

Song Deconstruct

You Could Be Mine

by

Guns n' Roses

Lesson Written by David Edwards

Drumde

Have you ever heard a song and just gone, WOW!!! The intro drum section to this song has to be one of the biggest drum intro's in rock history, what a monster. In this lesson we're looking at the very beginning of the song and turning it into an exercise played on the snare at first blending with the feet and then playing around the kit as intended. It's a great one to learn so lets get started.

Prerequisite

To master this lesson, you need to have a basic understanding on note values using quarters and eighth notes on the Kick, Snare & Toms. If you're just starting out, revise as necessary and practice with patience you'll get it.

Tempo

- Practice Tempo 100 - 150 bpm to suit
- Final Song Tempo 151 bpm approx

Steps

The steps we take to build this lesson will be broken down into these parts:

1. Play Intro Fill On The Snare
2. Play The Intro Fill Around The Kit
3. That Awesome Tom Section On The Snare (After The Intro Fill)
4. That Awesome Tom Section Around the Kit

Revise the Finished Product

Firstly let's review this 8 bar pattern as played at a similar tempo of 144 bpm. The first 2 bars are the intro fill around the kit indicated on the first line. Then the next 3 lines (bars 3 – 8) are the main beat for the first 46 seconds of the song played between toms, snare, kick and hats on the foot.



The musical notation consists of four staves. The first staff is a five-line staff in 4/4 time, showing an 8-bar pattern of notes. The first two bars are the intro fill, and the next six bars are the main beat. The following three staves are four-line staves, each starting with an 'x' on the bottom line, representing the main beat for the first 46 seconds of the song. Each of these three staves also shows an 8-bar pattern of notes, corresponding to the main beat.

Next, we break down the exercise into a series of steps.

Step 1. Play Intro Fill On The Snare

We simplify the intro fill by bringing the snare, tom and kick parts to one surface, the snare. This is the first 2 bars I'll refer to as the intro fill played only on the snare.

Tips:

- Use a metronome with a tempo of 100 bpm
- Accent the final beat, the '4' of the 2nd bar.
- When Comfortable increase the tempo as far as 150
- Repeat 20 times correctly before moving on



Step 2. Play The Intro Fill Around The Kit

Once accomplished with the above snare pattern, we'll play this section similar to the actual song using the toms, snare and double kick at a reduced tempo of 100 BPM approx.

Tips:

- Start with a metronome set at 100 bpm.
- Kick can be played as single or double kick (use double kick if possible)
- When Comfortable increase the tempo as far as 150
- Repeat 20 times correctly before moving on



Step 3: That Awesome Tom Section (After The Intro Fill)

This section is played following the intro fill and continues to approximately 45 seconds into the song.

For this exercise, play on the snare only to get the feel of the beats involved before diving head first into the actual beat.

Tips:

- Play all parts on the snare
- Start with a metronome set at 100 bpm.
- Kick and hats play in unison with feet
- Play Hand patterns as per below until accomplished
- Accent on 2 & 4
- When Comfortable increase the tempo as far as 150
- Repeat 20 times correctly before moving on

Single Stroke Roll Hand Pattern

This pattern reverses on each repetition of the beat.

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4
 R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L



Actual Hand Pattern

Once accomplished play the hand pattern as per below.

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4
 R R L R L R R L R L R R L R L R R L R L




Step 4: That Awesome Tom Section Around the Kit

Using what we've learnt from step 3, we now extend this to the kit, specifically, snare, floor, and rack toms while the feet play in unison on the quarters.

Tips:

- Play around the kit
- Start with a metronome set at 100 bpm
- Kick and hats play in unison with feet
- Play Hand pattern as indicated below
- Accent snare parts on 2 & 4
- When Comfortable increase the tempo as far as 150
- Repeat 20 times correctly before moving on

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4							
R	R	L	R	L	R	R	L	R	L	R	R	L	R	L



Once you are comfortable with playing the above-mentioned exercises go back to the top and attempt the pattern as played in the song. Start with a tempo you are comfortable with then increase until 150 BPM.

Conclusion

This is not meant to represent a full transcript of the song, rather an exercise extracted from the first 46 seconds of the song.

See what you can extract from this exercise to build your skills further.

Comments or feedback, please get in touch via our website.

Refer to our website For Video on Finished Product

<https://drumde.com/dd-ycbm/>