

This is a Syncopation method for developing a solo idea in up tempo jazz. The primary lick is fast running singles between the hands and the bass drum- a popular, hip idea you can hear Tony Williams play on Miles Davis' Four and More, to name one example. We'll be filling out the measure with paradiddles.

Use Ted Reed's Syncopation, pp. 10-11:



How to interpret the 8th notes:

Ignoring the written bass drum part, fill in the e's and a's with the bass drum:

How to interpret the quarter notes:

For each quarter note, play a 16th note paradiddle:

So two measures of the above exercise would play like this:

Note that the sticking turns around in the second measure.

Add the hihat on the &'s:

Since the context is up tempo jazz, you'll need to mentally convert that to 8th notes:

So: a single 4 measure line in Syncopation equals 8 measures of uptempo jazz.

Play 2-4 measures of time between lines of exercises:

Which you'll want to count like this:

Notes:

- Play the ending 20 measure exercise straight through.
- Give the line some shape by selectively moving or omitting the accents.
- Move hands around the drums freely.
- Also use paradiddle inversions- RLLR LLRL, RRLR LLRL
- Practice tempos qtr=110-130, goal tempo qtr=150+.
- Play straight, non-swing 8th notes at all tempos.