

INTRODUCING

Drum Fills

A *drum fill* is a short, improvised solo played at the end of a musical phrase that serves as a bridge to connect ideas. Always practice fills in a musical *time** setting, playing three bars of time followed by the one-bar fill.

Example:

Play each fill exercise four times. Remember to always play three bars of time before you play each fill. Although fills break away from the basic beat, they should not speed up or slow down. Remember

to count, and to pay attention to the stickings. The concept of the practice loop is to provide a steady pulse so that you do not rush or slow down during the bar of the fill.

Drum Fill Practice Loop



♩ = 116
3 bars time

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

* Time is the underlying pulse within the music being played. For example, in track 5, the drum pattern is the time.