

# “REVERSE FILL” PATTERNS

Here is a standard “round the toms” drum fill -



As usual in these kinds of patterns, we are leading with the right hand (left hand for left-handed players, who should reverse the stickings throughout), and playing around the kit, from left-to-right (snare drum through to floor tom).

Now, however, we're going to allow the weaker hand (left hand - or right hand, for left-handers) to take the lead in these fills now, by playing the patterns in reverse. Instead of always moving left-to-right around the drumkit, we'll start at the floor tom, and move from right-to-left, up to the snare drum, instead. Like this -



In order to practise leading with your weaker hand - and keeping the single strokes sounding even and regular, no matter which hand is leading - use this exercise, where the lead hand swaps every bar. Notice the double rights, and double lefts, at the end of each bar, to facilitate the “turnaround” from right hand leading to left hand leading, and back again!



Here is another common fill pattern - again, leading with the right hand, and moving around the drums from left-to-right.



And again, here is the same fill, but written out "backwards" - leading with the left hand, and moving from right-to-left around the drumkit. Note that you will finish the fill on your right hand, so if you're going back into a groove after the fill, you will need to begin (with the crash cymbal on beat one) with your left hand!



And as before, of course, we can turn this fill into an exercise to practise swapping lead hands as well. This is a double paradiddle phrasing (RL-RL-RR LR-LR-LL) which allows you to go 'round the drumkit in both directions.

