

Cha Cha, Mambo and Soca

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We've already looked at the Mambo together in classes before the lockdown, but I've written out some notation here to remind you. When playing, see if you can add in some Rim Clicks instead of snare drums to create a more authentic sound. (the little diamond notes mean the ride bell!)



Cha Cha

Another groove similar to the Mambo is the Cha Cha. Made for people to dance to, the hand patterns are largely the same. However, watch out for the Kick Drum pattern, as it doesn't land on beat one, but instead on the + of beat two.



Mambo Variation

We can make the original Mambo groove much more interesting by adding a new Ride pattern in the right hand. This is a little tricky at first, but once you get comfortable it should flow much better than just playing crotchets. Also, see if you can add the kick pattern from the Cha Cha into this version of the Mambo.



Soca

Finally, I wanted to remind you of the Soca beat that we learnt just before lockdown. If you can, try and open the hi-hat on the notes which have a small circle above them, and see if you can get a real difference between the ghost note snares and real snare hits.



