

INTRO TO BUILD-FILLS

A **build-fill** is a basic, yet powerful, drum fill which builds into the next section usually with a **crescendo** or by gradually getting louder. You will see the symbol for *crescendo* throughout this lesson.

Notation Key

The drum notation key indicates which drums and cymbals to use.

The diagram shows a five-line staff with various symbols and labels:

- Hi Hat**: A vertical line with an 'x' at the top.
- Crash**: A vertical line with an 'x' at the top and a diagonal slash.
- Ride**: A vertical line with an 'x' at the top.
- Snare**: A solid dot on the second line.
- Kick**: A solid dot on the third space.
- Cross-Stick**: A vertical line with an 'x' at the top and a diagonal slash, positioned between the first and second lines.
- Hi Hat with Foot**: A vertical line with an 'x' at the top.
- Toms**: A bracket spanning three lines (second, third, and fourth) with labels **High**, **Middle**, and **Low** below each line.

The build technique is used in the hit song *Highway to Hell*—AC/DC (1979). Play the main beat below 3 times, play the fill into the chorus, and then play the chorus main beat.



Highway to Hell

AC/DC 1979

The build-fill is used in "Highway to Hell" to lead into the chorus.

♩ = 117

Verse Main Beat

Fill to Chorus

Chorus Main Beat