

Paradiddle Power - part 1

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The Paradiddle is possibly the most famous, usefull and misunderstood rudiment. It's not just about rlrll, it's designed to build control over dynamics. It doesn't just describe a sticking pattern, it also describes a movement - and who ever said it should to be restricted to the hands?!!

The following 4 patterns consist of accented 8th notes on the hihat, and one of the 4 paradiddle inversions played between kick & snare.

Pay *careful* attention to the dynamics. Your snare ghost notes should be a whisper and your accents should be cracking!

Single	Reverse
1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a
pa ra di ddle pa ra di ddle	di ddle pa ra di ddle pa ra
Inward	Outward
1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a
ra di ddle pa ra di ddle pa	ddle pa ra di ddle pa ra di

The following breakdown is an excellent approach to achieving the above patterns with a strong sense of groove and fluidity. I've used the single paradiddle in this example.

Practice each bar until you can play it at *least* 4 times **perfectly** (with accents) then move to the next bar.

1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a
1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a	1 e + a 2 e + a