

## Lesson 2: My first DnB Beat

### About

This second lesson teaches the techniques and rhythm for the student to produce a drum and bass beat pattern. The student is taught how to make fast hi-hat patterns, is introduced to 16-beats, and the concept of auditory illusions - i.e. tricking the brain into thinking two sounds are happening simultaneously. They also learn the classic rimshot sound, a forced k (as in kangaroo) { K }.

### Lesson Aims

At the end of this lesson the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate the difference between an 8-beat and a **16-beat**.
- Explain how an **auditory illusion** is achieved to make the listener 'hear' two sounds at once.
- Make a simple drum and bass pattern utilising the fast hi-hats
- { t k } and **classic rimshot** { K }.

### How to use the material

Video Title: **Lesson 2: My first dNB beat**

Video Duration: **15½ minutes**

Link: <http://www.beatboxbible.com/learn/lesson-2/>

The video is divided into 8 sections. The whole lesson can be played continuously or paused after each section. The sections can also be played individually from the submenu.

For example: One idea for a lesson might be to play the whole video through, then play each subsection followed by the activities.

## 1. Quiet rimshot { k }

**Time** 1 min

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58903128>

**Summary** The { k } sound is not made breathing out and is k (for kangaroo). A rimshot is described

**Activity 1.1** Why is the { k } sound described as a plosive?

*(Answer: Because the sound is 'stopped' using the tongue and soft palate in the vocal tract.)*

**Activity 1.2** In standard beatbox notation we use the { - } symbol to show when no sound is made in a beat pattern.

So, in the following 8-beat pattern, there is no sound made on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> beats.

**{ B - k k / Psh - k k }**

Have a go at sounding this beat pattern. You may find it helpful to count in your head as you make the pattern: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8.

**Activity 1.3** The quiet rimshot { k } can be used instead of a hi-hat. Try the following 8-beat patterns, repeating each one twenty times:

1. { B k k k / Psh k k k }

2. { B k k k / Pf k k k }

3. { B k k k / Ps k k k }

4. { B k k k / Ph k k k }

## 2. Fast Hi-hats { t k }

**Time** 2 mins

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58903129>

**Summary** This video explains how the { t } sound can be alternated with a { k } sound to make a fast hi-hat pattern { t k }.

**Activity 2.1** Practice the following beat patterns – try each one 20 times:

1. { B - t k }
2. { Psh - t k }
3. { t k B - }
4. { t k Psh - }

### 3. The 16-beat

**Time** 2 mins

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58888737>

**Summary** A sixteen beat is sixteen sounds in a row.

**Activity 3.1** Learn the following 16-beat:

{ B t t t / Psh t t B / t t B t / Psh t t t }

First, try each pattern of four first:

1. { B t t t }
2. { Psh t t B }
3. { t t B t }
4. { Psh t t t }

Then, try combining the first two and the last two patterns of four:

1. { B t t t / Psh t t B }
2. { t t B t / Psh t t t }

Finally, try the whole beat pattern:

{ B t t t / Psh t t B / t t B t / Psh t t t }

**Activity 3.2** Try writing and performing your own 16-beat pattern:

{            /            /            /            }

## 4. Auditory Illusion

**Time** 3 mins

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58888738>

**Summary** In the same way that with an optical illusion, brain sees something different to the eye, the brain can also hear something different to the ear. This is called an **auditory illusion**.

**Activity 4.1** This kind of illusion works because the hi-hat is quieter than the kick drum and the snare drum. The brain thinks the hi-hat is being masked by the louder sounds.

Try making your own auditory illusion, by first, starting with the hi-hat and then building up the beat. For the greatest effect, make sure your kick drum and snare drum are much louder than your hi-hat.

Perform the following set of beat patterns, repeating each pattern twice before moving on to the next pattern. Remember, timing is everything, so try not to go too fast:

{ t t t t / t t t t }

{ t t Psh t / t t Psh t }

{ B t Psh t / t B Psh t }

{ t t Psh t / t t Psh t }

{ t t t t / t t t t }

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## 5. { B - t k / Psh - B - / t k B - / Psh - t k }

**Time** 2½ mins

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58888743>

**Summary** This is the first 16-beat pattern that uses the fast hi-hats { t k }.

**Activity 5.1** Practice the pattern by first breaking it down into four four-beat phrases:

1. { B - t k }
2. { Psh - B - }
3. { t k B - }
4. { Psh - t k }

Combine the first two four-beat phrases and the last two four-beat phrases and practice these:

1. { B - t k / Psh - B - }
2. { t k B - / Psh - t k }

Finally, try the whole beat pattern:

{ B - t k / Psh - B - / t k B - / Psh - t k }

Remember to start slowly – better to get the beat pattern in time but slowly rather than fast and out of time!

**Activity 5.2** Try writing your own 16-beat pattern that uses the fast hi-hats { t k }.

{ / / / }

## 6. Classic Rimshot { K }

**Time** 2 mins

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58903127>

**Summary** A rimshot uses a drumstick on the metal rim of a snare drum. The forced plosive { K } is called the Classic Rimshot because it sounds like the rimshot on early drum machines.

**Activity 6.1** The Classic Rimshot { K } can be used instead of the snare drum in 16-beat patterns. Try the following pattern. Again, you may wish to break it down and learn the pattern in four-beat phrases.

**{ B t t t / K t t B / t t B t / K t t t }**

**Activity 6.2** Now you have learned more sounds, you can try using multiple snare drums in a beat. Try performing the following patterns:

1. **{ B t t t / Psh t t B / t t B t / K t t t }**

2. **{ B t t t / K t t t / t t t t / Psh t t t }**

3. **{ K t t t / K t t K / t k t k / Psh t t t }**

4. **{ B t t B / K t t B / t B t B / Psh t t B }**

## 7. { B - t - / K - B - / t - K / t k t k }

**Time** 1 min

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58888741>

**Summary** This is the first beat pattern that uses both the unforced { k } and the forced { K }.

**Activity 7.1** Practice the beat pattern:

{ B - t - / K - B - / t - K / t k t k }

**Activity 7.2** It is difficult to quickly move between the { k } and { K } sounds. Try practicing the following patterns:

1. { k K k K / k K k K }

2. { k k K K / k k K K }

3. { k K k k / K k K K }

4. { B t k K / B t k K }

5. { B t K k / B t K k }



## 8. Breathing in a Beat { \* }

**Time** 2 mins

**Video** <https://vimeo.com/58888739>

**Summary** This lesson introduces the student to taking a breath on one of the beats in a 16-beat. The notation for a breath is { \* }.

**Activity 8.1** Practice the beat pattern from the video:

{ B - t - / K - B - / t - K / t k t k }

{ B - t - / K - B - / t - K / \* - - - }

**Activity 8.2** Often the beatboxer needs to take a breath on an 8<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> beat. Try the following patterns:

{ B t Psh B / t B Psh \* }

{ B t t t / Psh t t B / t t B t / Psh t t \* }