

A Cool Tom Groove With A Tribal Vibe

By Alex Ribchester

This is a nice little idea in with a tribal feel to it. It sounds cool and comes to life when you add the kick drum on the quater notes. There are snippets of polyrhythms going on at times, which makes the groove a little more challenging. The first thing you want to do is get the hand pattern down. Feel free to move the sticking pattern around the kit, as I am sure it will sound cool when used with more toms. For more advanced players, try applying a samba rhythm with the feet underneath the hand pattern.

Here is the pattern played with the hands. Take your time to internalise the pattern before you move on to the next exercise.

T = Both hands played together/ at the same time.

R = Right hand

L = Left hand

T R L R T R L R T T T R L R T R L R T R

In this groove, we are adding quater note kick drums underneath the hand pattern.

Try adding your left foot and get the hi hat going. In this example both feet are playing together, but you can play 8th notes with the left foot for a bit of a challenge

In this exercise we are going to play a samba pattern with the feet at the same time as the hand pattern, giving us a cool sounding polyrhythm. Enjoy!