

Percussion instruments: additional activities

Maracas

Maracas are a _____ percussion instrument. Maracas are made from seed-pods or gourds, which are filled with _____ or pebbles. They were originally made by South American Indians, who used them to ward off evil spirits. Maracas are played by _____. The shaking moves the seeds and pebbles around and creates a _____ sound. They are played in pairs. Maracas are widely used in jazz, reggae and percussion bands and folk groups to add colour to the _____.

rattling seeds rhythm shaking non-melodic

Snare drum

The snare drum is a non-melodic _____ instrument. The snare drum is a double-headed _____ with a snare on the lower head. The snare consists of a number of coiled wires that _____ against the lower head. When the drum is _____, the snares double the number of vibrations made by the head. The drum can be played without the snare by releasing a lever on the side of the drum. The _____ should be left off when the drum is not in use so that it does not vibrate while other instruments are being played nearby. Snare drums can play drum rolls and "rim shots" (a dry _____ sound made by resting a stick across the rim and head and hitting the metal edge of the drum). They are played with wooden sticks or wire brushes (used for a more gentle, swishing _____ and special effects). Snare drums have been popular in military bands since 1575, when soldiers used to march into battle with the drum slung across their left hip. Snare drums are often called side drums because of this.

hit drum snare vibrate percussion metallic sound
