



## **ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS**

For quick assembly, we recommend clearing an area on a table or floor where the drums can be unboxed and assembled. Then group the parts together needed for each component.

If you need assistance during assembly or are missing any parts, please contact us for fast service at [help@ashthorpe.com](mailto:help@ashthorpe.com) or 954-577-1043.

We appreciate your choice of drums and are glad to have you join the Ashthorpe family. Our instruments are designed in Florida and manufactured globally with pride.

We can't wait to hear the music you're about to create.

## Glossary:

**Bass Drum** – Also called the Kick Drum. This is the largest drum. It stands on its side, so the bottom faces the audience.

**Tom Drum** – The Rack Toms (also called Mounted Toms, Hanging Toms or Tom-Toms) typically hang on a bracket atop the Bass Drum and are directly in front of the drummer. The Floor Tom, also known as a Low Tom, typically is floor standing and sits to the drummer's strong handed side.

**Snare Drum** – Also called a Side Drum, produces a sharp sound and is typically fitted with Snare Wires.

**Snare Wires** – Series of spiraled metal wires responsible for the distinctive "buzz" sound of the Snare Drum. It's attached to the inside of the Drum with an external tension knob.

**Hi-Hat** – The two-Cymbal assembly operated by Pedal (may also be struck with drum sticks).

**Cymbal** – The "Crash/Ride" Cymbal included with this kit can play both accents and patterns.

**Drum Throne** – The stool a drummer sits on when practicing or performing.

**Shell** – The circular casing or body of the drum.

**Heads** – Each drum has two heads. The side of the drum facing the drummer (hit with the drum sticks or a pedal beater) is called the Beater Head. This Head needs to be tuned after assembly for optimum sound. The bottom side of the drum is called the Resonant Head.

**Hoop** – The ring that holds the Head onto the Shell. Two hoops are included for each drum and are interchangeable (can be used at either the top or bottom of the drum).

**Tension Rod** – Threads into the Lug to secure the Hoop & Head to the Shell.

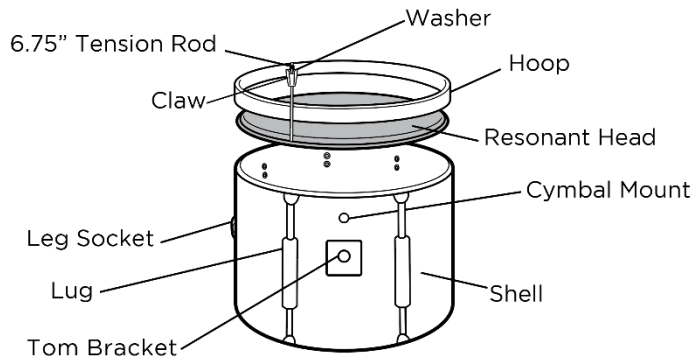
**Lug** – Threaded fitting on the Shell that receives the Tension Rods.

**Claw** – Used to secure the Hoop on the Bass Drum.

**Key** – Tool used to build and tune the drum kit.

**Rim** – Corner of the drum where the Head meets the Shell.

## ASSEMBLE THE BASS DRUM



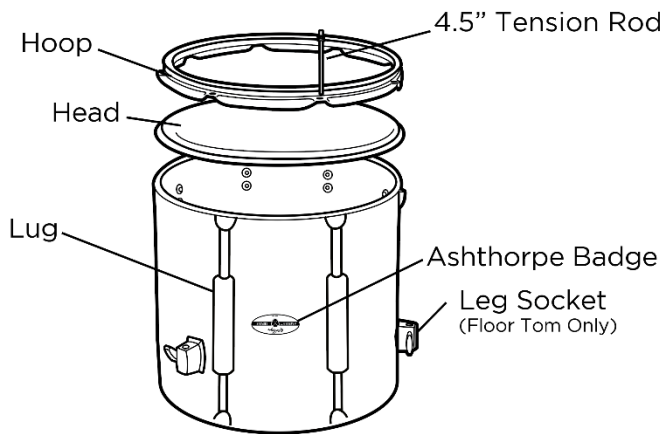
**1. Install Resonant Head** – Place the Shell for the Bass Drum flat on the floor (not standing on its side), with the top edge facing down. In this position, the Leg Sockets (The two silver brackets with wing nuts pre-installed on the side of the Shell) are closest to you or facing up and the Ashthorpe badge on the side of the Shell reads upside down. Set the Resonant Head on the Shell (on the Bass Drum, this is the Head with the

large Ashthorpe logo). Rotate the Head until the Ashthorpe logo is aligned with the Cymbal Mount and Tom Bracket. Place a correspondingly sized Hoop over the Head. Hang Claws on the rim of the Hoop, aligning each Claw with a Lug in the Shell. Insert a 6.75 " Tension Rod with washer, through each Claw into the Lugs and hand-tighten just until the Tension Rod washers are flush with the Hoop. Do not overtighten.

- 2. Install Beater Head** – Flip drum over, repeat the process with the white Beater Head, aligning the Ashthorpe logo on the Head with the Ashthorpe Badge on the side of the drum. At this stage it's normal to see wrinkles in the Heads. After tuning the Heads, they will disappear.
- 3. Install Legs** – Loosen the wing nuts on the Leg Sockets slightly (just enough to slide in each Leg). Slide in the Legs and retighten the wing nuts. Set the drum on the floor on its Legs. The drum should be elevated just slightly off the floor.

# ASSEMBLE THE FLOOR TOM

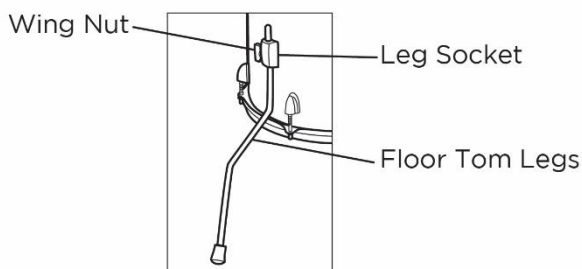
*Note – This drum kit contains two preassembled Rack Toms and a Floor Tom.*



**1. Install Resonant Head** – The Hoops needed to assemble this drum are temporarily attached to the Shell for shipping and need to be removed. Simply unscrew the 4.5” Tension Rods, which will allow you to remove both Hoops to set aside. Then, place the Shell flat on the floor with the top edge facing down. In this position, the wing nut on the mount (pre-installed on the side of the shell) is facing downward and the Ashthorpe Badge on the side of the Shell reads upside down. Set the Resonant Head on the shell (For the Tom Drum, this is the white Head with the

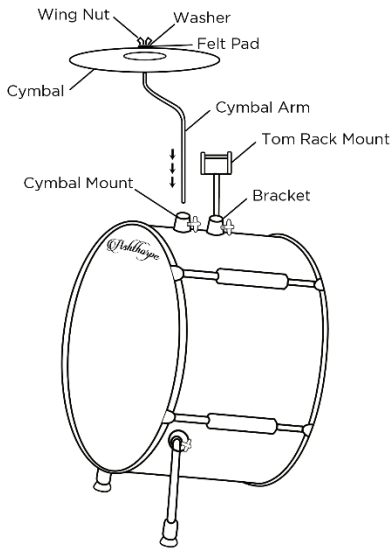
small Ashthorpe logo). Although not critical, since this is the bottom of the drum, you can align the logo on the Head with the Ashthorpe Badge on the side of the drum. Place one of the 2 Hoops removed earlier over the head with the flared outer edge facing down. Install the 4.5” long Tension Rods removed earlier, and complete the assembly by installing additional 4.5” Tension Rods from the hardware pack. Tension Rods should be hand tightened only. Do not overtighten. At this stage it’s normal to see wrinkles in the Heads. After tuning the Heads, they will disappear.

**2. Install Beater Head** – Flip the drum over, repeat the process with the white Beater Head, aligning the Ashthorpe logo on the Head with the Ashthorpe Badge on the side of the drum.



**3. Install the Legs** – Loosen the wing nuts on the Leg Sockets slightly (just enough to slide in each Leg). Slide in the Floor Tom Legs and retighten the wing nuts. The Legs will angle outward from the Drum. Set the Drum on the floor on its Legs.

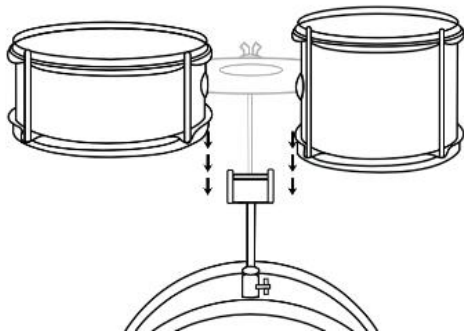
## MOUNTING THE CYMBAL & RACK TOMS



1. **Attach the Cymbal Arm** – Loosen the wing nut on the Cymbal Mount on the side of the Bass Drum. Insert the Cymbal Arm into the Cymbal Mount and tighten the wing nut.

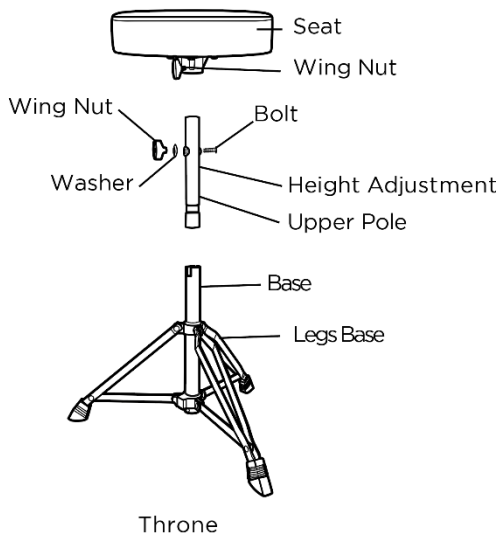
2. **Mount the Cymbal** – Loosen the wing nut at the top of the pole. Place the Cymbal between the Felt Pads and reinstall the wing nut. Do not overtighten.

3. **Attach the Tom Rack Mount** – Loosen the wing nut on the Bracket on the side of the Bass Drum. Insert the Tom Rack Mount into the Bracket so it is angled toward the Beater side (opposite side of the Ashthorpe Logo Head) and retighten the wing nut to secure.



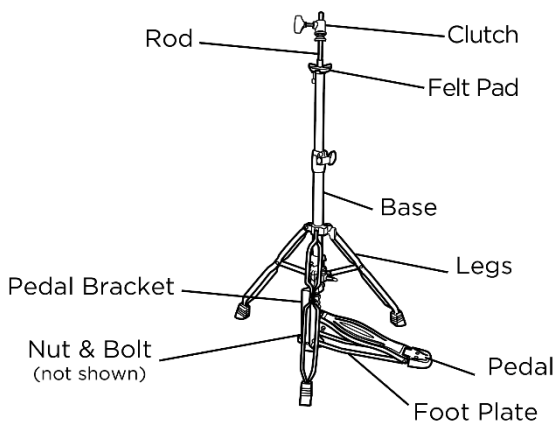
4. **Mount the Toms** – Slide the smaller Tom Drum onto left side of the Tom Rack Mount. (The Ashthorpe badge will face outward toward the audience and should read right side up.) Repeat with the larger Tom Drum on the other side of the Tom Rack Mount.

## ASSEMBLE THE THRONE

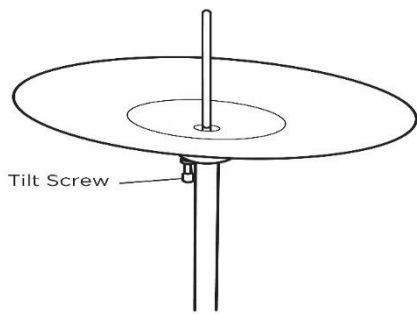


- 1. Open the Base** – The Base for the Throne can be identified as it has a Notch at the top of the Base. Extend the Legs by pulling outward until the Base is open and upright. Place the Flared End of the Upper Pole into the Base, fitting the Height Adjustment screw into the Notch.
- 2. Install the Seat** – Place the Seat onto the flared end of Upper Pole and tighten the wing nut under the Seat to secure.
- 3. Adjust Seat** – To adjust the height of the Seat, remove the Height Adjustment screw and reinstall into a new hole position as needed for your desired seat height.

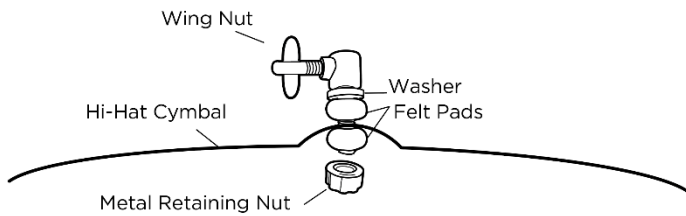
## ASSEMBLE THE HI-HAT CYMBAL



- 1. Open the Base** – The Hi-Hat stand can be identified as it has a pre-attached Pedal. Extend the Legs by pulling outward until the Base is open and upright. Remove the nut and bolt on the Pedal Bracket. Thread the Bolt through the Foot Plate and Pedal Bracket, then replace the nut and tighten. Tighten the Clamp to secure the Legs and set height.
- 2. Remove the Clutch & Install the Rod** – Loosen the wing nut on the Clutch assembly; remove it and set aside. The Rod is threaded at the bottom and should be screwed and secured in the Base Pole. Slide the Upper Pole over the Rod and tighten the wing nut.



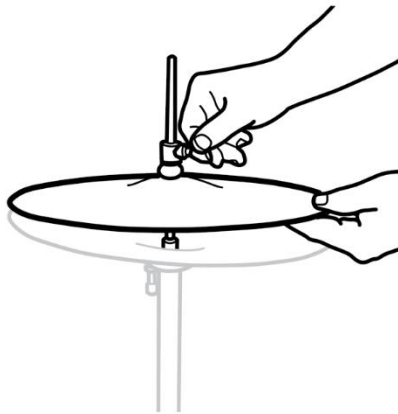
3. **Place the Lower Cymbal** – The Cymbals provided with this kit are of identical weight so either can be used as the upper or lower Cymbal. Slide one of the Cymbals facing up onto the Rod until it rests on top of the Felt Pad.



Hi-Hat Clutch Assembly

4. **Assemble the Top Cymbal & Clutch** – Loosen the Metal Retaining Nut and remove the bottom Felt Pad from the Clutch Assembly and set aside. Insert the Clutch through the top of the second Cymbal and reassemble the Felt Pad and Metal Retaining Nut on the underside of the Cymbal. This Cymbal should rest between both Felt Pads. Turn the bottom

Tension Adjustment Nut to tighten the Felt Pad against the Cymbal until you have the desired tension. Counter lock the top nut to set it.

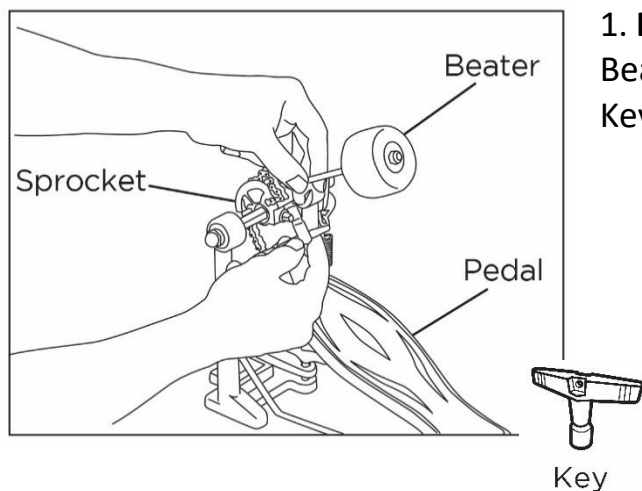


5. **Place the Clutch and Cymbal onto the Rod** – Slide the Clutch assembly and top Cymbal onto Rod to rest temporarily on the bottom Cymbal.

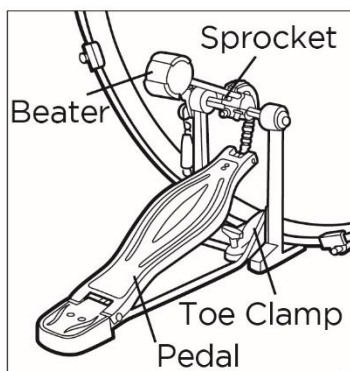
6. **Adjust the Pedal** – Press the Pedal down about an inch and hold, with your foot still on the Pedal, tighten the wing nut on the Clutch, then release the Pedal. Pressing on the Pedal will now engage the Cymbals.

7. **Adjust the Tilt** – Use the Tilt Screw to slightly angle the lower Cymbal so one side of the Cymbal makes contact slightly before the other side. This prevents an air lock between the Cymbals when they hit together.

## ASSEMBLE THE BASS DRUM PEDAL



1. **Insert the Beater** – Slide the Beater into the Beater Holder on the Sprocket and tighten with the Key.

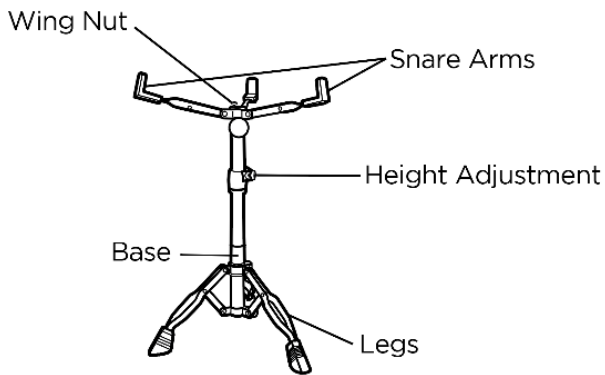


2. **Position the Pedal** – Set the Pedal close to the Bass Drum, gently lift the Drum onto the metal feet of the Pedal so the Toe Clamp fits into the Hoop, hand-tighten the wing nut below the Pedal to secure.

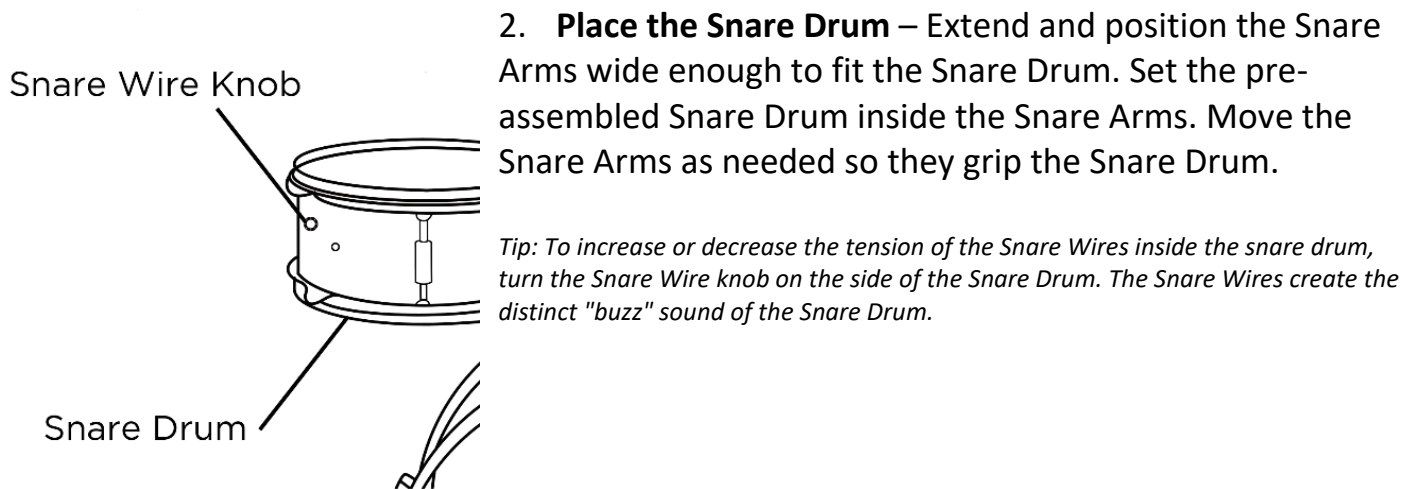
3. **Position the Beater** – The Beater should strike the drum just high off center. Use the Key to increase or decrease the height of the beater.



## PREPARE THE SNARE DRUM STAND

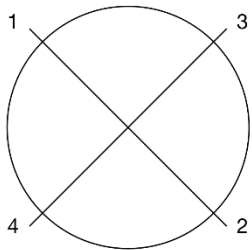


1. **Open the Base** – Extend the Legs by pulling outward into the open and upright position. You can identify the Snare Stand by the bolt and wing nut at the top of it. Remove the wing nut at the top of the stand, and layer the three Snare Arms on top of each other. Replace and tighten the wing nut.

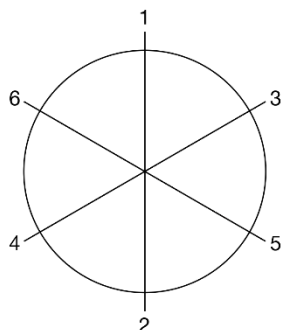


## BASIC TUNING

For optimum sound, the Drums need to be tuned before use. This is easy to do and only takes a few minutes. To tune, use the Key to gradually tighten the Tension Rods around the Batter Heads on each Drum in sequence following a crisscross pattern (See the following diagram).



Follow this sequence if your drum has 4 Tension Rods

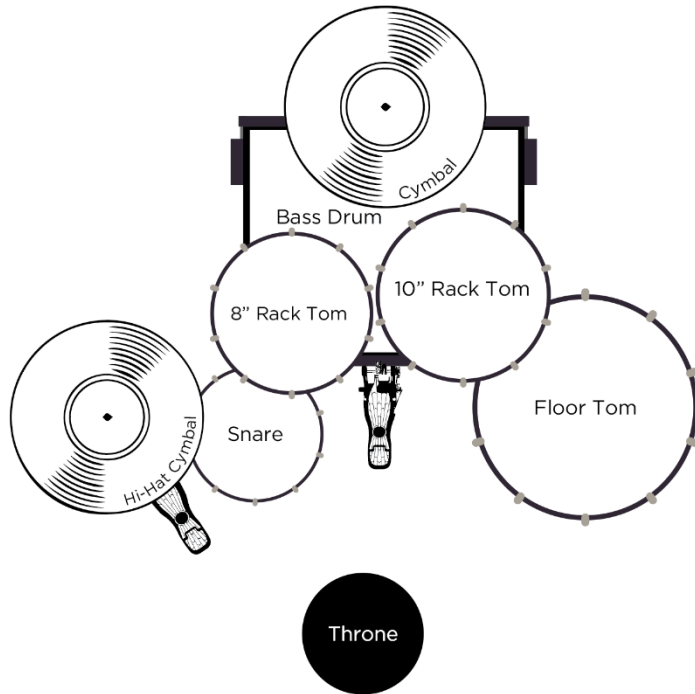


Follow this sequence if your drum has 6 Tension Rods

As you tighten each Tension Rod, tap on the Head of the Drum with your finger about an inch from the Rim in front of each Rod and listen to the pitches. Adjust the tension in each position as needed until the sound produced is uniform.

The Resonant Head can also be tuned, and is typically set at the same tension as the Beater Head, although you can experiment with slightly looser or tighter. See what works best for you and achieves the sound you're seeking.

## SETUP & LAYOUT



This is a standard drum kit layout. While some left-handed drummers do make kit adjustments, most prefer these basic positions.

**Bass Drum** - Place the Bass Drum in a central spot, leaving plenty of room on either side to build out the kit, and enough space behind it for you to move around freely.

**Throne** – Set the starting height of the Throne where your thighs are almost parallel to the ground, and your knees just below the tops of your legs.

**Snare** – Adjust the height of the Snare so the top of the drum is at your seated belt-buckle height. Place the Snare Drum between your knees, and set your stance wide enough so your thighs are clear of the drum. Adjust the Snare Basket Tilter so the Snare Drum is angled slightly toward you and the sticks naturally reach the center of the drum when your arms are bent at a 90-degree angle.

**Rack Toms** – Set the angle of both Rack Toms approximately the same as the Snare. Don't set the angle too steep as you want to be able to hit these drums without raising or lowering your arm, shoulder, or wrist in some unnatural way. The angle should reflect the natural angle of the strike of your sticks.

**Hi-Hat** – The Hi-Hat Pedal and Bass Drum pedal should be arranged in a symmetrical “V” formation, with you sitting comfortably at the apex. You want a direct, straight line from the toe of your Hi-Hat Pedal up through your leg to your hip flexor.

**Floor Tom** – Set this at the same height as your snare drum with the Head angled toward you.

**Cymbals** – Many drummers opt to place these at eye-level, but do what feels comfortable to you. The placement should be high and out of the way, but close enough where you don't have to overreach when playing. We suggest trying various heights and angles until you find something that allows for the greatest freedom of movement. The “Crash/Ride” Cymbal in this kit is for multipurpose use, and can be placed to the right side of the kit, above the Floor Tom. If you chose to add additional Cymbals later, “Crash” Cymbals are typically used for accents

and placed on the left side, “Ride” Cymbals are used to play steady patterns, and are typically the largest Cymbals in the set are placed to the right.

Depending on your play style and other factors you will need to adjust the height, angle, and placement of each component until you feel comfortable reaching each piece of your kit. There is no wrong or right way, just what works for you.

## HOW TO HOLD DRUM STICKS

There are several common positions for holding the Drum Sticks. The most common are the “Matched Grip” type which includes the American, French and German. Matched means that both hands are holding the Drum Sticks the same way, unlike the Traditional Grip.



## CARE & MAINTENANCE

**Heads** – Should be replaced when they become torn, dented, or over stretched.

**Tension Rods and Wing Nuts** – These parts can be lubricated with a general-purpose lubricant and snugged up as needed. They should never be tightened with pliers.

**Pedals & Stands** – Should be periodically inspected and tightened. The wing nuts and any other moving parts can be lightly lubricated with general-purpose lubricant as needed.