

QUINTUPLET DOUBLE BASS

APPROACH & PATTERNS

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED

On this lesson we will go with Quintuplet Double Bass patterns. They seem much harder than what they actually are, all you need to do is to go with the right order and you are all set!

I will give you an easy approach I teach to my students for years, one step at a time and focusing on the right things. We will start by getting to know quintuplets, then move on by playing quintuplets in unison (best approach on any double bass pattern!) and then we will add the hands in different places to create the first grooves.

After we finish the first part, the Approach, we will move on to some random patterns to get into some really cool groove ideas. Although you won't be using Quintuplet Patterns that often, it's still a great concept you need to know and hopefully, you will find some space to use some more in your music!

Quintuplet Approach

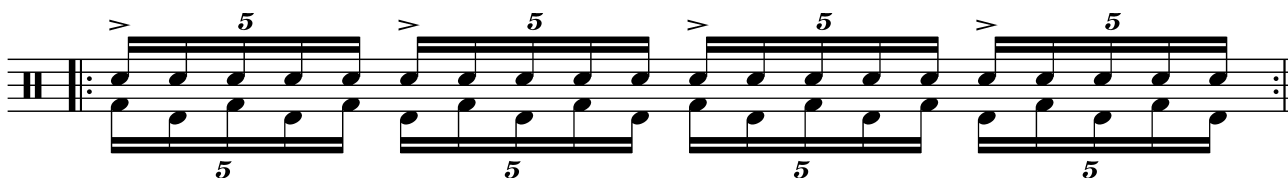
Step 1: Getting into Quintuplets

First of all, we will use our snare drum to get into Quintuplets. Try to accent on every beat so you can balance the space of each hit in the grid:



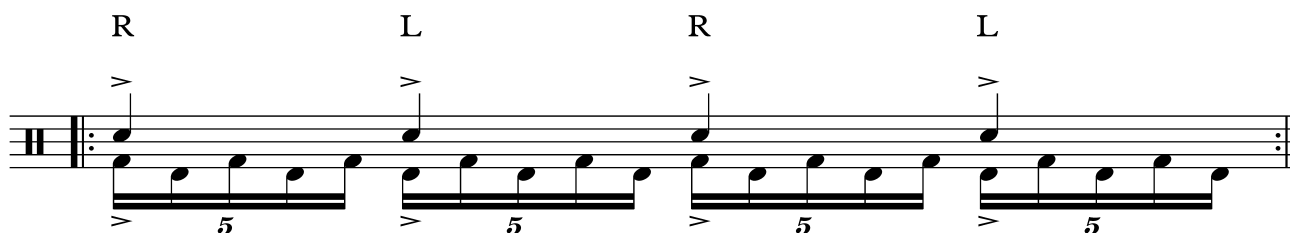
Step 2: Quintuplets in Unison

Getting into the Unison concept, our hands will help our feet to get into the right direction. This is a very important step because it will help our feet to stay locked in Quintuplets as we progressively remove our hands and get into different grooves. The accents are not necessary, although I would recommend you use them as some extra help to stay locked on the beat.



Step 3: Locking Quarter Notes on the beat

Here's where everything starts to feel just a bit harder. We lock our Right and Left hand on the beat by playing quarter notes and we match them with each foot. The Right/Left hand pattern will lock with the foot pattern very easily, although it is much less work on the hands while the foot pattern remains busy. That will probably make you loose your balance, mess your time a bit etc. Relax and try to stay focused, the bottom half should work independently AND together; try to focus on your balance and timing as well. Do not let the hand pattern speed things up.

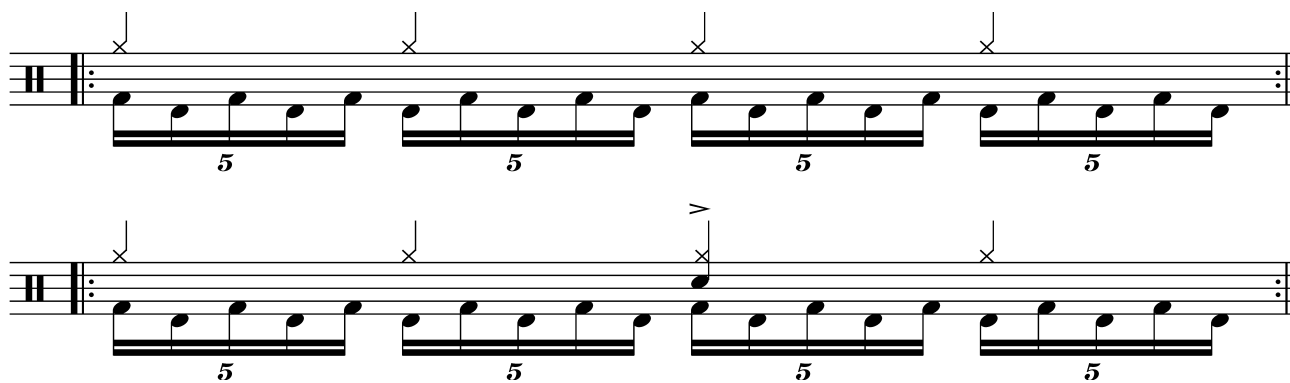


Step 4: Playing the first Quintuplet Groove

Finally getting into the grooves, since we have the foot pattern very well after all our previous steps, we are ready to play grooves by using our ride cymbal (or hi hat) and snare. Now, of course you need keep an eye on the each quarter note on the cymbal just to make sure it's locked with each foot and all together on the beat.

As you can see, there are 2 things I'm doing here: One is playing the Groove with the snare on the third beat (figure 2) and playing the same groove without the snare (figure 1). What I usually suggest is going back and forth and repeat each one for at least 4 bars.

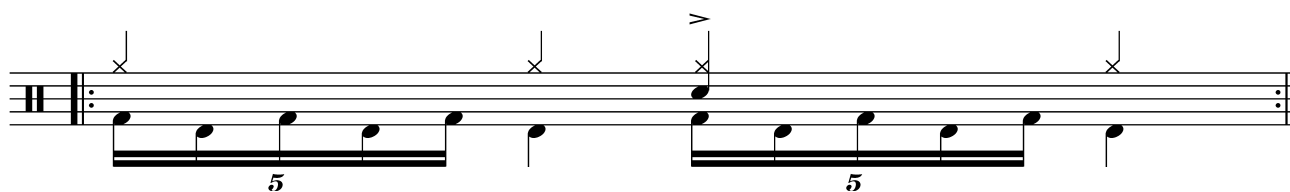
The idea about this is, to try to lock my ride cymbal with each foot (**RLRLR LRLRL RLRLR LRLRL**) like I did on **Step 3**, so I have a clear idea on how right hand/foot works and then I add the snare to create the groove. After I repeat a few times, I go back on figure 1 to clean up my foot pattern and right hand more and then I return to the groove. Repeat this cycle as many times as possible.



Quintuplet Patterns

Let's move on to some Groove Variations. Here are a few grooves that will help you a lot to get more into the Quintuplet patterns. Some will be fairly easy and some others might have a little more difficulty to execute. 5 is an odd number, that means some patterns will force you to lead with your left foot for a few beats (or bars). Start slow and move up the tempo when you feel more comfortable.

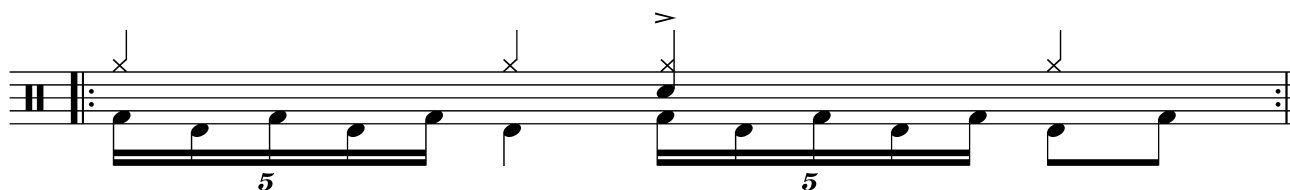
Groove Variation 1:



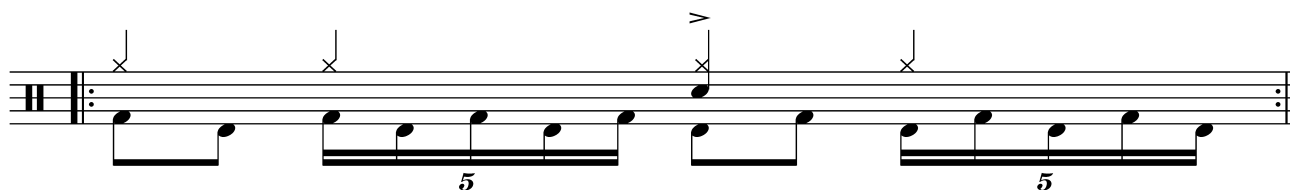
Groove Variation 2:



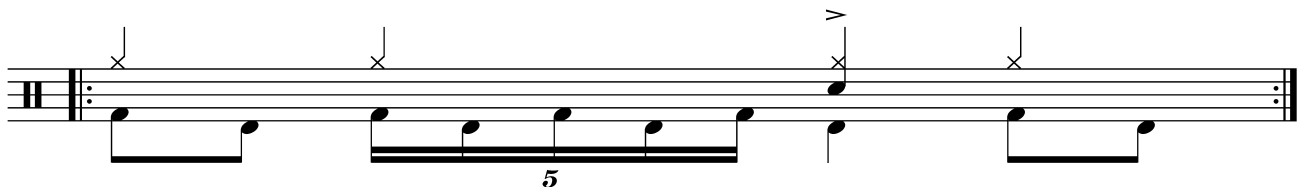
Groove Variation 3:



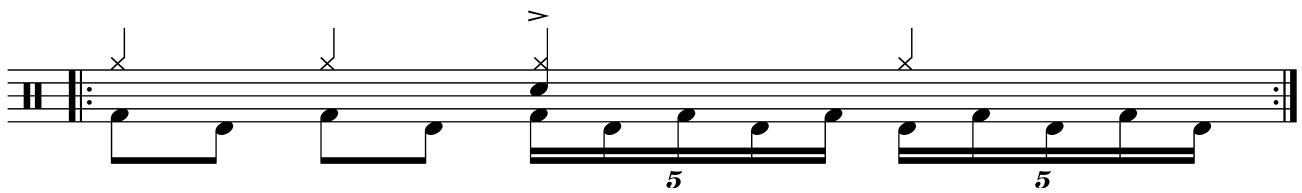
Groove Variation 4:



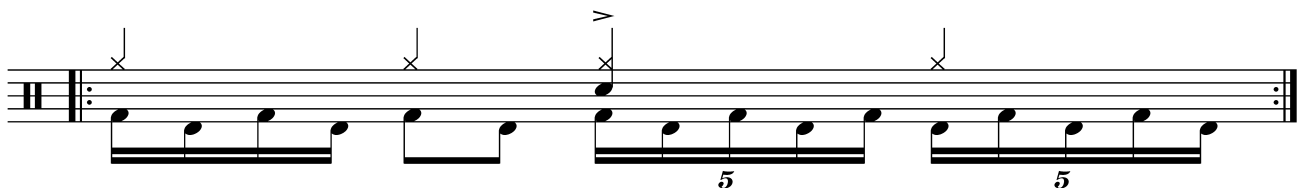
Groove Variation 5:



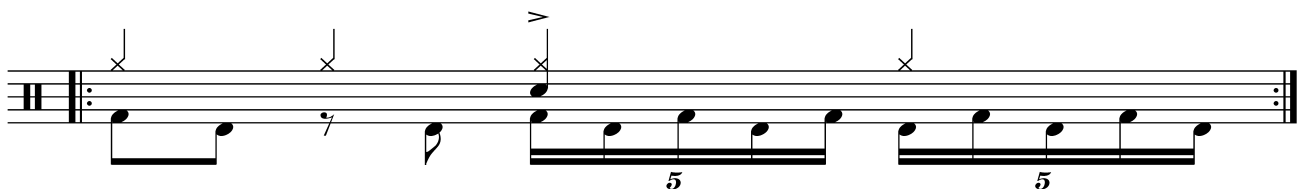
Groove Variation 6:



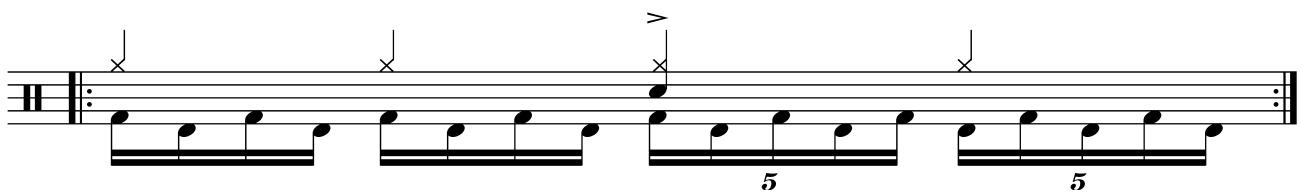
Groove Variation 7:



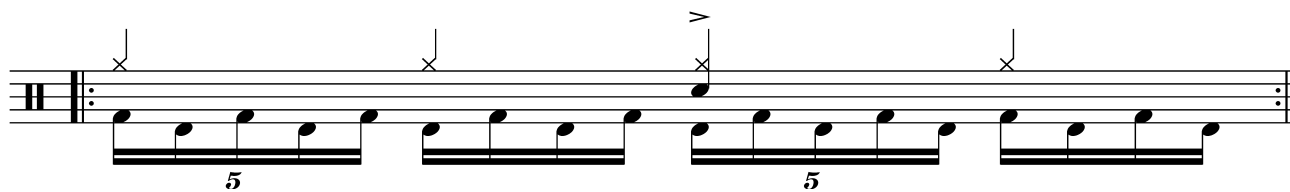
Groove Variation 8:



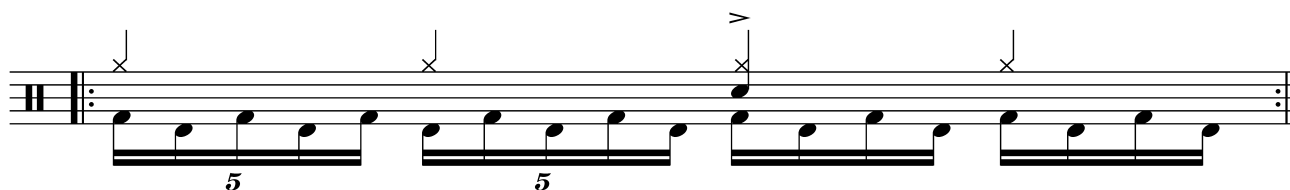
Groove Variation 9:



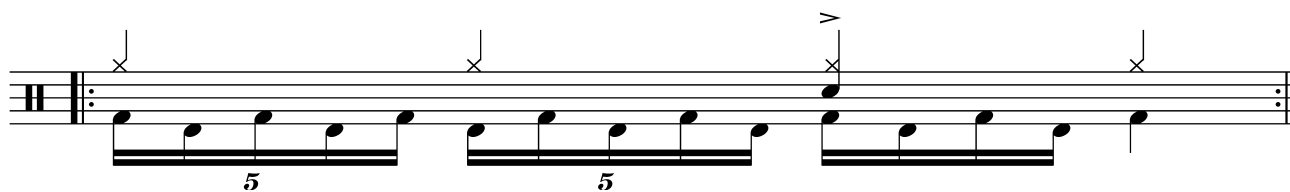
Groove Variation 10:



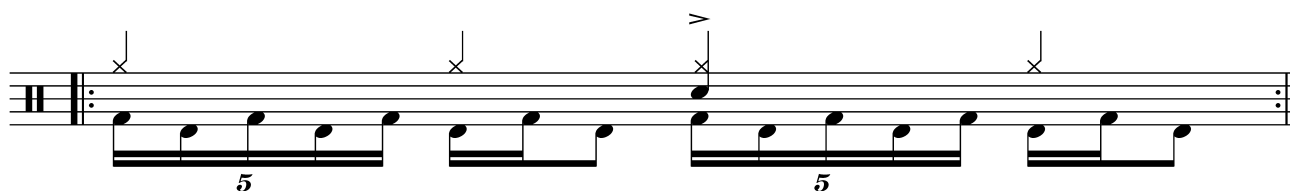
Groove Variation 11:



Groove Variation 12:



Groove Variation 13:



Groove Variation 14:

