

Zildjian® DRUM SET METHOD



BY **MARK WESSELS**
WITH VIDEO LESSONS FROM
WAYNE SALZMANN II

INCLUDING FREE video lessons
Available at www.zildjian.com/education

INTRODUCTION

There are countless books, websites, apps, videos and social channels all devoted to teaching you how to play drums. With a pretty broad range in quality and depth of lesson content, we wanted to take a slightly different approach. Our goal for this Drum Method project isn't to replace the thousands of other resources available. It's to **INSPIRE PEOPLE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH MUSIC** by providing trusted, guided lessons, and a motivating experience that helps get your feet wet with music and percussion. As the global leaders in cymbals, drumsticks, and mallets, we at the Avedis Zildjian Company are committed to helping create the next generation of musicians, artists, and/or music lovers.

For every student who fully commits to buying a drum set and signing up for lessons, there are countless other people who are interested in the drums, but either don't know where to start or aren't sure if they're ready to jump in head-first. That's where the Zildjian Drum Set Method comes in. Start with the first lesson - you don't need drums or sticks to get started, and it's totally free.

If your dream is to one day play in a band, or even to become a 'good enough' drummer to be able to play along with your favorite tunes, then we **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that you take lessons from a qualified drum teacher.

For the drum teachers out there, we think you're going to love having this resource available. In the planning and production of this series, we wanted to give the student a rock-solid drumming foundation and well-rounded knowledge, delivered in a fast-paced, user friendly environment. We hope you'll consider incorporating it into your current curriculum.

READY TO GET STARTED? We hope you enjoy using this book & video series, joining a growing community of music-makers with every step, and maybe even joining the Zildjian family in the future!

ABOUT US

THE AVEDIS ZILDJIAN COMPANY



THE WORLD'S LEADING MAKER OF CYMBALS, DRUMSTICKS, AND MALLETS

The Zildjian Company has been synonymous with setting the standard for the development and manufacture of high performance musical instruments since 1623. As the world's leading maker of cymbals, drumsticks, and percussion mallets, Zildjian products are sold across the globe, under the Zildjian®, Vic Firth®, and Balter™ brands, and are the standard to which all other cymbals, drumsticks and mallets are measured. From the beginner to the world's greatest rock stars, jazz performers and concert percussionists, amateurs and pros alike choose Zildjian, Vic Firth, and Balter products to allow them to experience and share the joy of music.

Headquartered in Norwell, Massachusetts with offices in Newport, ME, Los Angeles, CA, London, UK, and Singapore, Zildjian products are sold globally through distributors and via a network of dealers. All Zildjian instruments are made in the USA at our cymbal factory in Norwell, MA and drumstick/mallet factory in Newport, ME.

Zildjian®

WWW.ZILDJIAN.COM

MARK WESSELS

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION • ZILDJIAN® | VIC FIRTH® | BALTER MALLETS™

Author of the "Zildjian Drum Set Method"

Mark Wessels is an internationally respected author and educator. As a publisher, his "Fresh Approach" method books are among the most successful in the world, with over 300,000 copies in print.

From 1983-2000, Mark taught percussion in some of the most successful public school programs in Texas and launched one of the first internet sites devoted to percussion education. As a result, he was hired as the "Director of Internet Activities" in 2000 for the Vic Firth Company and built one of the most popular online destinations for drummers today. Through the years at Vic Firth, Mark created the vast library of educational resources, many of which were ground breaking in its day. From Essential Rudiments, Groove Essentials and other popular posters to video lessons, play-along tracks, "In the Lot" and "Learn the Music" videos, Mark has been at the forefront of percussion education for over two decades.

During his tenure at Zildjian, Mark has also been responsible for producing thousands of drum set, marching and concert performance videos from all over the world. Working with other dedicated members of the Zildjian team, he also produced and directed the popular "Zildjian Underground," "Zildjian Live" and "vfJAMS" video series. Outside of his work at Zildjian, Mark continues to publish new projects through his website at WWW.MWPUBLICATIONS.COM.



WAYNE SALZMANN II

Host of the "Zildjian Drum Set Method" Video Lesson Series

Wayne Salzmann II is a drummer, educator, author, and composer based in Austin, Texas. He has been the Drum Set Instructor at the University of Texas at Austin for over a decade and has given clinics and masterclasses worldwide.

In addition to his extensive touring and recording with Grammy winning guitar virtuoso Eric Johnson and iconic songwriter Bob Schneider, Salzmann has also performed and/or recorded with Steve Miller, Kenny Rogers, Kris Kristofferson, Christopher Cross, Joe Satriani, Mike Stern, Robben Ford, Chris Potter, Dick Oatts, Bill Watrous, Diane Schuur, Bobby Shew, UT Jazz Faculty,

San Antonio Symphony, and many others. He has hundreds of recording credits, including a Billboard no. 1 Jazz record, a Billboard no. 1 Blues record, and feature film soundtracks.

Wayne's book "Developing Melodic Language on the Drums" has received high acclaim from legendary drummers Peter Erskine, Ed Soph, Carl Allen, John Riley, and from *Modern Drummer Magazine*. He currently serves as a member of the Drum Set Committee for the Percussive Arts Society, and is an artist/clinician for DW Drums, Pedals, & Hardware, Zildjian Cymbals, Remo Drumheads, and Vic Firth Drumsticks. Keep up with Wayne at WWW.WAYNESALZMANN.COM.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2 – 7	LESSON THIRTEEN	32 – 33
LESSON ONE.....	8 – 9	The Ride Cymbal, Ride Cymbal Position, French Grip, Ride Cymbal Grooves, Quarter Note Ride Patterns, Adding the Hi-Hat 'Chick'	
Your First Drum Beat		LESSON FOURTEEN	34 – 35
LESSON TWO	10 – 11	Music Reading Exercises, Independence Exercises, The Toms, Moving Around the Toms	
Learn About Drum Sticks		LESSON FIFTEEN	36 – 37
LESSON THREE	12 – 13	Grooves Utilizing the Toms, Hearing Protection, 16th Notes, 16th Note Drum Fills	
Gripping the Sticks, Adjusting the Throne and Practice Pad Height		LESSON SIXTEEN	38 – 39
LESSON FOUR.....	14 – 15	Open Hi-Hat Sizzle Sound, Open Hi-Hat Exercises, Open Hi-Hat Combos, Half-open Hi-Hat, Open Hi-Hat Sounds within Ride Patterns	
The Rebound Stroke, Essential Rudiment: Single Stroke Roll		LESSON SEVENTEEN	40 – 41
LESSON FIVE	16 – 17	Stroke Styles: Down/Tap/Up, Accent Patterns, 8th Rests, Fills Using the 8th Rest	
Learn about the Snare Stand and Snare Drum Anatomy		LESSON EIGHTEEN	42 – 43
LESSON SIX.....	18 – 19	Syncopated Left Hand 16ths, Multiple Bounce Roll, Drag	
Bass Drum Pedal, Bass Drum Anatomy, Pedal Technique		LESSON NINETEEN	44 – 45
LESSON SEVEN	20 – 21	Syncopated Bass Drum 16ths, Stick Bag, Rim-shot, Syncopated Bass Drum Combos	
Hi-Hat Stand, Sticks on the Hi-Hat, Beginning Independence, "Rock Star" Play-along Track		LESSON TWENTY.....	46 – 47
LESSON EIGHT.....	22 – 23	16th Note Ride Pattern, One- Handed and Alternating, Verse/Chorus Musical Song Form	
Playing the Hi-Hat Pedal, Double Stroke Roll, Single Paradiddle, Sticking Patterns		GROOVE LIBRARY.....	48 – 55
LESSON NINE.....	24 – 25	Quarter Note, 8th Note Ride Pattern (48) Syncopated 8th Note Grooves (49) Quarter Note Ride with BD/SN 8ths (50) Grooves Utilizing the Toms (50) Open Hi-Hat Sizzles/8th Note Ride (51) Syncopated Left Hand 16ths (52) Syncopated Bass Drum 16ths (53) 16th Note Ride - One Handed (54) 16th Note Ride - Alternating (55)	
Music Notation Basics, Music Reading Exercises, 8th Notes			
LESSON TEN.....	26 – 27		
8th Note Grooves, Accent, Cross- Stick, 8th Note "Combos"			
LESSON ELEVEN	28 – 29		
Zildjian Family Story, Anatomy of a Cymbal, Cymbal Set-up, Crash Cymbal Stroke, Musical Phrases			
LESSON TWELVE.....	30 – 31		
Drum Fills, The Flam, Playing Fills Within a Musical Phrase			

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Fundamentally, there is no “right” or “wrong” way to approach any book, but here are a few suggestions that might help you get the most out of the Zildjian Drum Set Method.

If you’re a first-day beginner, you’ll obviously want to start at the beginning and progress through each lesson in succession. This method introduces skills that build from one to the next. If you’ve been playing a while, we recommend that you skim through the first part of the book to make sure you understand the concepts and can play all of the material included in each of the lessons.

In addition to learning the fundamentals of how to play the drums, this book also includes a significant amount of information about the gear you’ll be using – necessary info which is often omitted from other beginner drum methods. We believe that knowing how each piece of gear functions and how to fine tune your setup is an important part of learning about the drums.

Unless you’re studying privately with a qualified drum instructor, the free VIDEO LESSONS available on zildjian.com are a crucial part of this method. In the videos, Wayne Salzman takes you step-by-step through each lesson, introducing concepts and demonstrating the fundamentals of each new technique, groove and fill. We encourage you to pick up your sticks and play along instead of simply watching the videos.



At the top of each lesson you can scan a QR CODE with a mobile device that will take you directly to the content available on the Zildjian website. Be sure to take advantage of the resources available. The content includes video lessons, play-along tracks and extended educational material that we were not able to fit in the pages of this book. If you wish to view the website on a desktop or laptop computer, bookmark the address for the full lesson series:

www.zildjian.com/education/zildjian-drum-set-method.html

We’ll leave you with one final thought. The key to becoming successful is to ALWAYS HAVE FUN! As with any worthwhile endeavor, there may be times when you become frustrated. We encourage you to take a step away from the book during each practice session and play along to some of your favorite tunes. Not only will you have fun, but by using your ears and listening to music created with professional drummers, you’ll develop a sense of how to create parts that serve the music – which is the true role of all great drummers.

Good luck on your journey!



8TH NOTE GROOVES

Now that you're familiar with 8th note subdivisions, we can apply several variations to where the bass drum and snare drum beats fall in the measure to create many new 8th note rock beats. On each of these grooves, start slow and work with a metronome or track to maintain a steady tempo.

1

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

2

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

3

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

4

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

You can also add snare drum notes other than just the backbeats.

5

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

6

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

The next two grooves have a "syncopated" feel because it moves the bass drum to the upbeat of count two without following with downbeat on count three. **SYNCPATION** is the placement of rhythmic stress where it wouldn't normally occur.

7

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

8

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Adding an **ACCENT** (or emphasis) on the upbeat of count 2 produces an even more syncopated feel. An accent in music is notated as a "greater than" sign on a note (>).

9

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

10

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

CROSS-STICK

The “cross-stick” is a snare sound that’s often used to mimic a woodblock or clavé. Lay your stick across the drum with the butt hanging off 3-4 inches. With the tip of the stick resting on the drum, lift the butt end and strike the rim. Be sure to watch the video lesson for a detailed explanation.



Typically, the cross-stick sound is used in a lighter section of a sound (such as a verse). The cross-stick is often notated with a light circle around the snare drum note.

11

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

12

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

8TH NOTE GROOVE “COMBOS”

Repeat each of these 2 count groove variations separately until you have a nice, relaxed feel. NEXT, combine two random numbers to come up with one measure 8th note groove variations. THEN, combine four random numbers to come up with TWO measure grooves.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

The **GROOVE LIBRARY** on page 46 in the back of the book has more great ideas to explore. Work through each of them separately until you’re comfortable moving from one to the next without a break in tempo. Combine one measure grooves for even more challenges.