

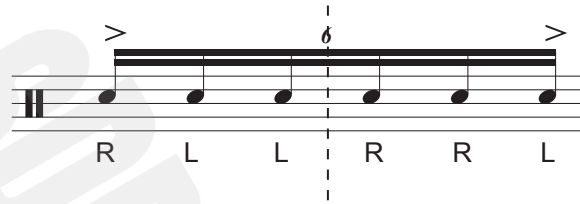
The Six Stroke Roll

Part 3: Split In Half



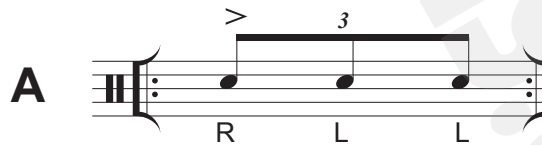
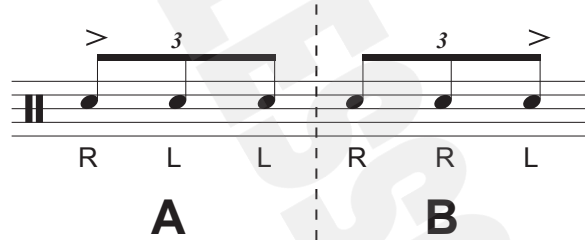
In this part we're going to split our "evenly spaced" six stroke roll (from part 2) in half. This will give us two smaller, three note, stickings which can be combined in different ways to create musical phrases.

Here's our roll from part 2, the dotted line shows how we're going to divide it up.



● Ex.1

Let's call the first half "A" and the second "B", and for simplicity I've changed the notes to 8th note triplets.



● Using a metronome, repeat the "A" & "B" stickings until they feel easy to play. Once you can play them fluently begin moving the notes to different voices on your drumset.



● Ex.2

This exercise involves playing four lots of “A” followed by four lots of “B” to create two 4/4 bars. The accents are moving to different drums while the ghosts notes remain on the snare.

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

> 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 >

● Ex.3

You can create lots of nice sounding phrases by mixing up the “A” & “B” stickings. Below are a few examples. I've written each phrase for snare drum, but as usual you should experiment by voicing the notes all over your drumset.

A B B B

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

> 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 >

B A B A

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

> 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 >

A B A A

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

> 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 >

A B B A

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

> 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 >



● Ex.4

Of course we don't have to keep our phrases in 4/4 time. Here are a few odd time phrases, one in 3/4 and a couple in 5/4, each with an appropriate foot pattern added underneath.

B B A

R R L R R L R L L
3 > 3 > > 3
3 3

B B A A A

R R L R R L R L L R L L R L L
3 > 3 > > 3 > 3 > 3
3 3

A B B B A

R L L R R L R R L R R L R L L
> 3 > 3 > 3 > 3 > 3
3 3



● **Ex.5**

It's also fun to practice odd time phrases **across** bars of 4/4. This can be a really useful “tool” for creating interesting sounding rhythms in your fills, solos or even grooves.

Playing a 3/4 phrase across 4/4 time will take three bars to resolve.

For example here's **A B B...**

Playing a 5/4 phrase across 4/4 time will take five bars to resolve.

Here's **B B A A A** as an example...



Ex.6 (backing track available: "six-stroke-roll-pt3-funk-swing")

Now for some 16th note triplet fill ideas, in a funky 4/4 context.

1) *groove...*

A A A A A A A A

2) *groove...*

B B B B B B B B

3) *groove...*

A A B B A A B B

4) *groove...*

B A A B B A A B



Ex.7 (backing track available: "six-stroke-roll-pt3-straight")

Finally, here are a few 16th note fills made up of the "A" & "B" stickings.

In a 4/4 bar we can play five, three note groups of 16th notes. This then leaves one final 16th note which we're going to play as a right hand accent.

1)

2)

3)

4)