

Syncopated High Hat Exercises for Jazz

Using the high hat to syncopate your groove adds a new element to your sound. These ideas complicate the rhythm so use them sparingly. Since the high hat no longer maintains the backbeat, make sure you pulse the ride pattern on 2 and 4. Play the high hat heel-up. Learn each pattern then play them 4X each, 2X, then straight through. Close the book and play, then write out one page of your ideas in your notebook.

The exercises are organized as follows:

- Staff 1: 4 bars of exercise.
- Staff 2: 4 bars of exercise.
- Staff 3: 2-bar exercise (2 bars).
- Staff 4: 4 bars of exercise.
- Staff 5: 1-bar exercise (1 bar).
- Staff 6: 2-bar exercise (2 bars).