



NOTEHEADS

Traditional noteheads are recommended for instruments of the membrane, pitched wood, and non-pitched wood family. Alternate noteheads [X,◇,□,△] may be used for the metallic instruments. Once a decision has been made, the format should be adhered to throughout the entire piece.



*Photos courtesy of the following companies:
Black Swamp Percussion, Sabian Cymbals, Grover
Percussion, Latin Percussion, Pearl Corporation, Toca
Percussion, Rhythm Band Instruments, and Yamaha Corp.*

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BONGOS



Bongos are single-headed drums that are open at the bottom, and are made in pairs (one drum slightly larger than the other). The instrument is usually held between the knees (or mounted on a stand), and is traditionally played with the fingers. A variety of beaters, including drumsticks or yarn mallets, may also be used.

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CHIMES (TUBULAR BELLS)

Chimes are comprised of a series of metallic tubing, arranged like the black and white keys of a piano. The tubes are struck using one or two rawhide mallets. A foot-operated damper pedal controls the duration of the sustain. The sound of chimes is greatly reminiscent of church bells.



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MARIMBA



The bars of the traditional marimba are usually made of rosewood and are cut wider and thinner than those of the xylophone. Some marimbas, however, use synthetic bars. Each bar has a resonator. The instrument is played with yarn, cord-wound, or rubber mallets, and possesses a tone quality that is warm, resonant, and woody. The marimba is available in a variety of ranges, and is the most popular solo instrument of the keyboard percussion family.

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THUNDER SHEET



A thunder sheet is a large metal sheet (usually 4' by 8') made of very thin aluminum. It is shaken to produce a characteristic thunder effect. The intensity of the shake will determine the dynamic level.

