

Combining Subdivisions

Let's take these note groupings and play them on the hi hat as beats and fills. First, play through each measure.

The image shows nine measures of musical notation for a hi-hat. Each measure is numbered 1 through 9. Measures 1-4 are grouped together, measures 5-7 are grouped together, and measures 8-9 are grouped together. Each measure contains a sequence of eighth notes, some with stems pointing up and some with stems pointing down, representing different rhythmic subdivisions.

Then, orchestrate each measure as a beat and fill. Play them in four measure phrases (3 beats and 1 fill). Feel free to change up the bass and snare patterns and to play the fills around the drum set. Here is measure number 1.

The image shows measure 1 of the exercise, which is the first measure from the previous block. It is presented as a four-measure phrase. The first three measures are marked with 'x' symbols on the hi-hat line, indicating they are to be played as beats. The fourth measure contains the original note grouping from the previous block, indicating it is to be played as a fill.

Now write out the rest of the measures as beats and fills on a separate sheet of paper. (Click [here](#) for a link to staff paper you can use.)

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And finally we are going to combine the quarter partials of the measures above to come up with syncopated and interesting beats and fills. (We will also include single quarter notes, eighth notes, sixteenth notes in the combinations.)

The image displays four staves of musical notation, each illustrating a different rhythmic combination of subdivisions. The notation includes notes, rests, and 'x' marks indicating specific rhythmic patterns. Above each staff, numbers indicate the number of subdivisions in each measure.

- Staff 1:** Shows two measures. The first measure has subdivisions of 4, 2, and 1. The second measure has subdivisions of 4, 2, and 1. The notes are quarter notes, and there are 'x' marks above the notes.
- Staff 2:** Shows two measures. The first measure has subdivisions of 3, 6, and 4. The second measure has subdivisions of 3, 6, and 4. The notes are quarter notes, and there are 'x' marks above the notes.
- Staff 3:** Shows two measures. The first measure has subdivisions of 1, 4, and 2. The second measure has subdivisions of 1, 4, and 2. The notes are quarter notes, and there are 'x' marks above the notes.
- Staff 4:** Shows two measures. The first measure has subdivisions of 8 and 3. The second measure has subdivisions of 8 and 3. The notes are quarter notes, and there are 'x' marks above the notes.

These are just a few of the possible combinations. Write out some other ones on the previous page where you wrote out the first ones.