

Linear Sextuplets

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Want to spice up your fills? Here we go! The term 'linear' means to not play more than one instrument on the kit at a time, ie. the opposite of layering. Start by playing the following permutation exercise. Pay careful attention to the stickings and the tricky changes in the last 2 bars!

(You may want to leave out the hihats at first but don't forget to try putting them in once you're starting to get comfortable.)

Enjoy*

The first staff shows a sequence of eight bars in 4/4 time. The first four bars feature a sextuplet of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL. The last four bars feature a sextuplet of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, LRLRLR, LRLRLR, and LRLRLR. The second staff shows a sequence of eight bars in 4/4 time. The first four bars feature a sextuplet of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL. The last four bars feature a sextuplet of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, LRLRLR, LRLRLR, and LRLRLR. The third staff shows a sequence of eight bars in 4/4 time. The first four bars feature a sextuplet of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL. The last four bars feature a sextuplet of eighth notes with stickings LRLRLR, LRLRLR, LRLRLR, and LRLRLR.

Try playing time and the combining the above examples to form more interesting ideas, for example...

The notation shows a sequence of eight bars in 4/4 time. The first four bars feature a pattern of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL. The last four bars feature a pattern of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL.

Spice this kind of idea up even more by orchestrating it around the kit in a more musical way...

The notation shows a sequence of eight bars in 4/4 time. The first four bars feature a pattern of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL. The last four bars feature a pattern of eighth notes with stickings RLRLRL, RLRLRL, RLRLRL, and RLRLRL.

... or by using longer phrases...

... or by combining with other fill ideas, like the 6 stroke roll....

...the possibilities are endless!

KEY

Snare Drum 1st Tom 2nd Tom Floor Tom Bass Drum Hi Hat (played with foot)