



# Drumset FUNdamentals

Marshall Maley

Names of drummers you should know: Louie Bellson, Hal Blaine, Earl Palmer, Bernard Purdie, Gary Chester, Gene Krupa, Baby Dodds, Zutty Singleton, William Ludwig, Sr., and Dee Dee Chandler

## History

- Drumset began to evolve in the 1890s—the result of the popularity of John Philip Sousa’s music, the lack of enough drummers, the inclination of music contractors to hire too few drummers, the lack of space in orchestra pits for enough percussionists, and the emergence of urban music (especially from New Orleans)
- The New Orleans musicians changed the Sousa format of three drummers to two (a snare drummer and a bass drummer with cymbal); the second line rhythm with press rolls
- Double drumming emerged, where one drummer plays bass drum and snare drum using only his or her hands
- Drummers, therefore, began looking for ways to play the bass drum some other way. The bass drum pedal was the natural consequence. Dee Dee Chandler is generally considered the first to play with a pedal in the late 1880s or early 1890s.
- Once the bass drum pedal appeared, the drumset began to evolve. The Ludwig Drum Company got started when William Ludwig developed the first successful metal pedal.

## Music

The Sousa drum parts emphasized the upbeat and downbeat.



Sousa’s drummers actually played crush/press rolls accenting the upbeat.





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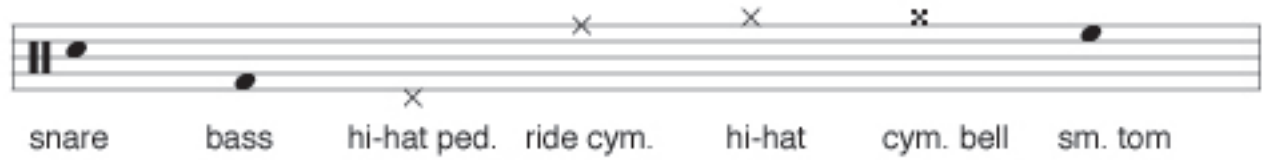
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The New Orleans drummers adopted the Sousa approach with a little “swing.”

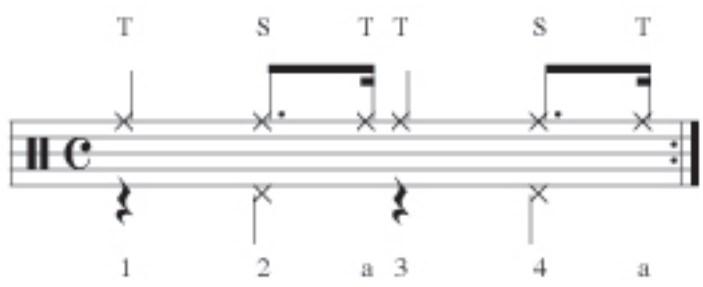


Time was played on the snare till the 1930s, when drummers began using cymbals like we use today.

Let's focus on how the cymbal and hi-hat work.



Jazz time



T = Tap, S = Stroke



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Dance music of the 1940s and 50s began to emphasize the backbeat on the snare drum.



By the 1960s, rock drumming as we know it emerged.

Rock time



or



Basic rock fill





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Four-bar phrase

Time Fill

Other common time patterns used in rock music.

12/8 time

Shuffle

