

Part 4:

Sick Odd Meter Double Bass Grooves

Playing in 7 "Expanded"

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*Still Counting in 7 dudes

*Cut off four feel

*When to count and when not to count these methods

Counting relates directly to grouping because you must count the grouped patterns in order to keep your groupings in check. Once you get a good grasp of counting the smaller grouped pulsations like the 2+2+3 examples, you can then start counting a cut off four feel which will be explained. Please note: if you get lost with any of the terms please take a look at the terminology reference sheet which, can be obtained from my first lesson "Reading Basics" featured in Sick Drummer's fifth issue.

#1) Using the same grooves from part 3 we are going to focus on keeping the feel of the grouping patterns while counting in different ways. For Ex1 we have a grouping of 2+2+3 but now we are going to count with a "cut off four feel". A cut off four feel is defined as the name itself. You count a basic four count but cut off the last count the "and" of four.

ATTN:
Always count out loud in the PRACTICE ROOM!!!!

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 etc.....

♩=120

Drum Set

#2) This 7/8 groove uses the grouping pattern of 3+2+2 but now just as Ex1 we are going to count with the cut off four feel. Notice how your approach might change by analyzing that the snare lands on the "ands" of beats 2 and 3.

♩=120

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 etc.....

#3) Now we are going to count this 2+3+2 grouped groove with the cut off four feel but with out the "ands". Counting the cut off four feel without the "ands" helps when performing very fast grooves or fills in 7.

♩=120

Try this method on the previous grooves to challenge yourself!!! If you have trouble at first then start with the "ands" and then drop them out when you get comfortable. Make up your own grooves too!

Count: 1 2 3 4 etc.....

Brief discussion and overview: WHY ARE WE ANALYZING ALL OF THESE METHODS OF COUNTING?

Because it's fun that's why!!!! Also, it just helps your overall approach and understanding with playing in 7 and once you can fluidly count these exercises and others then you won't even have to count anymore. As a matter of fact the more you think now the less you'll have to later. **B.T.W.** All of the concepts with counting in 7 can easily be adapted to any other time signature.

When to count and when not to count these methods? Typically the more you practice counting then the more natural it will become. You'll actually start noticing "OVERTIME" that your counting without even realizing it and hey that's ok!:) That's our role as a drummer anyway to be a counting machine, ha ha. Seriously though, you'll never count out loud during live performances (except maybe the epic 4 count before songs but if you count during practices, you will be internalizing your own internal clock and that's the goal.

I hope to see you in the next issue!!!!!!

*Coming next: Sick Odd Meter Double Bass Grooves
Playing in 5*