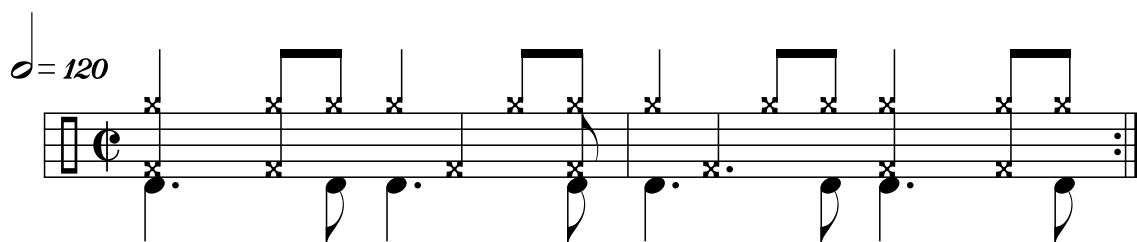
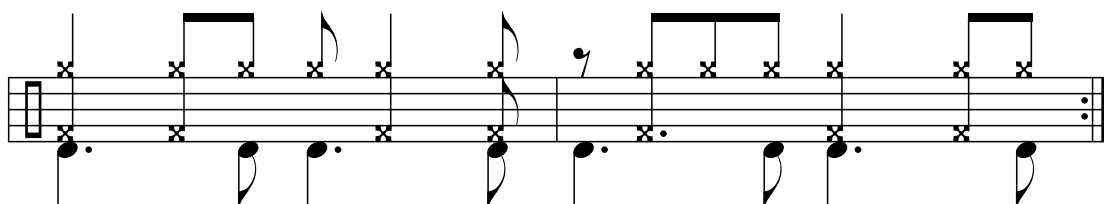


At fast tempos it becomes difficult to maintain a constant eighth note pattern on the ride cymbal. In North America, it's common to facilitate faster tempos by utilizing a variation on the standard jazz ride cymbal pattern, as in the following example.



Although the above ride cymbal pattern gets the job done, it comes nowhere near achieving the same "swing" and propulsion as the following Brazilian patterns. Although the above pattern may be easier in the short term, it's definitely worth the trouble to learn the following Brazilian versions.

The Brazilian approach involves leaving out a note here and there to facilitate faster tempos. Here is a rhythm originally conceived and performed by the great Edson Machado. By reinforcing the cross-stick rhythm while retaining enough of the constant eighth note pattern for steady timekeeping, this approach provides a much more "swinging" solution than adapting the three note ostinato pattern of American jazz.



Here is the same rhythm as above, only it is begun on the second measure. This gives us a pattern that is more upbeat-oriented, which is much more common in Brazil. By beginning the pattern on the upbeat, we obscure the downbeat, which pushes the rhythm forward.

