

Paradiddle-diddle - Linear Grooves



In this lesson we're going to transform a paradiddle-diddle into a linear groove. In drumming the term "linear" refers to a pattern where no two limbs are playing at the same time. Although each hand is played separately in the paradiddle-diddle, drummers tend to reserve the term "linear" for patterns that incorporate hands and feet.

First of all let's play a paradiddle-diddle as 16th note triplets in 4/4 time...

● Ex.1

R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L

● Ex.2 Next, move all your right hand notes to the hi-hat...

R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L L

● Ex.3 To form a groove two things are going to change...
1) We're going to add in a bass drum on beats 1 & 3,
2) We'll replace our hi-hat on beats 2 & 4 with a snare hit (still with our right hand).

R/K L R R L L R L R R L L R/K L R R L L R L R R L L

● Ex.4 Now all we need to do, in order to make this groove linear, is remove the hi-hat notes which coincide with the bass drum...


K L R R L L R L R R L L K L R R L L R L R R L L

● This linear groove can also be played leading with your left hand. Have a go working back through the last four exercises with a left lead paradiddle-diddle. (i.e. left hand on the hi-hat)

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On this page we're going to play around with our linear paradiddle-diddle groove to create some more advanced patterns. As we move different notes on to our bass drum and around the kit, notice that our sticking is still based on the original paradiddle-diddle.

 To play along with the backing track play four times each of Ex.s 5 - 10.

● Ex.5

K L R R L K R L R R L K K L R K L L R L R R L L

● Ex.6

K L R R L K R L R R K K R L R R L K R L R R L L

● Ex.7

K L R R L L R L R R L L R L R K L L R K R R L L

● Ex.8

K L R K L K R L R R L L R L K K L L R L R R L L

● Ex.9

K L R R L L R L R R L K K L R R L L R L R R L L

● Ex.10

K L R R L L R L R R L L K L R R L K R L K K L L