

From Zero to Drummer in 3 Easy Lessons  
Lesson 2- GO & DO  
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Welcome to Lesson 2! Now that you've finished working through Lesson 1, you have a good understanding of the GUN & DUN (bass) strokes. It's time to add some Open tones!

Let's start with our right hand. Maintaining the same relaxed, palm down position that we used for GUN, hit your drum so that the rim (edge of the drum head) connects right at the base of your index, middle, ring, and pinkie



fingers. Keep your fingers held together so that they act as one. Bounce your hand away from the drum immediately after contact. Don't tense up- imagine that your joined fingers are a paddle, working together to draw the sound out of the drum, not pound the sound into it. The tone produced (which will be higher in pitch than our GUN stroke) will be called GO

(pronounced 'go,' as in "Go, the light turned green!"). The same stroke played with our left hand will be called DO (pronounced 'doh,' as in Homer Simpson). As before, make sure that the right and left hand strokes (GO & DO) sound exactly the same.

For reading purposes, the right hand GO stroke will be shortened to a lowercase 'g' and the left hand DO will be simply 'd.' You'll remember from Lesson 1 that a dash (-) means 'rest.' No wasting time, let's play!

g d g d g - - - g d g d g - - - g d g d g - - - g d g d g - - - (repeat many times)

If you are speaking the above rhythm (which you are, aren't you?), you would be saying, "go do go do go (rest) (rest) (rest)" (repeated)

Easy? I told you so. Ready for more? Here goes . . .

g d - d g - - - g d - d g - - - (repeat)

g - g d g - d - g - g d g - d - (repeat)

Fantastic! Now that you have mastered GUN, DUN, go & do, we can combine all of them to create some very interesting rhythms. Take your time, start slowly, sing each pattern aloud, stay relaxed and practice each rhythm until it feels comfortable before trying to increase the speed. In the words of the wise Kung-Fu master James Wing Woo, “Not speed, control-not power, accuracy.”

G = GUN (right bass tone)

D = DUN (left bass tone)

g = go (right open tone)

d = do (left open tone)

G – D – g – d – G – D – g – d – (repeat)

G – D – g d g d G – D – g d g d (repeat)

G – g d G – d – G – g d G – d – (repeat)

g d – d G – D – g d – d G – D – (repeat)

G – D – g d g d G - - d - - d – G – D – g d g d G - - d - - d – (repeat)

These are just a few to get you started. There are endless combinations- feel free to mix and match the bass and open strokes any way that you’d like. In Lesson 3 we will create even more great rhythms by adding yet another tone to our drumming vocabulary. Have fun and please drop me a line at [mark@powerspercussion.com](mailto:mark@powerspercussion.com) with any questions or thoughts.

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