



Lesson Twenty

Lesson 20 IDS PAS2

Performing a Song-'The Buzz'

Lesson Objectives

- Developing our ability to play a piece of music.
 - Strengthen our understanding chart reading.
 - Apply many of the skills learned through the course so far, but specifically;
1. Playing in Time.
 2. Linking Grooves and Fills.
 3. Reading Rhythmic combinations.
 4. Following a Drum Chart.
 5. Play musically.
 6. Develop speed and stamina.

Applying new skills in a Drum Chart

In Lesson 10 we played a Chart which encompassed a number of the skills we had developed over the previous lessons.

The purpose of this lesson is to do the same again, but playing a new song and following a new Chart.

The new tune has practical examples of the coordination and rhythmic studies covered through Lessons 11-19, to show how far you have developed your drumming skills.

As with our first chart, lets go through the music step by step, identifying areas which need to be practised and any new information we need to understand.

Understanding the Chart

Lets go through the chart together step by step looking at each bit and understanding what the Chart is asking us to do.

Step One

The first couple of things you will notice are the name of the tune 'The Buzz' and the time signature of C, Common Time - 4 beats in the bar.

Step Two

At the top left hand side before the tune starts you will see the note 4 clicks, over the top of the first bar and then it says 1 2 . This is new, as the tune is counted in over one and a half bars.

The reason for this is that the drums play a fill into the song on beats 3 and 4 of the second bar and a two beat count in is not really enough to glean a steady tempo.

Step Three

You will note that the fill take us in to the Chorus at the beginning of the tune, and that the Chorus is 8 bars long, with a fill in the 8th bar. You may need to have a look at the rhythm of that fill and practise it, to get used to the mixture of rhythms and the sticking around the kit.

Step Four

After the chorus is the Verse. This is a sixteen bar section. The groove is very similar to the chorus, with the exception that there is an additional bass drum every four bars, just pushing the movement of the tune forward.

There is one extra bass drum on the + of 4 in bar 14 and then we have another fill.

Step Five

So the shape of the tune so far is an 8 bar Chorus and 16 bar verse, with Rhythmic fills between sections. This is a common theme of the piece.

I would look through Chorus 2 and Verse 2 now and familiarise yourself with any differences.

Step Six

At Bar 50, we have a new section called the Middle 8. This is a third section of the tune and provides a contrast to the main themes.

Here the groove is consistent and has the extra bass drum note on the + of 4 providing a little more urgency to the tune. If you listen to the tune carefully here, you will notice that the Middle 8 is a four bar phrase repeated four times.

In the last bar of the Middle 8 we have a new fill. The rhythm is straight forward but the way it is played is slightly new. Let me explain.

Firstly. beats 1+2+ are played in Unison between the bass drum, floor tom and snare drum. Beats 3+ are on the snare and 4 e + a is 4 e on the snare and + a on the Hi tom. I would run that round a few times to get the feel for it.

Step Seven

This new fill links you into the 3rd chorus, which is actually two chorus' back to back. There are two things to look out for here. The last fill and the ending.

The last fill is only two beats long, like the introduction, so you will have to count strongly.

The ending is the same as in 'The First Time', with the exception that after you strike the cymbal and bass drum in bar 82, the note is held for four beats. In bar 83 you then finish it with an accent on beat one, played on the snare, floor tom and bass drum. This is called a 'button' and as opposed to letting the last note die, it just underlines the end, giving it a little more drama.

As is customary, you know you are at the end as it says FINE.

Step Nine

Now, listen to the midi file and follow the drum chart through a couple of times.

Once you have done that I would cycle some of the trickier bars and practise before having a go at the whole track. You can play with the drums or mute the drummer so that you can play on your own.

Remember to:

1. Concentrate.
2. Count.
3. Look at the chart as you play.
4. Cycle the difficult bits and practise them.
5. Slow it down to a tempo you can play and read at.
6. Have fun.



The Buzz

4 Clicks 1 2

Chorus 1

Verse 1

Chorus 2

Verse 2

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The musical score consists of ten staves of drum notation, each starting with a double bar line. The staves are numbered 38, 42, 46, 49, 52, 56, 60, 64, 67, and 71. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, primarily consisting of eighth and sixteenth notes, with many notes marked with an 'x' to indicate a specific drum sound. Annotations include 'Middle 8' pointing to a section starting at measure 49, and 'Chorus 3' pointing to a section starting at measure 64. The score concludes with a double bar line at the end of the 71st measure.

74 3

78

81

Fine