

The second way of orchestrating our basic '4444' fill is to place the first hit of each group on a tom. The first hit of each group of four is always a right hand, and you can choose which tom you want to hit, or even hit different toms each time. In the below notation, the high tom is always played:



Try playing the same fill after one bar of a simple groove. Make sure you are entering and exiting the fill cleanly and without pausing:



The second fill is '6262'. Interpreting those numbers in the same fashion gives us the following orchestration. Again, feel free to let your right hand wander around the toms:



If we prefix the above fill with one bar of simple time:



Finally, this is what the '33334' fill looks like when orchestrated using the framework we used for the above two fills. Notice that now, because of the odd note groupings, your left hand is hitting a tom on certain beats:

Sticking: R l r L r l R l r L r l R l r l



Try that with a groove:



With all these fills, make sure that you are able to play them seamlessly within a groove context, switching between groove/fill without speeding up/slowing down.

These fill ideas are taken from the Drumsense Teaching Syllabus. Visit their website at Drumsense.com