

PART ONE:

Reading Basics 101

*Quarter notes and rests

*The staff and what to play

The Importance of Reading

by Paul Wandtke

We'll start the basics of reading with quarter notes and they will be notated for a standard five-piece drum set so you can begin learning the rhythms and how they look on the staff. Please note: Drum set notation may vary from time to time depending on the drummer's set up, but be assured that this is a great start. Also, if you get confused or are not sure of any of the notation terminology that's discussed, then please refer to the "terminology reference sheet" and the matching video lessons.

ALWAYS count quarter notes as "1 2 3 4"

Notice the repeat sign:
It means to play this four bar phrase twice.

#1) Quarter notes on the snare
To be played with alternating lead

♩ = 120

Ghosted Snare hits

Snare rim click
played with one hand only

#2) Quarter notes on the Bass drum

"R" equals right foot and "L" equals left foot and it doesn't matter if you have two kick drums or use a doublepedal.

#3) Quarters on the toms

#4) Quarters on the Hi hat and Ride

There are many different sound sources on the hi-hat but usually a drum score will specify.

#5) Crashes, China and more Cowbell!!!!!!

#6) Quarter note rests

You simply do not play when you read quarter notes