

Drumkit Notation Key

Compiled by: N. Thompson

Cymbals

Crash Splash/Crash 2 China/Crash 3 Ride Ride Bell Ride Bell (ver 2) Hi Hat Open Hi Hat Closed Hi Hat Hi Hat foot w/ foot splash

Abr: Cr. cym Spl. cym FX China R.C. Bell Dome H.H. Open H.H.

Drums

Snare Drum Snare Ghost Note Sn. Ghost Note Cross Stick or Rim Click Bass Drum or Kick Drum Tom-Toms (Toms) (Floor Toms)

S.D. Sn.Dr. B.D. B.D.(2) Left T.T. F.T.

Effects

Cymbal Roll Snare Roll Flam Buzz Stroke Cymbal Choke (Choke) Tom Rims

N.B.: In general, note stems face downward when they are played by the feet and upward when they are played by the hands. However, it is possible to combine all the members together in as a kind of percussive "chord." This method is especially useful for writing beats and is commonly used in *Modern Drummer* magazine.

Sample Beats

"Walk This Way" - Aerosmith "I Got You (I Feel Good)" - James Brown

"La Bamba" - Ritchie Valens "One" - Metallica

6 6 6 6

Drumkit Notation Key

2

"Mack The Knife" - Bobby Darin

"Californication" - Red Hot Chili Peppers

Swing

Rock

Musical notation for two drum patterns. The first pattern, labeled 'Swing', is for 'Mack The Knife' and features a steady eighth-note rhythm with occasional accents and a '2' marking. The second pattern, labeled 'Rock', is for 'Californication' and features a more complex eighth-note pattern with accents and a triplet of eighth notes.

"She Loves You" - The Beatles

Musical notation for 'She Loves You' by The Beatles, showing a drum pattern with eighth notes, accents, and a triplet of eighth notes.

Sample Drum Fills

Motown Cliché

OR - this and other variants

Musical notation for a Motown Cliché drum fill, featuring a sequence of eighth notes with accents and a final triplet.

80s Cliché 1

80s Cliché 2

Musical notation for two 80s Cliché drum fills. Cliché 1 consists of four groups of eighth notes, each marked with a '3' for a triplet. Cliché 2 is a more complex eighth-note pattern.

Disco Cliché

"I Will Survive" - Gloria Gaynor

Rock-Pop Ballad

"November Rain" - Guns n' Roses

"My Heart Will Go On" - Céline Dion

Musical notation for two drum patterns. The first, 'Disco Cliché', features eighth notes with accents and '+' markings. The second, 'Rock-Pop Ballad', features eighth notes with accents and a final asterisk marking.

Rock Cliché

"Rock n' Roll, Hoochie Koo" - Rick Derringer

Rock Build-Up/Crescendo + Beat

Musical notation for two drum patterns. The first, 'Rock Cliché', features eighth notes with accents and asterisk markings. The second, 'Rock Build-Up/Crescendo + Beat', features a sequence of eighth notes with accents and asterisk markings, followed by a crescendo leading to a final beat. Dynamics markings 'mf' and 'f' are shown below the notation.