

A ♩=168 *Metal*

Drum Solo (6 bars)

[5]

[9]

[13]

B

[17]

[21]

To Coda ⊕

[24]

C

[27]

Razorhead

SONG TITLE: RAZORHEAD

GENRE: METAL

TEMPO: 168 BPM

TECH FEATURES: GHOSTING

BROKEN 16TH ROLLS

ODD TIME SIGNATURES

COMPOSER: JASON BOWLD

PERSONNEL: JASON BOWLD (ALL)

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OVERVIEW

'Razorhead' is influenced by Slipknot, Sepultura and Bullet For My Valentine. You will find relentless, regular changes in rhythm and note values as well dynamic subtleties and odd time signatures here.

STYLE FOCUS

Good technique and stamina are required to play metal convincingly. More importantly, an even consistency should be achieved with the volume of backbeats on the snare and the kick drum beats. This consistency should be continued into any drum fills so that the intensity level demanded by the style doesn't drop. Also, try to balance or mix yourself when playing metal because you may find that you tend to overhit the cymbals and hi-hats.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

The British band Black Sabbath are recognised as the creators of metal. Their self-titled debut was released in 1970, and soon after bands such as Judas Priest and Iron Maiden became part of the New Wave Of British Heavy Metal that influenced the faster sub-genres of thrash and speed metal in the 1980s.

Metallica, Anthrax, Slayer and Megadeth (also known as The Big Four) are the most famous of the bands that emerged from the 1980s thrash scene. The use of two kick drums became common practice among drummers Dave Lombardo (Slayer), Charlie Benante (Anthrax) and Lars Ulrich (Metallica), who were reaching speeds of 200 bpm.

In the 1990s nu metal bands Korn and Limp Bizkit mixed styles such as death metal and rap, while Slipknot continued to push the boundaries of speed thanks to their drummer Joey Jordison.

Since the turn of the millennium, the rise of groups like Lamb Of God, Mastodon and Trivium led to the New Wave Of American Heavy Metal, while the British group Bullet For My Valentine reached number 3 in the US Billboard charts in 2010 with their album *Fever*.

RECOMMENDED LISTENING

Jordison's drumming on *Iowa* (2001) by Slipknot is a great starter, as is Lombardo's work on Slayer's *Reign In Blood* (1986). For vintage drumming try Bill Ward on *Black Sabbath* and *Paranoid* (both 1970). For a modern approach, Ulrich's playing on *Master Of Puppets* (1986) features some excellent compositions.