

Ghost Notes

Pt.1 - Rock "8-Beat" Feel



The following exercises are designed to help you incorporate ghost notes into your playing. Ghost notes are quiet, subtle notes that can be added to grooves and fills to "thicken" your sound. They can add another dimension to your drumming by creating "texture" and "flow".

Unlike grace notes which are the quiet notes used, for example, in flams and drags, ghost notes have an exact placement in time that can be clearly notated.

Using a really simple 4/4 "8-Beat" rock groove let's start working on some different ghost note placements. Once you've developed the necessary techniques and coordination, to play ghost notes in this basic rock feel, you can of course work on adding ghosts into more complex grooves and in different genres.

The image contains 14 numbered musical exercises, each on a single staff in 4/4 time. Each exercise shows a drum groove with ghost notes indicated by 'x' marks above the notes. The exercises are arranged in two columns of seven.

- Exercise 1:** A simple rock groove with ghost notes on the first and third beats.
- Exercise 2:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second and fourth beats.
- Exercise 3:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the first and second beats.
- Exercise 4:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second and third beats.
- Exercise 5:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the first, second, and third beats.
- Exercise 6:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second, third, and fourth beats.
- Exercise 7:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the first, second, and fourth beats.
- Exercise 8:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second, third, and first beats of the next measure.
- Exercise 9:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the first, second, and fourth beats of the next measure.
- Exercise 10:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second, third, and fourth beats of the next measure.
- Exercise 11:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the first, second, and third beats of the next measure.
- Exercise 12:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second, third, and fourth beats of the next measure.
- Exercise 13:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the first, second, and third beats of the next measure.
- Exercise 14:** Similar to exercise 1, but with ghost notes on the second, third, and fourth beats of the next measure.



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