



## "4 Family" Fills

The final group is called "4 Family" Fills. These fills are very short and are played on the "4" position count of the "fill zone" measure. Sometimes you just need a quick little fill. Nothing too big or fancy, but very useful. These are some of the most practical fills in the whole course.

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

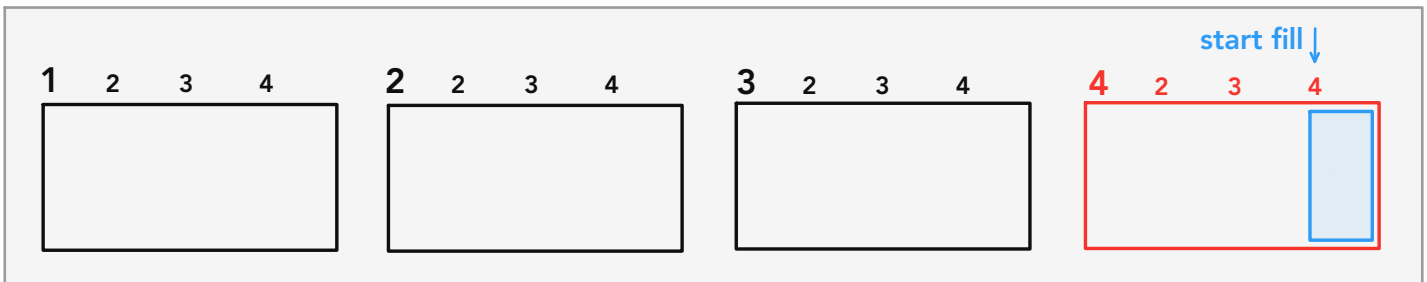


Figure 17-1

15 minutes per day

## Lesson 17 - "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 17 - "4 Family" Fills



Remember that the fill is only played over count "4." Therefore, counts "1," "2" & "3" 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 17-1

1 2 3 4 E + A  
pizza  
snare

## Exercise 17-2

1 2 3 4 E + A  
pepperoni  
snare

## Exercise 17-3

1 2 3 4 E + A  
strawberry  
snare

## Exercise 17-4

1 2 3 4 E + A  
coconut  
snare

## Exercise 17-5

1 2 3 4 E + A  
burrito  
snare