

Alfred's

(Beginning)

Kid's Drumset Course

The Easiest Drumset Method Ever!

Dave Black • Steve Houghton



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About the CD



The CD contains most of the exercises and all of the tunes included in this book, so you may listen and play along with them. On many of the tracks, the drums will fade out so you can play along with the song on your own, and sometimes the drums will fade back in towards the end of the song. The CD tracks also serve as drum models to help strengthen time keeping, improve ensemble playing, clarify phrasing and expand your knowledge of styles.

Choosing a Drumset to Use with This Book

If you have completed *Alfred's Kid's Drum Course*, you are now ready to move on to *Alfred's Kid's Drumset Course* and play a basic four-piece drumset. Although most standard sets include an additional mounted tom-tom and a floor tom-tom, we have left them out of this book for the purpose of simplicity. Once you are comfortable with the material in this book, the floor tom-tom and an additional mounted tom-tom may be added. Avoid purchasing a set with overly large drum sizes.

The Basic Drumset Setup

The basic four-piece drumset includes a bass drum, snare drum, mounted tom-tom, floor tom-tom (optional with this book), ride cymbal, crash cymbal, and hi-hat.

The drumset should be set up so that you are comfortable! When you sit on the drum throne, the drums and cymbals should be within easy reach, much like your plate, knife, and fork are within easy reach when you are sitting at the dinner table. So, let's "sit at the table."



The Throne

Let's start with the drum stool, called the *throne*. The height should allow a comfortable sitting position, so that your thighs are parallel to the floor or angled slightly downward. When you place your feet on the foot pedals, your legs should be slightly past a 45-degree angle.



The Snare Drum

The snare drum should be positioned about waist level. If the drum is too low, it will limit the use of your hands. When using the matched grip, the drum should be flat or slanted slightly downward and toward you. Avoid tension.

