



Develop Your Passion For Drumming

Drumming, what a great hobby or profession to have! It's artistic yet mathematical, energetic yet relaxing. It develops coordination and reflexes, it can help keep you fit, and studies have even shown that learning the drums can improve intellect... Who said drummers were stupid?! Playing the drums also gives you a great rhythmic foundation for any other instruments you might like to learn.

By absorbing as much information as you have time for outside of your lessons you can drastically speed up your learning. The positive difference being fully immersed in the world of drumming will make to your playing is huge! You'll discover great drummers who's playing excites you and might even get you interested in different genres of music that you otherwise may never have given a chance. Using books, DVDs, magazines and websites you can learn new techniques, concepts and rhythms that can help take your playing to the next level.

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Being fully inspired by and passionate about drumming will also help you practise more. Getting a regular monthly drum magazine will expose you to all sorts of fantastic lessons, products, and drummers that'll give you “the bug” for drumming and get you itching to get in your practise room or to your next gig and start playing.

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Even just buying a new pair of sticks can get you fired up to play! Brighten up your practise room with posters of amazing looking drum kits, pro drummers, and your favourite bands. Turn your room into a place of inspiration that's all about drums and makes you want to better your playing.

Check out different drum companies, you can learn about all the new drum equipment available, see the beautiful colours and finishes that different kits feature, and find out who endorses these products... Maybe it's one of your favourite drummers who has a signature line out that you just have to have! Perhaps that player is also scheduled to perform at a drum clinic or masterclass near you. Of course companies want to sell their products but they also share your passion for drumming and offer lots of great content for free. They have websites you can browse that often include lessons and interviews with the pros, news letters you can sign up to, and all the usual links to social media sites like Facebook and Twitter so you can keep up to date.

“A whole world of drumming awaits, check it out and get inspired!”



Make friends with other drummers, discuss playing ideas, trade licks and exchange books & DVDs. In my experience drummers (more so than any other musicians) are always happy to talk about drums and share the secrets of their playing. You and your “drum buddies” can go to shows together, get inspired by some of the world’s finest drummers playing live and chat about all the cool new stuff happening in the world of drums, or just go check out a local gig and maybe you’ll meet another like minded drummer.

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Of course, it’s also important to play with other musicians, whatever level your playing is at there are always other instrumentalists out there at a similar standard wanting to have a jam or join a band, it’s just a question of finding them. In my experience my students start to develop quickest as soon as they join a band or just start meeting up regularly with a mate or two for a jam. Most beginners assume this

means finding the obvious members of a rhythm section like a bassist and guitarist, but it’s just about making music as a team. Piano, tuba, piccolo, violin, sax, it doesn’t matter... Even jamming with a neighbour down the street who happens to own some bagpipes will get you started and inspire you to further your drumming.

“Love drums?... Let everyone around you know.”

Why not get kitted out with some smart drum clothing and accessories? Love drums?... Let everyone around you know. If someone is into football they walk round in their team’s shirt. Other sporty types wear relevant clothing, surfers and skateboards will wear extreme sports branded clothing. Fans of particular movies, comics or video games will wear gear that shows off their passions... So we drummers should too... How about a fetching ‘Zildjian’ t-shirt? Perhaps a ‘Vic Firth’ bag, some ‘Pearl Drums’ wristbands or a hat from your favourite band’s latest tour. It all helps get you more engrossed in your drumming.

As well as listening to albums that might feature some of your favourite players how about checking out some music or drumming specific podcasts. Hear top pro players casually chat about their lives in music as they share tips and anecdotes from their years of touring and recording.

There’s even a ton of drum related apps that you can get on your smart phone, tablet or computer. Apps that will download lessons to your phone, allow you play around with virtual drum machines and other sequencing software or allow you to notate your own music.

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