



PERCUSSION 101 STUDY GUIDE

Instructional videos are available online at <http://www.vicfirth.com/education/percussion101-concertBD.php>

Concert Bass Drum

VIDEO 1: Instrument Selection and General Maintenance

1. What is a typical size for a good concert bass drum?
2. Is a marching bass drum a good substitute for a concert bass drum? Why or why not?
3. Name the regular maintenance routines that should be performed on a concert bass drum.

VIDEO 2: Replacing a Head and Tuning the Drum

1. When changing a concert bass drum head, what are some maintenance routines that you can do?
2. What type of head should be AVOIDED on a concert bass drum?
3. When mounting a head on a concert bass drum, which side of the counter hoop should be set against the head?
4. After the head, hoop and tension rods are back on the drum, what is the first step necessary to properly tune the bass drum BEFORE beginning the tuning process?
5. Which head on a concert bass drum should be tuned LOWER – the batter or resonant head?
6. Which head on a concert bass drum should be tuned lower – the batter or resonant head?
7. How can you tell if you've tuned the resonant head too high or too low?
8. What are the characteristics of a good concert bass drum sound?

VIDEO 3: Basic Playing Techniques

1. What is the PROPER playing position for a performer on the concert bass drum?
2. What type of mallets should you use for most general concert bass drum passages?
3. What is the best general beating area on the concert bass drum?
4. Which of these is NOT a good option for muffling a concert bass drum?
5. If your bass drum stand does not have a foot rest, what's the best way to position your leg to muffle the drum?
6. For articulate notes (such as in typical marches), how should you muffle the drum?
7. What is the best position to place your mallets on the drumhead for bass drum rolls?
8. What type of roll should you use on a concert bass drum?

Ready to test your knowledge?

You can take the online test for Vic Firth's PERCUSSION 101: Concert Bass Drum here:
<http://www.vicfirth.com/education/percussion101-concertBD.php>

