

PiTTi Hecht

# BongoBasics

>> Stroke technique with photos

>> Detailed exercises

>> Many rhythm examples

Incl. CD



PiTTi Hecht

# *Bongo***Basics**

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# Preface

A warm welcome to “Bongo Basics”!

This book will make you a bongo player in easy steps.

Since 1978, I have been playing and teaching bongos. As a percussionist, I’m able to travel the whole world, get inspired by many great musicians and I have played over 5,000 gigs and conducted over 300 workshops in 30 countries. Wherever I travel, the bongos are always with me. No matter if it is pop music, Latin, jazz, rock, folk or just simply drum music – I love the bongos and their sound.

With the help of this book you can quickly learn how to play the bongos and plunge into the wonderful world of rhythms. You will see how simple and groovy it can be to drum the bongos and how easily you can make music with a CD or with your friends.

Don’t hesitate and get started right away.

Have fun and I’ll see you on stage!

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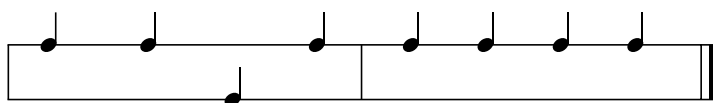
## Fingertip tone, finger tone and mute tone

### Combination of the first three tones!

If you have played all the exercises up until now, it will be easy for you to combine FTT, FT and MT with one another. A few more exercises and you will be ready for your first real bongo rhythm with which you can accompany almost every song. But one step at a time.

Play four loud tones and four soft ones. Play with alternating hands with the right one moving on the 3 of the first measure from the small bongo to the large one and back. Note that the stroke on the 4 in the first measure is played by the left hand immediately after the large-bongo stroke by the right hand. And moving the right hand from the one head to the other may not cause a delay.

#### Exercise 29 29



Small Bongo  
Large Bongo

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4  
right left right left right left right left  
FTT FTT FT FTT MT MT MT MT  
loud soft

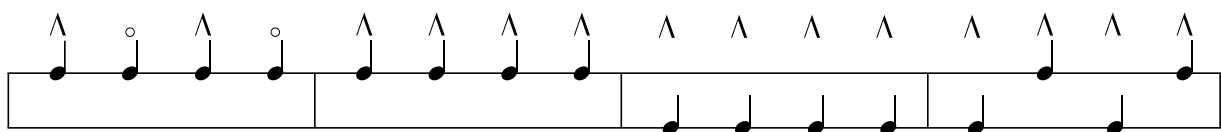
FT = Finge tone  
FTT = Fingertip tone  
MT = Mute tone

#### Exercise 30 30

This is a very important exercise that combines the different tones and movements. In the beginning, you should play it very slowly and repeat it every other day.

Four measures with the three different strokes on the small and the large bongo.

Please note! In the third measure the two hands move to the right drum and in the fourth measure the left hand goes back to the left bongo head.




1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4  
right left right left right left right left right left right left right left  
FTT MT FTT MT FTT FTT FTT FTT FT FT FT FT FT FTT FT FTT  
Sm. B.  
Lg. B.

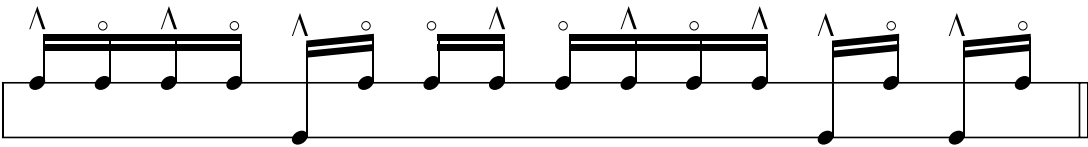
^ = loud ° = soft/mute

## Samba Brazil 45

Now here's a rhythm that consists of sixteenth notes only.

In the first part, the right-hand strokes are loud and then the left-hand ones!

 = 106




1	e	+	e	2	e	+	e	3	e	+	e	4	e	+	e
r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l
FTT	MT	FTT	MT	FT	MT	MT	FTT	MT	FTT	MT	FTT	FT	MT	FT	MT

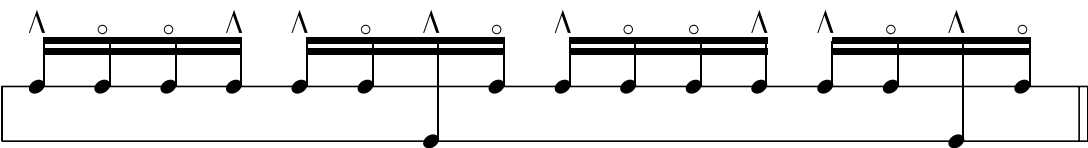
## Disco 46

The disco rhythm is a typical, quick 1/16 notes rhythm. Here you can go crazy and set accents.

If you play the disco rhythm in a band later, you can reduce the number of loud strokes and focus on the accents because the drummer will play sixteenth notes just like you.

You can play the disco with the hand-to-hand technique as well as the floating hand. Take your time when practicing because a house or disco piece has to be played fast and powerfully and may easily take 5 minutes!

 = 128



1	e	+	e	2	e	+	e	3	e	+	e	4	e	+	e
r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l	r	l
FTT	MT	MT	FTT	FTT	MT	FT	MT	FTT	MT	MT	FTT	FTT	MT	FT	MT



# CD tracklist

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