

***** INTRODUCTION *****

As musicians, we express our art-form through a variety of mediums. Whatever path a performer chooses, certain tools or instruments need to be implemented in order to create a musical setting.

As percussionists, these tools come in many varieties and sizes. No longer can we specialize on one instrument; to be a total performer, a high level of proficiency must be attained on all the percussion instruments. An on-going obsession for the percussionist is the collection of instruments and in order to sound our best, the equipment must be maintained in good working condition.

It is with a feeling of gratitude towards my colleagues that I am able to share solutions to equipment maintenance, and to learn from their experiences. This book was inspired because of their sharing.

M.P.B.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

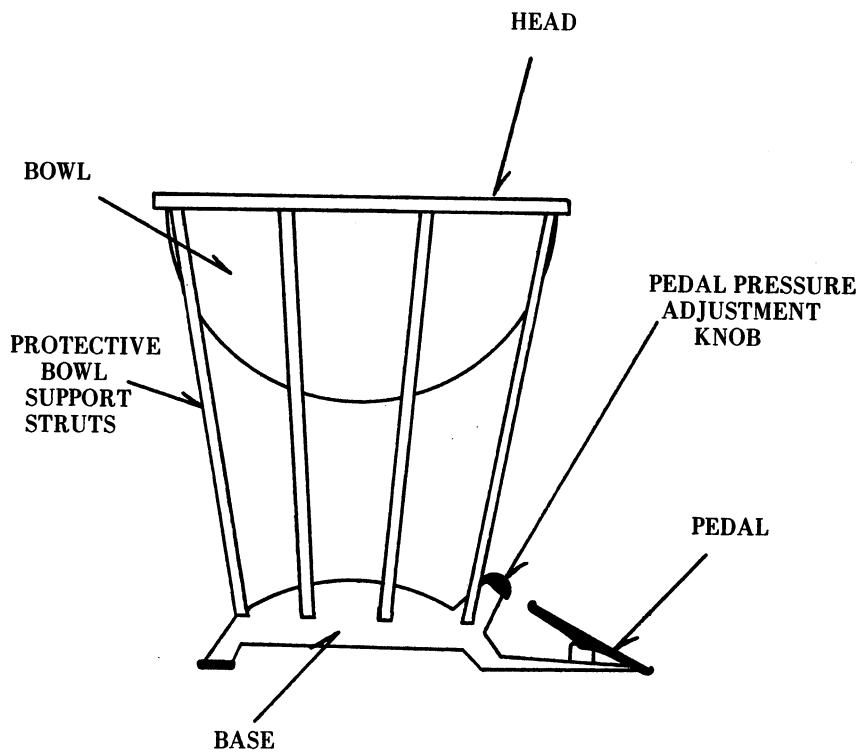
Introduction.....	3
TIMPANI.....	6
Reconditioning the Old Head.....	7
Removing a Timpani Head.....	8
The Lip of the Bowl.....	10
Removing Dents in the Bowl.....	11
Cleaning and Checking for Rattles.....	12
Mounting the Head.....	13
Tuning the Timpani Head.....	14
Dresden Model Timpani.....	15
Fine-Tuning Key.....	16
Adjusting the Pedal Tension.....	17
A Squeaky Pedal.....	18
Timpani Mutes.....	18
Moving the Timpani.....	19
Covering the Timpani.....	20
Extended Timpani Set-ups.....	21
BASS DRUM & Bass Drum Heads.....	22
The Calf Skin Head.....	23
Repairing a Damaged Head.....	25
Correcting Bass Drum Rattles and Noises.....	26
The Suspended Bass Drum Stand.....	27
Repairing the Shell.....	28
T-Knobs.....	29
Changing Bass Drum Heads.....	29
Bass Drum Muffling.....	30
SNARE DRUM - Keeping the Heads Clean.....	32
Snare Adjustment.....	32
Tuning the Snare Drum.....	36
Tuning Groups of Drums.....	38
The Internal Drum Mute.....	39
Replacing a Snare Drum Head.....	40
CYMBALS.....	41
Storage of Cymbals.....	42
Repairing a Cracked Cymbal.....	43
Spider Webbing.....	45
Welding a Crack.....	46
Cleaning and Polishing Cymbals.....	46
Sizzle Cymbals.....	47
Suspended Cymbal.....	48
Gongs and Tam Tams.....	53
TAMBOURINE - The Shell.....	55
Jingles - Replacing the Head of a Tambourine.....	56
Thumb Rolls.....	58
Tambourine Holder.....	58
TRIANGLE.....	59
The Triangle Clip.....	60
The Triangle Stand.....	61
CROTALES.....	62

ACCESSORY PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS	63
Clave	63
Woodblock	63
Maracas	63
Temple Blocks	63
Whistles and Sirens	65
Ratchet	65
Hand Castanets	66
Machine Castanets	66
 KEYBOARD PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS	67
Marimba and Xylophone	67
Repairing a Cracked Bar	67
Resonators	68
The Suspension Cord	69
Orchestra Bells	70
Care of Bell Bars	71
Vibraphone	72
 SPECIAL STICKS AND MALLETS	74
Gong or Tam Tam Beaters	74
Rute	75
Double Headed Sticks	76
Non-Retractable Brushes	77
Marimba Mallet Variations	78
Mallet Rack	79
 SURVIVAL REPAIR KIT	79
 SOUND PROJECTION FOR MARCHING DRUMS	80
 CUSTOM-MADE PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS	82
The Psaltry	82
Bell/Buzzer Effect Box	83
Seven-Tone Metal Pipe Rack	84
Resonating Chamber for Bell Coils	85
Lion's Roar	86
Flex-a-Tone	87
Damper Bar for Mark Tree	87
Marching Machine	88
Cowbell Tapping	88
Log Drum	89
Slapstick	90
Mallet Accessory Rack	90
Multiple Cowbell Holder	91
Single Woodblock Holder	91
Double Woodblock Holder	91
Chime Rack	92
Horizontal Sleigh Bell Rack	93
Vertical Sleigh Bell Rack	93
A Device for Re-fluffing Timpani Felt	94
Chain Drum Tuning Gauge	94
Bass Drum/Cymbal Pedal Attachment	95
Hexagon Bass Drum Spur	96
Oxygen Bell Rack	97
Triangle Tree	98
Multiple Triangle Rack	98
Using Sticks on the Tambourine	99
Suspending Metal Bell Plates	99

*** TIMPANI ***

Timpani are mechanically refined, tunable instruments, requiring a certain amount of structural knowledge for proper performance. The main sections of each timpani include:

1. Head
2. Bowl
3. Carriage
4. Pedal



Most of the maintenance involved on timpani will encompass these four main areas.

*** SUSPENDED CYMBAL ***

The ideal method of suspending a cymbal is with a crook or boom stand. There are many advantages to this type of suspension as opposed to the traditional suspended cymbal stand.

1. Because the cymbal hangs freely and is not constricted by the wing nut attachment, tone is improved.
2. There is a greater reduction in stand noise with this type of suspension.
3. With the boom stand, there is additional flexibility in placing the cymbal within a multiple percussion set-up.
4. Since the strap is attached, the cymbal can be quickly removed and replaced with a different size during the course of a work.
5. The cymbal can also be quickly removed if it is one of a pair and used as crash cymbals.

