

3

Introducing Sixteenth Notes

Understanding Sixteenth Notes

In *Lesson One* we divided the bar into 4 notes giving us quarter notes. In *Lesson Two* we divided the bar into 8 notes giving us eighth notes.

Now we are going to divide each of those eighth notes in half again producing **sixteenth notes**. They are called sixteenth notes, because they divide a bar of common time into 16 notes.

You will recall that a quarter note is worth 1 beat, and an eighth note is worth 1/2 of a beat. Now that we have cut the eighth note in half, we have four notes per beat and therefore, each sixteenth note is worth 1/4 of a beat.

You will see from the example below a bar of quarter notes, a bar of eighth notes and a bar of sixteenth notes .

Example 1

1 2 3 4 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a

Lesson Objectives

- Understand and be able to count **sixteenth notes**.
- Develop control of time using single stroke rolls to play quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes.
- Develop simple **drum fills** using quarter notes, eighth notes and sixteenth notes.

Understanding Sixteenth Notes (using a Single Stroke Roll)

We introduced the single stroke roll in *Lesson Two*. Now, looking at the following exercise you are required to play a bar of quarter notes, a bar of eighth notes and then a bar of sixteenth round and round on the snare drum (or practice pad).

Exercise 1: lesson003.idsisn.01

Right Handed Single Stroke Roll

R L R L R L R L R L R L RLRLRLRLRLRLRLRL

Left Handed Single Stroke Roll

Developing Simple Drum Fills using Quarter Notes

Playing the drums really requires you to do two things;

- Play grooves
- Play fills.

We have in Lessons *One* and *Two* been looking at grooves. We are now going to use the knowledge we have gained to play fills as well.

The next exercise requires you to play a simple bar of groove followed by a bar of quarter notes.

The quarter note fill should be played around the kit, with beat 1 on the snare, beat 2 on the hi-tom, beat 3 on the mid-tom and beat 4 on the floor tom.

Refer to the **drum map** on *page 4* which shows you which lines of the stave relate to which drums and **cymbals**.

Exercise 2: lesson003.idsisn.02



Drum Fills using Eighth Notes

The next step will be to play the same bar of groove, but this time play a fill around the kit using eighth notes.

Exercise 3: lesson003.idsisn.03



Fills using Sixteenth Notes

Now, as before, play a bar of groove, but this time your fill is made up of a bar of sixteenth notes.

Exercise 4: lesson003.idsisn.04



Reference Material

Take some time out to look at the next couple of pages which you can refer to at any time in the future. These pages deal with parts of the drum kit and the music staff for drummers.

There are many more reference materials available for you on our website that are designed to help and support you with your studies. Visit the website at www.gigajam.com

The Drum Map

The **standard arrangement** for the different drums and cymbals on a drum kit on a musical staff follow a logical pattern.

Hi-Hat Snare Drum Bass Drum Hi-Tom Mid-Tom Lo-Tom

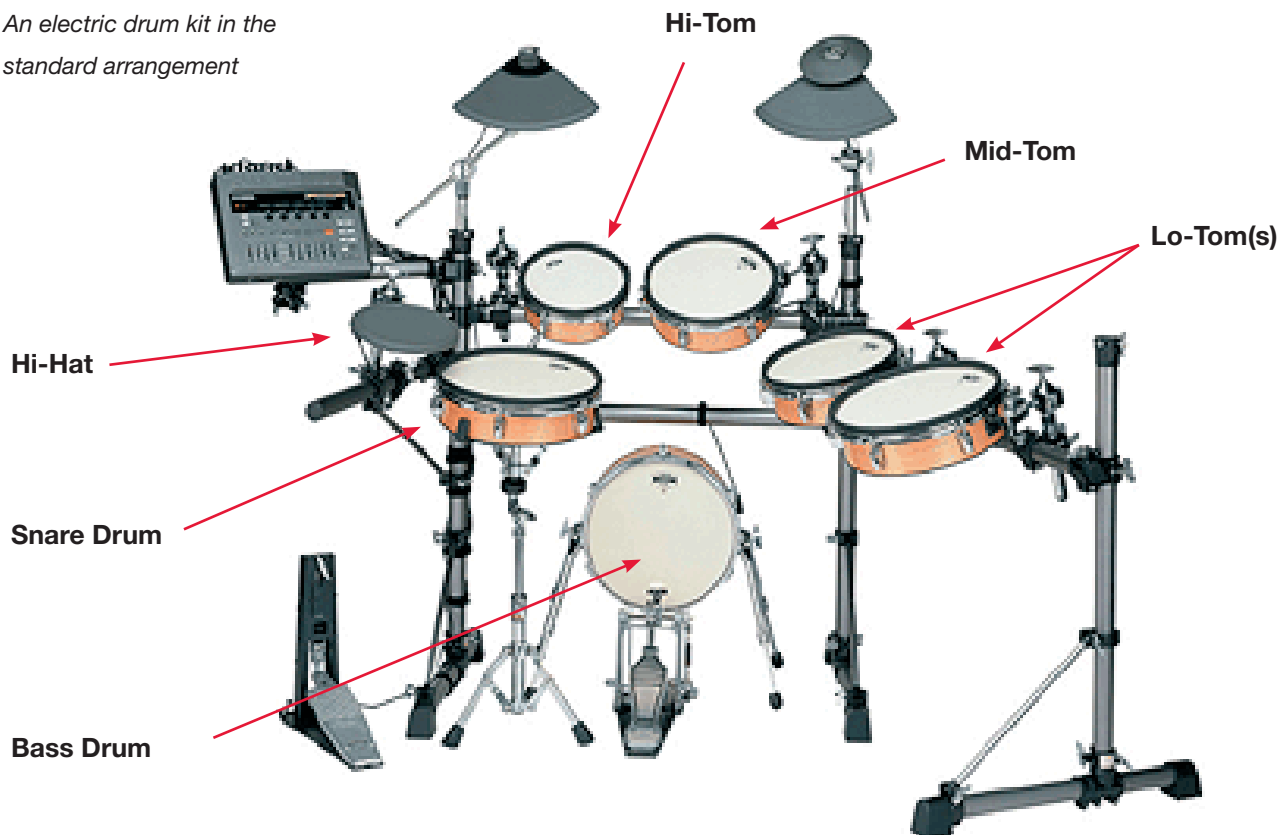
1 2 3 4 1 e + a 2 e + a 3 e + a 4 e + a

On the staff, the **hi-hat** sits on the top space, the **snare** in the middle space and the **bass drum** in the bottom space.

The kit looks a little like that, with the **hi-hat** above the **snare** and the **bass drum** sat on the floor.

The **toms** drop down to the right of a right handed player and that is kind of how they are arranged on the staff.

An electric drum kit in the standard arrangement



The Drum Kit Guide (Part 2)

Hi-Tom



Hi-Tom

Standard size 10" x 8"

The hi-tom, is a drum with skins on both sides of the drum. You play the top head, known as the 'batter head'.

The sound from a tom is generally rounded as the shape of the drum is such that the two skins resonate together to produce the same tone. Tuning is very important. In the majority of instances the bottom head should be the same tension as the top head. You can vary the tensions between skins, but this will effect the decay of the sound, after the drum has been struck. If the bottom head is looser the sound will drop. If tighter it will rise.

Mid-Tom



Mid-Tom

Standard Size 12" x 10"

The concept of the mid-tom is the same as the hi-tom, except that it is usually slightly bigger and as such has a deeper sound.

The hi-tom and mid-toms are often referred to as 'rack toms', as they sit either on or over the bass drum using a rack stand.

Floor Tom



Floor Tom

Standard Size 14"x14"/16"x16"

The floor tom is the lowest pitched tom. It is called a floor tom as it often comes with legs that sit the tom on the floor.

More modern versions of the floor tom now actually hang the tom from a stand and are called either 'hanging' or 'lo-toms'. They are all the same though in essence.