

Four-Measure Phrase Song Form in 2/4 Time

The Four-Measure Phrase Song Form is what you will use to practice all of the beats and fills you learn. Start by playing a BEAT on the hi-hat for three measures, followed by a FILL (on the snare). Then repeat back to the hi-hat with the same BEAT for three measures and the same FILL (snare). Next go on to play the same BEAT, but this time on the ride, for three measures and again, the same FILL (snare). Repeat back to the ride with the same BEAT for three measures and the same FILL (snare). So far, you've played a total of four phrases (all with the fill on the snare). Now, follow the D.C. at the end which stands for Da Capo, which means "from the head" in Italian ("go back to the beginning"). Go back to playing the same BEAT on the hi-hat, but for the next four phrases (two on hi-hat, two on ride) you will play the next FILL down (high tom). Continue doing groups of four-measure phrases (two on hi-hat, two on ride, all four with the same FILL) and each time you go back to the beginning, go down to the next drum or set of drums to play the fill on. After you have done your made-up fill for the fourth time, instead of going back to the beginning, end with a crash and bass drum on beat one of the next measure. Remember to play the BEAT *mf* (medium loud) and the FILL *f* (loud) and ALWAYS REMEMBER TO COUNT OUT LOUD.

||: 1 & 2 & | 2 & 2 & | 3 & 2 & | 1E&A2E&A :||

Hi-Hat	Ride	D.C.
: Beat 2 3 Fill : Beat 2 3 Fill : Fill		
<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S H H M M F F S H F M ? ?	<i>f</i> S S H H M M F F S H F M ? ?

1. Practice the BEAT alone. Practice the FILL alone.
2. Practice a Four-Measure Phrase with the BEAT on the hi-hat and the FILL on the snare.
3. Practice the Four-Measure Phrase Song Form, one phrase at a time.
4. Practice the Four-Measure Phrase Song Form straight through, without stopping.

The musical notation shows four rows of practice exercises in 2/4 time. Each row consists of two staves. The first staff in each row is for the hi-hat, starting with a *mf* dynamic. The second staff is for the ride, starting with a *f* dynamic. The first three measures of each row show the 'BEAT' pattern, and the fourth measure shows the 'FILL' pattern. The fills are: Row 1: Snare (S), Snare (S); Row 2: Snare (S), Snare (S); Row 3: Snare (S), Snare (S); Row 4: Snare (S), Snare (S). Above the second staff, the counts '1 E & A 2 E & A 1' are written, indicating the sequence of drum strokes for the fill.

Four-Measure Phrase Song Form in 4/4 Time

COUNT OUT LOUD

||: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 3 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1E&A2E&A3E&A4E&A :||

Hi-Hat	Ride	D.C. ↓
: Beat 2 3 Fill : Beat 2 3 Fill : . z -		
<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S <i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S
	H H H H	H H H H
	M M M M	M M M M
	F F F F	F F F F
	S H M F	S H M F
	F M H S	F M H S
	? ? ? ?	? ? ? ?

1. Practice the BEAT alone. Practice the FILL alone.
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The musical notation consists of six staves, each representing a different variation of a four-measure phrase in 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The first staff shows the 'BEAT' on the hi-hat (mf) and the 'FILL' on the snare (f). The subsequent staves show variations of the 'BEAT' and 'FILL' patterns, with the 'FILL' always on the snare. The patterns are labeled with counts like '1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &' and '1 E & A 2 E & A 3 E & A 4 E & A'.

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Four-Measure Phrase Song Form in 3/4 Time

COUNT OUT LOUD

||: 1 & 2 & 3 & | 2 & 2 & 3 & | 3 & 2 & 3 & | 1E&A2E&A3E&A :||

Hi-Hat	Ride	D.C.
: Beat 2 3 Fill :	: Beat 2 3 Fill :	: Beat 2 3 Fill :
<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S H H H M M M F F F S H M F M H ? ? ?	<i>f</i> S S S H H H M M M F F F S H M F M H ? ? ?

1. Practice the BEAT alone. Practice the FILL alone.
2. Practice a Four-Measure Phrase with the BEAT on the hi-hat and the FILL on the snare.
3. Practice the Four-Measure Phrase Song Form, one phrase at a time.
4. Practice the Four-Measure Phrase Song Form straight through, without stopping.

Four-Measure Phrase Song Form in 4/4 Time

COUNT OUT LOUD

||: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 3 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1E&A2E&A3E&A4E&A :||

Hi-Hat	Ride	D.C.
: <u>1</u> & 2 & 3 & 4 & <u>2</u> & 2 & 3 & 4 & <u>3</u> & 2 & 3 & 4 & <u>1</u> E&A <u>2</u> E&A <u>3</u> E&A <u>4</u> E&A :		
<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S <i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S
	H H H H	H H H H
	M M M M	M M M M
	F F F F	F F F F
	S H M F	S H M F
	F M H S	F M H S
	? ? ? ?	? ? ? ?

1. Practice the BEAT alone. Practice the FILL alone.
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1 & A 2 E & 3 & A 4 E &

1 E & 2 & A 3 E & 4 & A

1 E & 2 & A 3 & A 4 E &

1 & A 2 E & 3 E & 4 & A

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Four-Measure Phrase Song Form in 4/4 Time

COUNT OUT LOUD

||: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 3 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1E&A2E&A3E&A4E&A :||

Hi-Hat	Ride	D.C. ↓
: Beat 2 3 Fill :	: Beat 2 3 Fill :	: Beat 2 3 Fill :
<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S <i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S
	H H H H	H H H H
	M M M M	M M M M
	F F F F	F F F F
	S H M F	S H M F
	F M H S	F M H S
	? ? ? ?	? ? ? ?

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Four-Measure Phrase Song Form

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Hi-Hat	Ride	D.C. ↓
Beat 2 3	Fill	Beat 2 3
<i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S <i>mf</i>	<i>f</i> S S S S
	H H H H M M M M F F F F S H M F F M H S ? ? ? ?	H H H H M M M M F F F F S H M F F M H S ? ? ? ?

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The musical notation shows eight examples of drum patterns, numbered 1 through 8. Each example consists of a 'Beat' section and a 'Fill' section. The time signatures vary: 1-4 are in 2/4, 5-6 are in 4/4, and 7-8 are in 3/4. The patterns are written on a single staff with a double bar line and a repeat sign for the beat section, and a single bar line for the fill section. The fill section ends with a D.C. (Da Capo) symbol.