where you can play the "3+1" pattern through all 5 fills without stopping.

Why It Matters

Having a collection of fills that you like and you know work well is essential to getting started as a drummer. Adding fills is what makes the drums fun! Knowing how to put fills in the proper place will help you sound more like a pro and impress your audience and fellow musicians.

Common Mistakes To Avoid

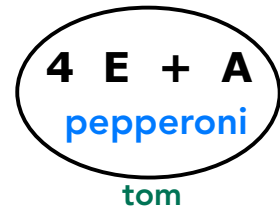
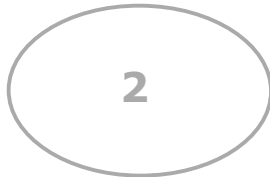
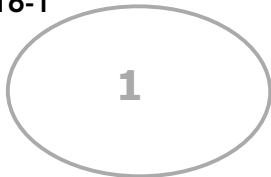
Be sure to focus on even, correct spacing the the rhythms of each part of the fill. Be careful not to run all the notes together and get off from the beat.

Lesson 16 - "3 Family" Fills

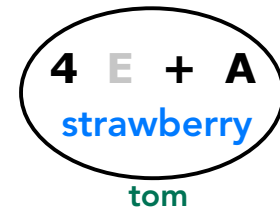
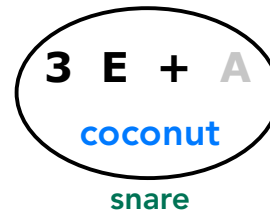
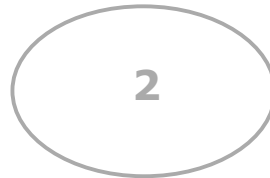
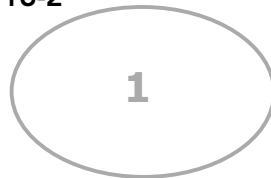


Remember that the fill is only played over counts "3" & "4." Therefore, counts "1" & "2" are grayed out because the normal beat is still playing. The suggested drum is written below each oval, but feel free to experiment and come up with your own combinations. **Remember you can use either the count or the "food words," whichever is easier for you.**

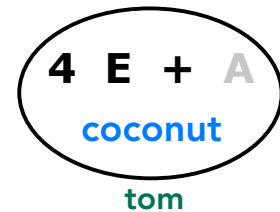
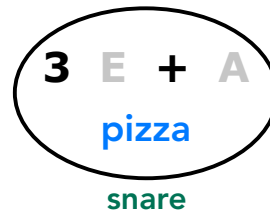
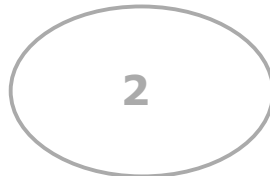
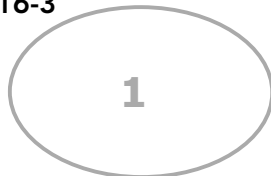
Exercise 16-1



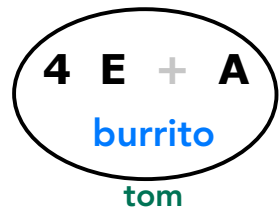
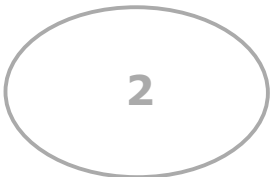
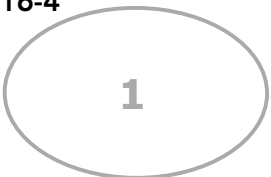
Exercise 16-2



Exercise 16-3



Exercise 16-4



Exercise 16-5

