

BUCKET classics!

Classical Play-Along Songs for Bucket Drums and Classroom Percussion

By Tom Anderson

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5-Gallon Plastic Bucket

It goes without saying that you will need a bucket to play bucket drums. The most common size is a 5-gallon plastic bucket found in paint stores, hardware stores, or used in food services.

They can be purchased for less than \$5 or free if donated by the school cafeteria. Of course, clean them thoroughly if they once contained food. Remove the metal handle, then flip it over so the bottom is facing up.

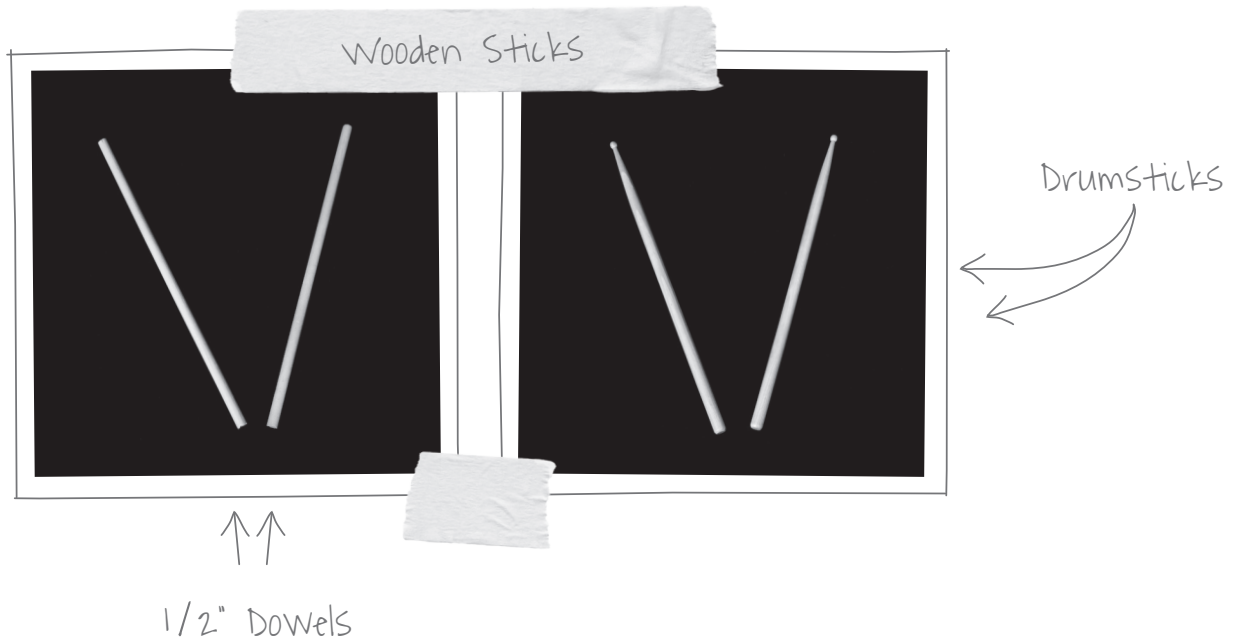


Wooden Sticks

Each bucket drummer will need two sticks. Cut a half-inch dowel to approximately 16 inches. Dowels are usually lighter than traditional drumsticks but less expensive. Rhythm sticks can also be used for playing bucket drums.

Drumsticks that are \$5 or less per pair can be found in most music stores. Then store them in a plastic bucket! It is recommended to use drumsticks with wooden tips. Their tips do not fall off like plastic-tip drumsticks.

There are three distinct sections of a drumstick: the *tip*, *shoulder* (middle), and fatter end called the *butt*. These sections help to produce various tones when hitting an instrument. Bucket drums can be limited when it comes to timbre so having a variety of striking surfaces is helpful and adds to the musical experience.



Also Sprach Zarathustra

Percussion parts by
TOM ANDERSON

Music by
RICHARD STRAUSS

Majestically (♩ = ca. 60) 3

BUCKET DRUMS

Bass Tone

OPT. PERCUSSION

Finger Cymbals

Crash Cymbals

Low Drum

7

6 With motion (♩ = ca. 74) *rit.* (♩ = ca. 60)

BD

FC

CC

LD

William Tell Overture

by Gioachino Rossini

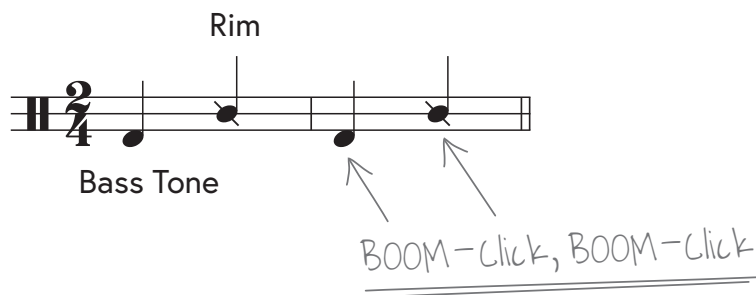
Classic Tips

- Overture (instrumental introduction) for the opera *William Tell*
- Premiered in 1829
- Last of Rossini's operas
- Used as the theme music for *The Lone Ranger* in movies, radio, and television
- Featured in cartoons with Mickey Mouse and Bugs Bunny

Bucket Drums

Bass Tone–Rim Shot

A bass tone (described on page 6) is followed by hitting the rim for a rim shot. Use the butt end of the stick for the bass tone and the middle of the stick or shoulder for the rim shot. This creates a “boom–click–boom–click” sound.



Flam

A *flam* is played by hitting the head at slightly different times. One hand follows the other very quickly. It is an important *rudiment* (basic pattern) in drumming.

