

# *Drumming*

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## **ELECTRIC DRUM SET**

We all know the famous bands Metallica, The Beatles, Queen, Eagles, and The Who. Those are all very successful bands with great drummers and they need to have them because the music they play is pure rock. These bands need to have drummers like Keith Moon from The Who and Ringo Star from The Beatles because they were a couple of the best drummers that ever lived. I asked Steve Listengart, if it is true that the band is only as good as its drummer and he said, "It depends on what kind of band it is. A band like Led Zepelin or The Red Hot Chili Peppers needs a great drummer. Bob Dylan or Donovan do not."



## DRUM STICKS

Being a drummer is hard because you have to play three things at the same time with two drum sticks! You have to play the snare, the high hat and the base drum to do the basic beats on a drum set. Then when you become better you can play with the full set which is five toms, three crash symbols, the ride symbol, the snare and the base drum!!



**SNARE**

Also, the drums are the most important instrument in the band because if the drummer messes up and doesn't recover from his/her mistake the band won't stay on tempo (beat) and eventually will start to play the wrong tempo. Steve Listengart, the music teacher at PS290, said, "Everybody messes up once in a while. If a drummer can recover quickly and get back on track it is not a big deal."



## **PEDAL**

In a band some instruments need to keep the same tempo like the drummer and like the bassist. The drummer uses the pedal to make the base drum sound.



**CRASH SYMBOL**

In drumming there is something called doing “a fill” and that is when the drummer starts playing different parts of the drum, but the singer and the band keeps on playing. If a drummer does a giant fill in the middle of the song it will distract the audience right away from the song itself so that is why a drummer should only do a fill in the right moment.

In conclusion being a drummer is very hard. The drummer has to keep the beat do fills at the right time and play with 12 parts that make a full drum set! A drummer needs to stay on the right tempo, not a super fast beat when the song is slow. They have to always keep thinking the beat 1, 2 and 3. Always stomp the base drum on 1, on 2 hit the high hat and never stop unless doing a fill and 3: hit the snare. Steve Listengart said, “The drums provide the 'feel' of the band. If the band is trying to get people dancing, no member is more important than the drummer.” He also said, “Many bands have played acoustic sets with no drummer or electric guitars. If the songs are good, they can still sound good without a drummer.”

## TOMS AND A SNARE

