

Vocabulary

Bar – A short section of music containing a given amount of beats.

Beat – The steady heartbeat that underpins the music (also known as pulse).

Compose – Creating an original piece of music.

Crotchet – A note worth one whole beat (also known as a quarter beat)

Ostinato – A repeating pattern.

Quaver – A note worth half a beat (also known as an eighth beat)

Rest – A symbol used to represent a silent beat within a piece of music.

Rhythm – The musical sentence that sits on top of the beat.

Semiquaver – A note worth a quarter of a beat (also known as a sixteenth)

Time signature – A notational convention to tell the player how many beats are in each bar.

Unpitched percussion – percussion instruments that can only make a limited number of sounds – drums, shakers, woodblocks, tambourines etc.

Musical Futures – Floor and chair drumming

How are common rhythms played on drumkits?



About the instrument:

Traditional drumkits consist of a mixture of drums, including:

Bass drum: The biggest and lowest pitched drum of the kit played using a pedal operated by the foot.

Hi-hat: Two cymbals mounted on a stand. Played with sticks but also can be opened and closed using a foot pedal.

Snare drum: Mounted on a stand and played with sticks. Creates a loud 'snapping' sound.

Tom toms: Played using sticks. Different sized toms create slightly different pitches.

Cymbals: Mounted on stands and played with sticks. Create very loud crashing sounds. Sound varies depending on shape and size of cymbal.

Prior learning

Work in KS1 on untuned percussion and rhythm, playing tuned and untuned percussion in the Wider Opps Scheme in Year 4,

Interesting ideas:

You can mimic the sound of a drumkit using your body (body percussion) or using any item that you can tap or hit. A chair can be used to mimic a full drumkit, with a stamp of the foot for the bass drum, hitting the seat of the chair with a stick to represent the snare and hitting the back of a chair with a stick to represent the sound of the hi-hat. Although these will not be a true representation of the exact sound the drumkit makes, it means that players will experience and learn the co-ordination required to play the full kit.

Useful links:

Follow this link to watch a video about chair drumming:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9OVnpA87ew>