

Level 1: Quarter Notes in 2/4, 4/4, and 3/4 Time

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KEY TO SYMBOLS USED IN DRUM SET MUSIC

Notice that we use an "X" or **diamond** for the **cymbals**, but a **regular notehead** for the **drums**. This is so it is easier to tell them apart.

Crash Cymbal Closed Hi-Hat Open Hi-Hat Ride Cymbal Ride Bell

High Tom Medium Tom Snare Drum Floor (Low) Tom

Bass Drum (Right Foot) Hi-Hat (Left Foot)

Notice that the stems go **up** for the instruments that your **hands** play and **down** for what your **feet** play. This *won't* happen *all* of the time, but it *will* happen *most* of the time.

Quarter Notes on the Ride Cymbal in 2/4 Time.

COUNT OUT LOUD

1 RH 1 2 1 2

2 LH 1 2 1 2

3 RH LH 1 2 1 2

4 RF 1 2 1 2

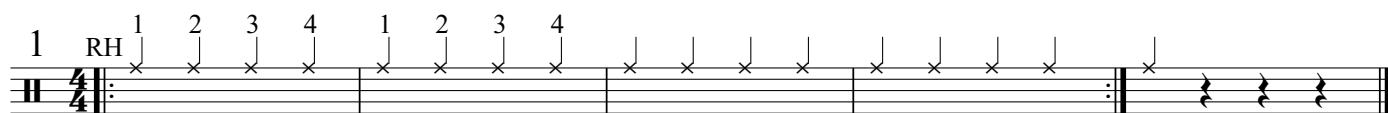
5 RH RF 1 2 1 2

6 LH RF 1 2 1 2

7 1 2 1 2

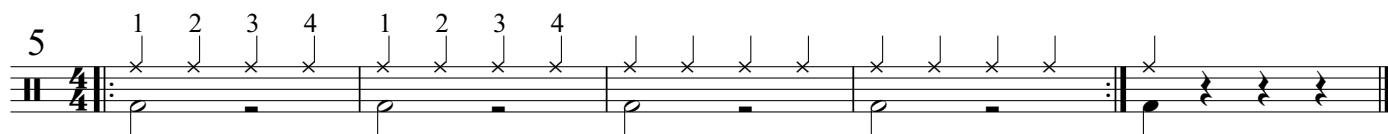
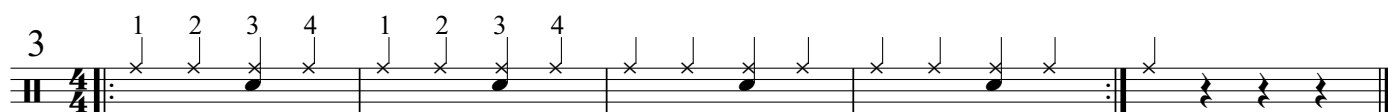
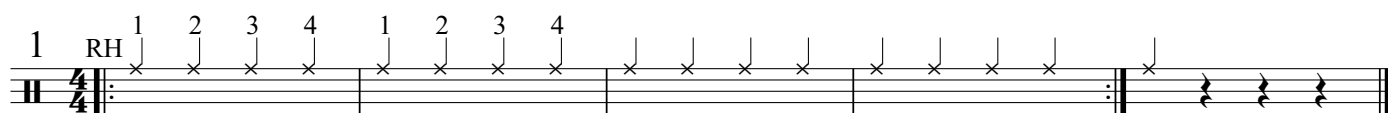
Quarter Notes on the Ride Cymbal in 4/4 Time (Snare Drum on Beats 2 and 4).

COUNT OUT LOUD



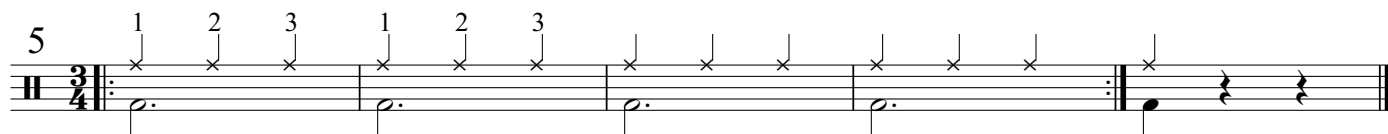
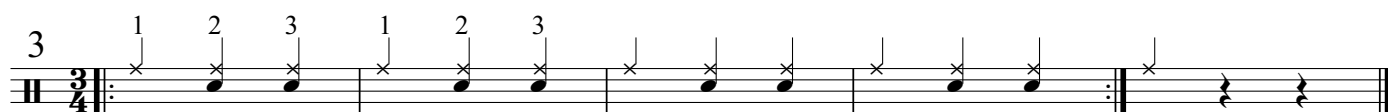
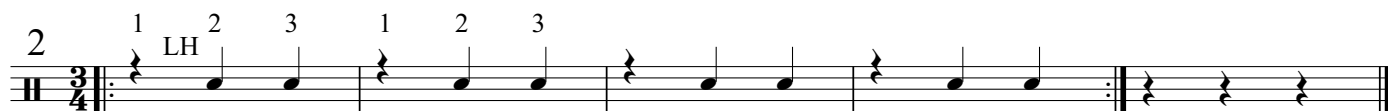
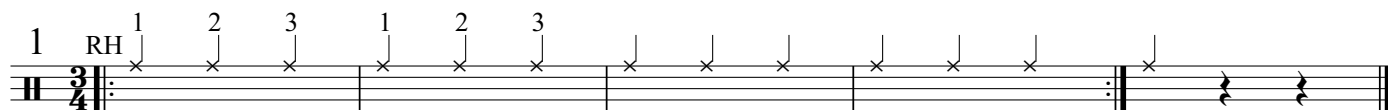
Quarter Notes on the Ride Cymbal in 4/4 Time (Snare Drum on Beat 3).

COUNT OUT LOUD



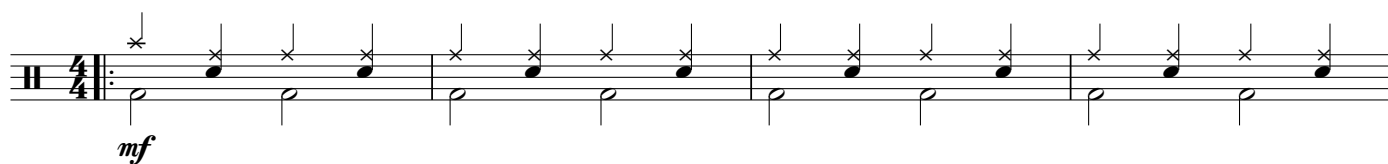
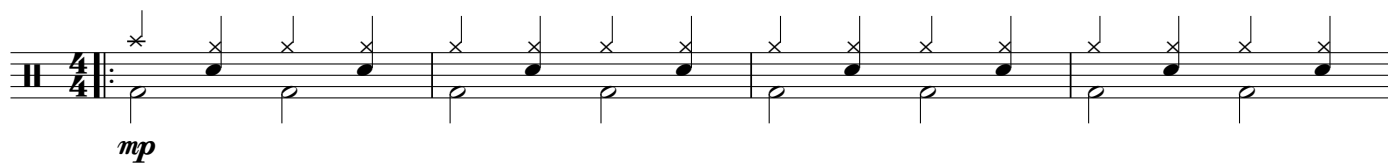
Quarter Notes on the Ride Cymbal in 3/4 Time.

COUNT OUT LOUD



12-Bar Blues

COUNT OUT LOUD



Playing a FOUR-MEASURE PHRASE in 2/4 Time.

Play the drum beat three times, then play the quarter-note FILL on the snare drum. This is an example of a FOUR-MEASURE PHRASE. Repeat that over and over again, until it becomes comfortable. Then, play each line two times on the hi-hat (hold it closed with your left foot) then two times on the ride, without stopping until that becomes comfortable. Finally, play the whole page without stopping (each line 2X on the hi-hat, 2X on the ride).

COUNT OUT LOUD (2X Hi-Hat / 2X Ride)

The image shows seven musical staves, numbered 1 through 7, for drum practice in 2/4 time. Each staff contains a four-measure phrase. The first two measures are marked with *mf* (mezzo-forte) and the last two measures with *f* (forte). Above the staves are counts: '1' for measures 1 and 3, and '2' for measures 2 and 4. Above measure 4 of each staff is a '1' with a downward arrow indicating a snare drum fill. The phrase is repeated twice on each staff.

Playing a FOUR-MEASURE PHRASE in 4/4 Time (Snare on 2 and 4).

COUNT OUT LOUD
(2X Hi-Hat / 2X Ride)

The image displays seven staves of drum notation, each representing a four-measure phrase in 4/4 time. The notation is organized into two groups of four measures each, with a final measure in the second group. The first group of four measures is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and the second group is marked *f* (forte). The notation includes snare, hi-hat, and ride patterns, with counts (1-4) indicating the sequence of strokes. The first measure of each phrase is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The second measure is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The third measure is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The fourth measure is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The notation is organized into two groups of four measures each, with a final measure in the second group. The first group of four measures is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and the second group is marked *f* (forte). The notation includes snare, hi-hat, and ride patterns, with counts (1-4) indicating the sequence of strokes. The first measure of each phrase is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The second measure is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The third measure is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke. The fourth measure is marked with a snare drum (H) and a hi-hat (H) stroke.

1 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

2 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

3 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

4 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

5 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

6 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

7 *mf* 1 2 3 4 *f* 1 2 3 4 1

Playing a FOUR-MEASURE PHRASE in 3/4 Time.

COUNT OUT LOUD
(2X Hi-Hat / 2X Ride)

The image displays seven musical staves, each representing a four-measure phrase in 3/4 time. Each staff is numbered 1 through 7. The notation includes a treble clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a repeat sign at the end of each phrase. The first measure of each phrase is marked with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic, and the fourth measure is marked with a *f* (forte) dynamic. The notes are quarter notes, and the rests are half notes. The fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, and 3 above the notes. The first three measures of each phrase are identical, and the fourth measure is a single quarter note. The staves are arranged vertically, and the notes are written on a single line for each staff.

1 *mf* *f*

2 *mf* *f*

3 *mf* *f*

4 *mf* *f*

5 *mf* *f*

6 *mf* *f*

7 *mf* *f*