

# INTRO TO 8<sup>th</sup> BEAT

## 8<sup>th</sup> BEAT

If you want to be a successful drummer, the first step is to master the 8<sup>th</sup> beat technique. It's the foundation for many of the drum beats you will encounter in popular music and is found in numerous songs from the 60s through today.

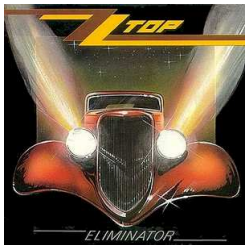
This technique gets its name because every stroke of the groove falls directly in-line with the 8<sup>th</sup> notes being played on the hi-hat. If you find yourself playing a bass or snare stroke that isn't in sync with the hi-hat, you're playing it incorrectly.

### Ostinato [os-ti-nah-toh]

An ostinato is the part of the groove that repeats over and over. All 8<sup>th</sup> beat grooves share the 8<sup>th</sup> note ostinato played with the right stick or the left stick if you're playing left-handed (see below).

### Popular 8<sup>th</sup> Beat Groove Examples

The "Mother Of All Rock Beats" from page 5 was your first 8<sup>th</sup> beat. To continue exploring 8<sup>th</sup> beat grooves, here are two popular songs also using this technique. These grooves are used in many songs from the 60s through today, but here are a few examples. Remember to consider the learning techniques explained in *Lesson 1* as you try to play these.



#### Sharp Dressed Man (verse & chorus)

ZZ Top (1983)

This groove is also used in *Take A Walk*—Passion Pit (2012) at 101 bpm.



#### Take It Easy (chorus)

The Eagles (1972)

This groove is also used in *All I Want*—Toad The Wet Sprocket (1992) at 125 bpm.

8<sup>th</sup> rest. Do not strike the bass drum on a rest.