

## Getting Started:

The equipment necessary to get started is very basic: drum sticks and a practice pad. Beginners should use large hickory sticks like Promark's 2B. The larger stick will force you to learn to hold the stick properly. After you advance to the drum set, you will need to step down in size to either a 5A or 5B. The 2B's are just too big and too loud. Serious hearing issues will develop if you play with these heavier hitters for too long - see related article. While drums sticks are essential for the first few lessons (\$7.00 to \$8.00), it is possible to start out with using only a thick mouse pad as a practice pad. Within a few weeks, however, a quality pad (\$15.00 - \$35.00), hardy pad stand, and budget music will become necessary. I recommend using a low budget snare stand with a full closing basket (\$45.00) in lieu of a practice pad stand (\$35.00). The quality of most practice pad stands are usually well below even low budget snare stands. Recommended pads and snare stand are shown below:

Even a very low budget music stand will prove very useful and is very portable. The sample below costs around \$12.00 and comes with a convenient carrying case.

Later, it will become necessary to get a digital metronome. The benefit of practicing with a metronome is quite simple: practice makes perfect. The more you practice playing good timing the better you will play good timing. The metronome I recommend for starters is the Korg for about \$20.00 - see below. It has all the basic features you need to start. As you develop, you will discover that a more advanced metronome like the Tama will be very useful.

### BOOKS:

#### Beginners:

Stick Control by George Stone

Fundamental Studies with the Snare Drum by Garwood Whaley

#### Drum Set:

Realistic Rock by Carmine Appice

Advanced Techniques for Modern Drummer by Jim Chapin

#### Advanced:

The Art of Bop Drumming by John Riley

Afro-Cuban Rhythms for the Drum Set by Frank Malbe

Brazilian Studies by Alberto Netto