

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT AND TEXTS

Acquiring percussion equipment and musical materials is the responsibility of each individual. A wide variety of mallets and instruments are necessary to properly study and perform solo and ensemble music. For a serious student, collecting percussion equipment begins early in one's career and will probably continue throughout the professional life. The old adage is certainly true of musicians: *If you are going to buy something, make it the best.* A good piece of equipment is an investment and will last a lifetime. Some students find it practical to give their family and relatives a percussion catalog/website links to use for gift ideas at birthdays and holidays.

The following is a minimum requirement for new students at the University of Kentucky. These items should be acquired before the first semester of study begins:

Mallet and Suggested Model

- 1 pair, light/medium concert snare drum sticks: Innovative Percussion JC model or equivalent.

- 1 pair, heavy concert snare drum sticks: Innovative Percussion JC2 model or equivalent.

- 1 pair, light duty (jazz) drum set sticks: Innovative Percussion BB-1 or equivalent.

- 1 pair, brushes: Innovative Percussion WBR-2 or equivalent.

- 1 pair, multi-mallet: Innovative Percussion JC-1M, JC-2M or equivalent.

- 1 pair, bundle sticks: Innovative Percussion BZB-2 (*Bundlz*) or equivalent.

- 1 pair, soft solo marimba mallets: Innovative Percussion (any signature artist series) or equivalent.

- 2 pair, medium-soft marimba mallets: Innovative Percussion (any signature artist series) or equivalent.

- 2 pair, medium hard-marimba mallets: Innovative Percussion (any signature artist series) or equivalent.

- 1 pair, hard solo marimba mallets: Innovative Percussion (any signature artist series) or equivalent.
- 2 pair, vibe/marimba mallets: Innovative Percussion AA25, DM20 or equivalent.
- 1 pair medium rubber mallets: Innovative Percussion ENS260 or ENS260R or equivalent.
- 1 pair, hard rubber mallets: Innovative Percussion ENS360 or ENS360R or equivalent.
- 1 pair medium soft xylophone mallets: Innovative Percussion IP902 or equivalent.
- 1 pair hard xylophone/bell mallets: Innovative Percussion IP904 or equivalent.
- 1 pair, orchestra bell mallets: Innovative Percussion IP906 or equivalent.
- 1 pair, suspended cymbal mallets: Innovative Percussion JC-1SC or JC-2SC.
- 1 pair, General timpani mallets: Innovative Percussion BT-4 or equivalent.
- 1 pair, Ultra-Staccato timpani mallets: Innovative Percussion BT-7 or equivalent.

Instruments/Equipment

- Tuning fork: "A 440" for tuning timpani.
- Marching band sticks can be purchased during "Early Week".
- Portable, high-quality audio or video recording device to record lessons, practice sessions, rehearsals, recitals, and clinics. You can use your smart phone, laptop, tablet, or stand-alone devices available for portable recording. You'll never get better if you don't know when you sound bad. You need feedback to improve. Not all percussionists know what they sound like on the other side of their instruments. Be aware of your sound and have a model for what you want to sound like. Create your own *feedback loop*: RECORD yourself often, LISTEN back with critical ears, and make notes the will help you IMPROVE your next session.

Recommended models for stand-alone devices: VIDEO & AUDIO – Zoom Q2n/Q4n/;
AUDIO ONLY – Zoom H1/H2n/H4n

- Metronome, preferably a battery operated one that can be used with a headphone, is required at every lesson. There are many great apps for your smart phone that would also work well.

- Stick case/bag: Innovative Tour Bag (MB-3), large attaché or sample case. Most students acquire several bags and cases to hold all their equipment. Often, 1 large tour bag or sample case to hold all of your mallets is not practical. You end up lugging a heavy case to each practice session or rehearsal, including the mallets you're not going to use for that session. Consider acquiring several small to medium bags and cases to hold sticks and mallets that you will need for specific situations and grab one on your way to practice or rehearsal where you know what instruments you will be playing.
- Have a rubber stamp or adhesive labels made that can identify your music, books, and other gear. A paint stick, permanent marker or colored tape will help identify your mallets. Remember, there will be plenty of students that you will be around with the same gear as you.
- Two (2) black hand-towels. You will use these to accommodate silent mallet changes when you set them on music stands.
- Start a percussionist's survival kit that includes: small pair of scissors, roll of Gaffer's tape, multi-tool, moleskin, nylon fishing line, standard drum key, timpani drum key, bee's wax (for tambourine heads), extra cymbal felts & sleeves, etc.
- Dress for UK Percussion Ensemble and chamber percussion concerts varies. We use both black long sleeve shirt/blouse as well as a solid blue (any shade) long sleeve shirt/blouse. We always wear black slacks/skirt and black dress shoes (No athletic shoes!). Most large ensembles in the School of Music ask you to provide a tuxedo/black dress for concert performances as well.
- Dress for UK Steel Band is a UK logo shirt (any style), khaki slacks/skirt, and casual shoes.

After You Are On Campus

Students should budget approximately \$350 toward the purchase of a professional triangle, triangle beaters & clips, and a tambourine, to be purchased during the first year of study if they don't already own artist quality instruments/accessories. There are many choices to make when investing in a quality product that students may want to sample a variety of instruments and accessories from the faculty, staff, and their classmates to determine which models would best serve their needs for future purchases and to increase their instrument palate during their career. We recommend the following equipment as the most versatile available for initial purchase:

- Black Swamp Tambourine TC1 (Chromium/Bronze mix)
- Black Swamp Triangle AT6, (6" steel artisan triangle)
- Black Swamp Triangle Beater Set (Spset-2 Spectrum Beater Set)
- Black Swamp Triangle Clip (TRCLIP)

Required Music Texts Needed Before Classes Begins

This list of method books and etudes will be invaluable to you as you hone your craft of percussion playing. You will find yourself using them throughout your career as you develop your own professional perspectives and in your teaching as you train the next generation of percussionists.

SNARE DRUM

- *Douze Études*, Jacques Delécluse (Leduc).
- *Snare Drum Technique*, Pablo Rieppi (Bachovich)
- *The Modern Concert Snare Drum Roll*, William J. James (Meredith Music)

MULTIPLE PERCUSSION

- *Music for Multi-Percussion: A World View*, James Campbell and Julie Hill (Alfred Music).
- *Multitudes*, edited by Andrew Bliss (Innovative Percussion).
- *Contemporary Percussionist*, Udow/Watts (Meredith Music).

MALLET KEYBOARD

- *The Additive Method of Two-Mallet Study*, Gene Koshinski (Bachovich)
- *Six Suites for Violincello Solo*, Bach (Schirmer Edition)

ACCESSORIES

- *Complementary Percussion*, Keith Aleo (Bachovich). This is the text we will use for the freshmen skills class during your first semester.

REFERENCE

- *A Practical Guide To Percussion Terminology*, Russ Girsberger (Meredith Music).

SOLO REPERTOIRE

- Consult the *UK Percussion Studies Handbook* and look for solo repertoire that is suitable for your level of study.

These are minimum requirements; most percussion students will acquire more mallets, instruments and accessories during their years in college. During the course of each semester you should plan on purchasing additional mallets, music and accessories as necessary. Try to budget at least \$300/semester for such expenditures.