Big band figure builder Using Syncopation lesson 4 (pp. 10-11 original edition)

Play ex. 1-15 applying each of the following interpretations. Swing the 8th notes.

Todd Bishop www.pdxdrummer.com shipdrummer.blogspot.com

As written (Ex. 3):



1. Hands together on snare and tom, with HH on 2 and 4, no bass drum:



2. Tie the last 8th note to the following quarter note. Accent the tied note throughout this exercise.



3. Play tied note on cymbal and SD:



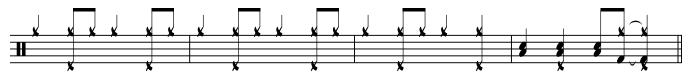
4. Play tied note on cymbal and BD:



5. Play non-tied notes with alternating sticking, move to drums freely:



6. Play jazz time on first three measures of each line. Note that the last beat of time is a quarter note:



Or play time on measures 1 and 3 of each line:



7. Play time to beat 1 of the 'fill/kick' measure:



In this case, measures beginning with 8th notes will be played like this:



Special instructions:

When the tied note is on the '&' of 4, hold the note through beat one of the 'time' measure:



On measures ending with 8th notes, either play the 8ths directly into the time:



Or play another tied note on the '&' of 4:



Notes:

- If necessary, write in the ties in pencil.
- Practice exercises grouped according to the location of the tied note; for example, play in sequence all lines with tied notes on the '&' of 1.
- Try to give the drum portion of each exercise some dynamic shape; experiment with accents, crescendos.
- Experiment with embellishments and timbre on the drum portion; use rim shots, stick shots, flams, ruffs, etc.
- Look for examples of similar figures in big band charts or lead sheets.