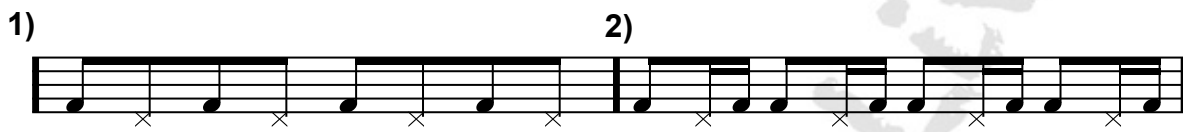


## How To Build A Drum Solo

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### 1) Soloing Over An Ostinato

An “Ostinato” is a phrase that constantly repeats itself on the same musical voice(s). (Ref: Wikipedia.org) You can create Ostinato’s using your feet, both hands, or even a single hand. I recommend starting with simple, one limb Ostinato’s, then expanding further into more complex patterns and sounds. Here are two examples of a basic foot Ostinato:



### 2) Soloing Over A Vamp

The term “vamp” means a repeating musical figure section, or accompaniment used in all different styles of music (Ref: Wikipedia.org). It is similar to an Ostinato as the pattern will repeat itself, however, I view it more as something that the accompanying band or track will play and not something the drummer will be required to play, unlike when you solo over an Ostinato.

### 3) Soloing Over Shots

You will be required to “solo over shots” when playing within a band or along to a track. This will require you to keep solid time and play certain “shots” or “hits” that the band is playing. Occasionally, your bandmates will rely on you to setup these shots as not everyone will always keep time during the drum solo.

### 4) Open Drum Solo

The term “open drum solo” means that you can play whatever you want, usually for an extended period of time. You do not always need to keep time during this solo as no one else will be counting or playing along with you. That said, sometimes it is helpful to include the crowd in an open solo and get them to clap along or participate some other creative way.

### 5) Soloing Within A Style

To “solo in a style” means to not change the feel or texture of your solo from the style of the song. For example, if you are playing a jazz tune, you don’t want to break out into a big double bass drum solo as it generally does not fit. There are obviously exceptions to this rule, but it’s something you want to consider while practicing your soloing.