

# 10

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## Performing a Song



## Following a Drum Chart

You have learned so much in these 9 lessons, it is time to start putting it all into practice by playing a song.

This lesson focuses on playing a song, whilst following the music from a **drum chart**. A drum chart, **or drum guide**, is the music **session drummers** are given to follow when they are asked to perform a tune, be it **live**, or in a **recording session**.

To do this though we need to prepare ourselves.

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## Understanding the Chart

Let's go through the chart together step by step looking at each bit and understanding what this chart is asking us to do.

### STEP ONE

The first thing you will see is the name of the tune '*The First Time*' and the name of the **composer**. The title is the important one, as if you had a number of songs to play it is essential that you play the correct one!

### STEP TWO

At the top left hand side before the tune starts you will see the note, '4 Clicks'. This means that you will hear four **clicks** before the tune starts. This will help count you into the song.

### STEP THREE

Next is the **time signature** 'C' which is the sign for **common time** and means there are 4 beats in each bar. This is familiar territory for you.

Now, you may have noticed that just before the time signature is the beginning of a repeat, as there is the sign we looked at in *Lesson 6*. This is a good time to look for the end of the repeat and make a note.

The end repeat is actually at the end of *Bar 6 (bar 12)*, so you therefore play *Verse 1* twice.

### Lesson Objectives

- Introduce a piece of music to be played on the drums.
- Follow a **drum chart**.
- Apply the learning points developed in *Lessons 1-9* focusing on:
  1. Groove playing
  2. Time keeping
  3. Playing fills
  4. Reading
  5. Phrasing
  6. Using repeats

#### STEP FOUR

Now, what do we actually play? Well, the first thing you play is a standard eighth note rock groove, with a crash cymbal on the first beat of the **verse**. That should be straight forward, but just play a couple of bars to get you in the feel of it.

#### STEP FIVE

So you have the first verse played twice and you then move into the **chorus**, with a cymbal crash to denote the new section. The groove is the same in the chorus as it is in the verse. Now at *Bar 16* there is a simple fill to play. This is straight out of *Lesson 4*, so familiar territory, but a little tricky now it is in the middle of a song. Listen to the music though and you will hear that it follows the rhythm played by the band.

The same thing happens again at *Bar 20* to lead you into *Verse 2*, at *Bar 21*.

#### STEP SIX

OK, so there are three things at the beginning of *Bar 21* to note.

- Firstly, it is the same groove again.
- Secondly, there is the beginning of another repeat.
- Thirdly, the cymbal is crashed, again to denote a new section. You may wish to practise this bit. *Lesson 9* will help you if you are having trouble.

So the end of the repeat needs to be noted so we know when we have to return to *Bar 21*. Like *Verse 1*, the repeat means that you play the verse twice and the sign confirming this is at the end of *Bar 27*. You will also begin to hear the verse as a musical section, after a couple of run-throughs.

#### STEP SEVEN

*Chorus 2*. Pretty much the same as *Chorus 1*, save for the fact the simple fills have been replaced by tougher phrases. Now, they will need to be rehearsed, so I would find the bars on the DrumXtractor and practise them round and round so that you can play them. Phrasing is covered in *Lessons 7 and 8*.

## STEP EIGHT

Once you have got this far it is pretty much plain sailing through to the end. *Verse 3* is just 6 bars long and the seventh bar (*Bar 47*) has just one thing in it... a crash cymbal on *Beat 1*. As usual you hit the bass drum underneath, but this is a new note for you. All you need to know for now is that it is a whole note and is worth 4 beats. Simply crash the cymbal on *Beat 1* and let it ring for a bar. That's the end.

At the bottom of the Chart you will see the word FINE. This means Finished... the end.

## STEP NINE

Now, I would suggest that you watch and listen to the multimedia files and follow the drum chart through a couple of times.

Once you have done that have a go yourself. You can play with the drums or mute the drummer on the track so that you can play on your own.

Remember to:

1. Concentrate.
2. Count.
3. Look at the chart as you play.
4. Cycle the difficult bits and practise them.
5. Slow it down to a tempo you can play and read at.
6. Have fun.

# The First Time

4 Clicks

## Verse 1

1 (7)

2 3

4 5 6 (12)

## Chorus 1

13 14 15 16

Fill

17 18 19 20

Fill

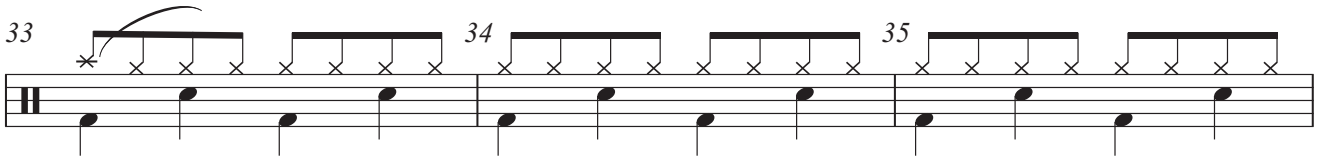
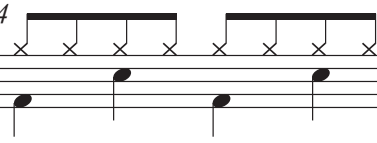
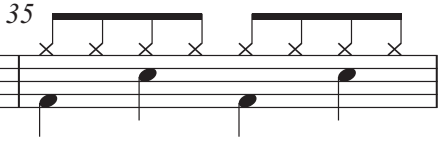
## Verse 2

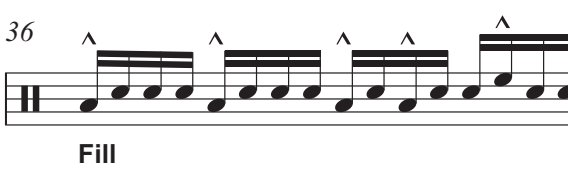
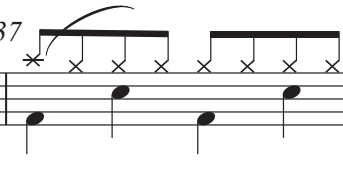
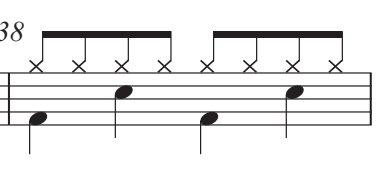
21 (27)

22 23

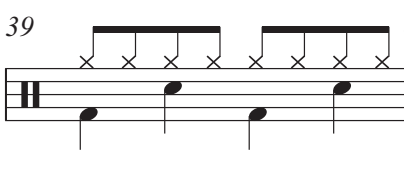
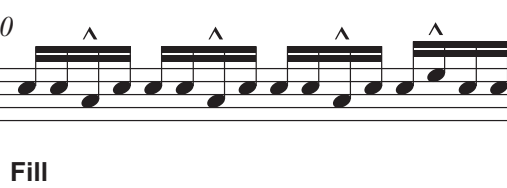
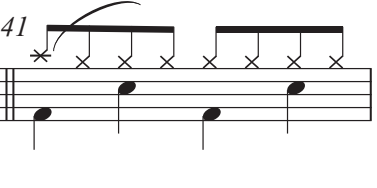
24 25 26 (32)

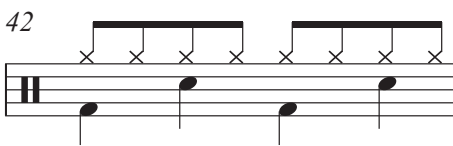
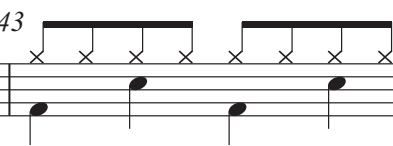
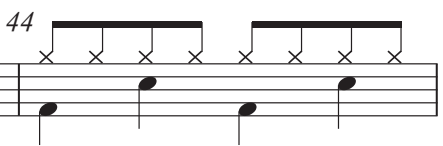
**Chorus 2**


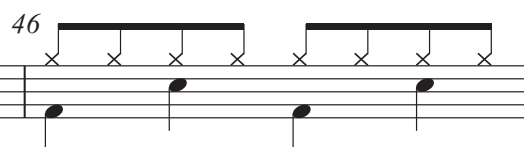
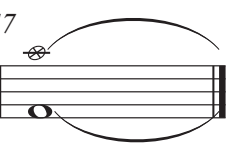
33  34  35 

36  37  38   
**Fill**

**Verse 3**

39  40  41   
**Fill**

42  43  44 

45  46  47   
**Fine**