# HINTS & TIPS

#### 21st Century Breakdown

**Green Day** is an American punk rock band, and this is the title song from their eighth studio album and their biggest selling record to date. Their sound is similar to the first wave of punk bands that came on the music scene in the 1970s, and they often stick to the formula of fast and catchy three-chord songs.

- At the top of this number play the floor tom pattern with right hand only, keeping the energy up throughout to create a driving feel beneath the chords.
- In the chorus, make sure your hands and feet line up neatly to give the crotchet (quarter-note) groove power and purpose.

#### **Domino**

**Jessie J** is one of the UK's biggest pop stars (with six top ten singles under her belt) as well as a highly successful songwriter who has written for numerous artists. 'Domino' is one of her biggest hits, with platinum sales in the UK, US, Australia and New Zealand.

- The offbeat quaver (eighth-note) feel in the chorus of this song can prove difficult to coordinate between hands and feet.
- Work first at developing the hi-hat and snare drum together, then hi-hat and bass drum, before attempting to combine all three strands.
- Try the full groove at a slower tempo before attempting to run it with the backing track too.

#### **One Love (People Get Ready)**

This song was named 'Song Of The Century' by the BBC. It was first released in 1965 as a ska track by **Bob Marley & The Wailers** and re-recorded in the 70s when they reworked a lot of the early songs in their distinctive reggae style.

- This arrangement makes use of the 'Reggae One Drop' groove. It can be a challenge for drummers as it avoids the use of the bass drum on beat one.
- Listen to the playing of Carlton Barrett, long-time drummer for Bob Marley, to become familiar with the sound and style.

#### **Proud Mary**

'Proud Mary' was **Creedence Clearwater Revival**'s first big hit, introducing the world to their mix of Southern Creole music (American folk roots music from the Louisiana area), rhythm 'n' blues and rockabilly. In 1970, lke & Tina Turner covered the song, and it has since become one of Turner's signature tunes.

- After the opening crashes, try leading with the left hand on the snare drum and then carrying on with single strokes through bars three and four.
- This will work in the Outro too, though two rights on the offbeat quavers (eighth notes) of bar 41 will allow you to play the final crash with the right hand.
- In the verses play fully, but be careful not to overpower the vocal line.

#### **Rock N Roll Queen**

Indie rock band **The Subways** burst onto the UK scene in 2005, and 'Rock N Roll Queen' became an instant party anthem and is a rock festival favourite.

- The crotchets (quarter notes) on the floor tom from bar 7 should be played with the right hand.
- Strike the centre of the batter head for a full and consistent sound.

#### **Rockaway Beach**

**The Ramones** was one of America's leading punk rock bands, bringing with them the fashion of leather jackets, ripped jeans and loads of attitude. Their musical style was a reaction against the heavily produced rock & pop bands of the 50s and 60s, so they created a very raw sound and short snappy songs.

- Aim for a rounded and full tone on floor tom and snare drum in the chorus here.
- Ensure hands and feet line up neatly to avoid any flam-like effects in the time.

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### **ROCKAWAY BEACH**

Words and Music by Joey Ramone, Johnny Ramone, Dee Dee Ramone and Tommy Ramone





#### Verses

Vocal cues: I. Chewin' at a rhythm on my bubble gum...

2. Up on the roof, out on the street...













## **DRUM NOTATION GUIDE**

