

Eighth-Note Rock Beat

The 4/4 eighth-note rock beat is the foundational drum feel used in rock, pop and many other styles of music. Learning this beat along with some simple variations will equip you to get started on playing most well known songs in many musical genres. As well as being a very useful beat to know, it is also a useful exercise for practicing skills such as reading, counting, stick and foot technique and four-way co-ordination.

Eighth-Note Rock Beat

Count out and play each exercise below at a slow, steady tempo, repeat 4 times then move on to the next. Remember to count as you play - this is the secret to developing a strong sense of meter and timing. When complete, repeat all exercises at a slightly faster tempo.

With Metronome
Play at ♩ = 60. Repeat all EXs at ♩ = 80

EX 1-5* Building The Beat

EX 1- Count & Hi-Hat Part

EX 2- Hi-Hat & Bass Drum Part

EX 4- Full Beat

EX 5- Variation "Four On The Floor"