

# Advanced Hi-Hat Patterns

## FOUR-LIMB GROOVES INCORPORATING THE LEFT FOOT

by Andy Shoniker

**W**e drummers tend to overlook our hi-hat foot. The exercises in this article are designed not only to improve your hi-hat foot in terms of control, speed, and endurance, but also to act as a great four-limb independence exercise.

The concept is simple. Start by taking a common pattern that you'd play on the hi-hat or ride cymbal, like 8th notes, and then add your hi-hat foot underneath, playing all of the positions of the 16th note. Here are those 16th-note fragments.

MUSIC KEY	
H.H.	⊗ R.C.
S.D.	● (●)
B.D.	⊗
H.H.	⊗ Ghost Note
w/ foot	Note

On top of those patterns, play various kick and snare combinations. Here are seven possible rhythms. Notice that they get more involved and syncopated as they go along.

Here are some groove examples that weave all the elements together. The hi-hat foot becomes busier as you go along. Example 7 consists of a 3/16 pattern between the ride and hi-hat, which creates a four-over-three polyrhythm. It's a great independence workout that also makes for a cool-sounding groove.

7

8

9

10

11

Once you get a handle on the basic concept and you've mastered all the patterns from these examples, experiment and come up with your own ideas.



**Andy Shoniker** is a professional musician living in Toronto. He is a graduate of Berklee College Of Music and endorses Mapex drums, Paiste cymbals, Vater sticks, and Evans heads. For more information, go to [andyshoniker.com](http://andyshoniker.com).



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