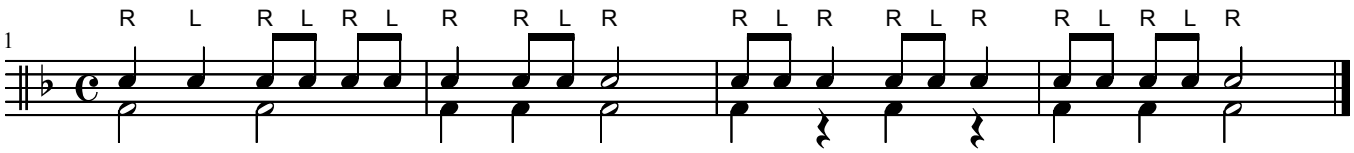
SNARE & BASS DRUMS

INTRO LESSON



Snare Drum Grip

* Lightly grip the stick approxmately 2/3 down from the tip
* Place thumb directly opposite the first knuckle of the index finger
* Wrap the rest of your fingers around the shaft
* The back of the hand should face the ceiling
* The stick should exit the back of the hand on the fleshy part of the palm
* Wrists should be straight and relaxed
* Sticks should form a 90 degree angle (approximately)

Snare Drum Stroke

* Primarily a wrist motion
* Stick should move straight up and down by bending the wrist
* Allow the stick to rebound off the head comfortably

Sticking Choice

* The sticking listed above is based on a Natural Sticking approach
* The right hand (dominant hand) is used on the "stronger" beats
* Allows for consistency in sound and pattern repetition

Bass Drum Approach

* The bass drum should be tilted at approximately a 45 degree angle
* Stand behind the drum with the mallet in your right hand
* Play slightly below the center of the drum
* The mallet should be parallel with the drum head when striking
* Use a wrist motion (like snare drum) to strike the head
* The left hand should be positioned near the top of the drum head and used to muffle the drum on rests