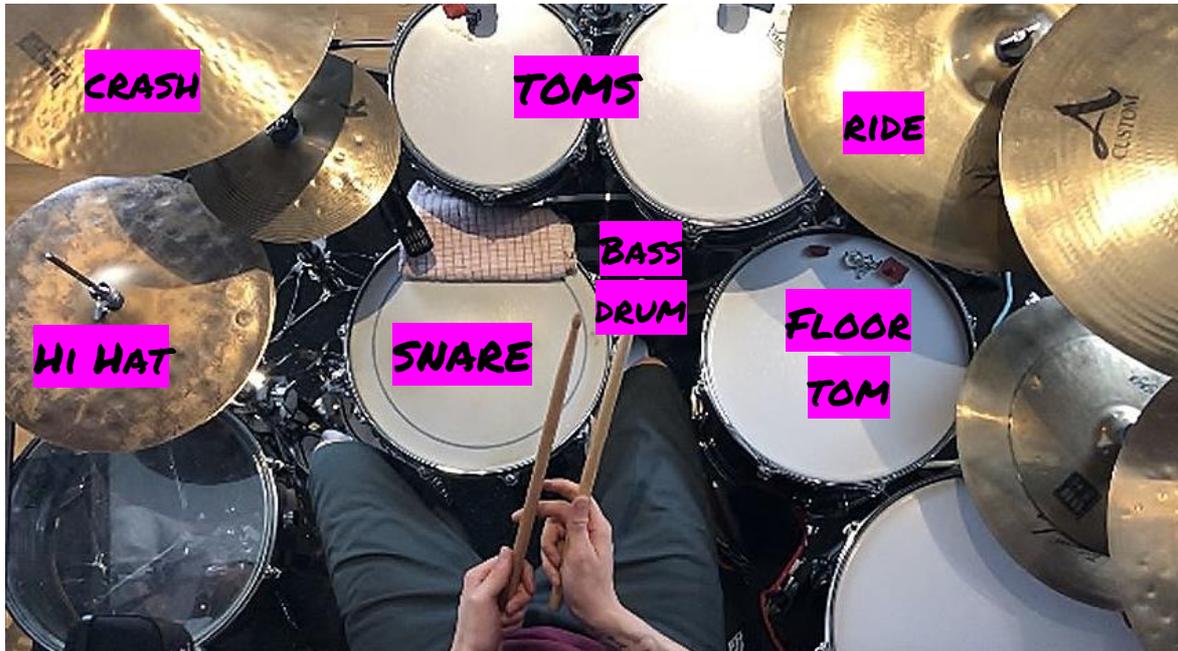




BEGINNER DRUMS – GETTING TO KNOW THE DRUMS

THE HANDOUT

PARTS OF THE KIT:



The 3 main parts you will use for most beginner beats are the Hi Hat, Snare and Bass drum. The bass drum is played with the foot, so too can the Hi hat, but typically you keep it closed – which is also using the foot pressing down on the pedal (obviously not the same foot as the bass drum).

GRIP



Find the balance point of the stick, the point where you can balance it on one finger, so it doesn't tip one way or the other. Grip with your thumb and index finger or middle finger (depending on your preference), a bit below that centre point, toward the but end of the stick – the lower end - that should be a great starting point.



FRENCH GRIP

French grip uses the movement of the fingers. The thumb points to the sky and the fingers control the movement of the stick. This grip is not one for beginners. Do not try this grip and then play with the wrist rather than the fingers as it can cause injury. The wrist does not naturally bend that way.



GERMAN GRIP Almost opposite to French grip. The wrist is turned over and the palms are flat, facing upwards. The sticks are played with the wrist and the two sticks create a 90 degree angle on the snare drum with the but end of the stick coming out the back of the hand.



AMERICAN GRIP

American grip is basically just somewhere in between French and German but with a little more emphasis on the German grip. It still uses more of the wrist than the position and use of the fingers in the French style grip. The palms still face upward but are not always completely flat. Beginners should be somewhere between American and German grip.