



# **PERCUSSION 101 STUDY GUIDE**

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

## ***Concert Snare Drum***

### **VIDEO 1: Instrument and Head Selection**

1. What is a typical shell depth for a concert snare drum?
2. Is a marching snare with kevlar heads a good substitute for a field drum in a concert setting? Why or why not?
3. What type of batter head produces a characteristic sound for a concert snare drum?
4. Why is it important to have a specially designed head for the snare bottom?

### **VIDEO 2: Care and Maintenance**

1. What are good maintenance routines that should be performed on a concert snare?

### **VIDEO 3: Head Replacement and Tuning**

1. Why is it important to "seat" the drum head before you begin tuning a drum?
2. Describe each step of the tuning process.
3. What is the best string to use on the snare strainer?
4. What is the best way to determine the correct tension on the snares?

### **VIDEO 4: Stick Selection and Characteristic Sound**

1. Which are the recommended beating areas on a snare drum? Which areas do not produce a good characteristic sound?

**VIDEO 5: Proper Setup and Playing Position**

1. Name the checkpoints for the proper playing position. What are common problems to avoid?

**VIDEO 6: The Grip**

1. Describe the matched grip and position of the sticks on the drum.
2. Describe the disadvantages to using the traditional grip?

**VIDEO 7: Basic Stroke (Legato/Rebound Stroke)**

1. Describe the fundamentals of producing a legato or rebound stroke.

**VIDEO 8: Roll Fundamentals**

1. What role does the fulcrum play in determining the length of a multiple bounce?
2. Describe the fundamentals behind producing a good multiple bounce roll.
3. What is a common problem with developing a good double bounce roll?

**VIDEO 9: Metered and Unmetered Rolls**

1. What is a factor when determining the appropriate hand speed for an unmetered roll?

**VIDEO 10: Tied and Untied Rolls**

1. Explain what you should and should not do when playing untied rolls.

**VIDEO 11: Flams**

1. Detail the fundamental techniques for producing a good single hand and alternating flams.
2. Describe the grace note height on soft or half height flams.

**VIDEO 12: Sticking Methods**

1. Name the advantages and disadvantages for using the lead hand sticking method.
2. Name the advantages and disadvantages for using natural or alternating sticking method.

**VIDEO 13: Ruffs**

1. Describe the fundamentals in producing a multiple bounce ruff.
2. When are double bounce ruffs (open/rudimental ruffs) most appropriate?
3. What are the important considerations on ruffs which have more than 2 grace notes?
4. Is a five stroke ruff and a five stroke roll the same thing? Why or why not?

**VIDEO 14: Alternative Sounds**

1. Name each of the alternative implements described in this video and what sounds they produce.