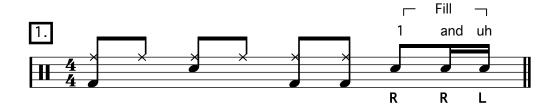
Simple Effective Rock/R&B Fills

"Part 1" (SVDL5)

John Xepoleas

In this lesson I'm going to teach you how to play a series of simple, yet effective drum fills that work great in Rock, Funk, R&B, and Contemporary music settings. To start, we'll use the "1 and uh" sixteenth note rhythm. It's one of my "go-to fills" that can be played at a variety of different tempos.

Please keep in mind that in order to play the following examples with the correct feel, it's essential that you use written sticking.



Once you get comfortable playing each of the fill examples, they should be practiced in a two bar phrase with one full bar of a basic groove followed by the bar with the fill.



For this example you'll play the snare and hi-hat together on beat 4, then play the snare on the "and uh" using a RL sticking.



Now, we'll play a flam for the first note of the fill.



Next, we'll play the first note of the fill on the hi tom.



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For the next two examples we'll use the "1 e and" sixteenth note rhythm for our fill. The last note, or the "and" of this example, is played on the hi-tom.



The last note of this fill will be played using the hi-hat and bass drum.



The next four examples utilize a classic R&B eighth note set-up to the "1 and uh" and "1 e and" rhythms. Once again, be sure to use the written sticking to get the correct feel for these fills.









For the next three examples, we'll set-up our "1 and uh" and "1 e and" rhythms with a snare flam on beat three, followed by a bass drum on the "and' of three.



For the last three examples, we'll combine the "1 e and" and "1 and uh" rhythms to create nice "two beat" fills.



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