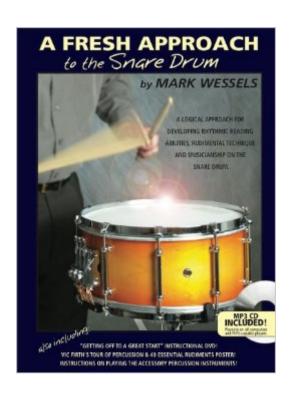
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# A Fresh Approach To The Snare Drum





# Synopsis

A Fresh Approach to the Snare Drum by Mark Wessels is the most comprehensive method available that simultaneously provides instruction for rhythm reading, technique fundamentals, rudimental training, coordination and musicianship necessary for today s well rounded percussionist! The accompaniment CD makes practicing fun by utilizing percussion instruments and grooves from around the world. Also included in the package is the Vic Firth 40 Essential Rudiments poster PLUS A FREE GETTING OFF TO A GREAT START DVD! The mp3 CD set makes the perfect companion to A Fresh Approach to the Snare Drum! The play-along audio CD is so much fun that students will have a hard time putting the book away! The new DVD includes video lessons on everything a beginner needs in order to have a successful start on the snare drum (drum set up, tuning, grip, stroke everything through Lesson One). Also included is Vic Firth s Video Tour of Percussion, featuring clips from famous artists and ensembles such as Buddy Rich, Gary Burton, Blue Devils and UMASS Marimba Ensemble. It is a great way to learn about your beginning journey into the world of percussion! And to help you throughout the book, Mark Wessels has recorded 82 FREE VIDEO LESSONS are available on YouTube! Having video lessons on every topic through the book is a great way to supplement lessons from your teacher OR the best way to learn to play the snare drum on your own!

# **Book Information**

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### **Customer Reviews**

I have enjoyed using this method for many years and with many students with diverse learning styles and have consistently achieved success. The author has compiled the best teaching

techniques and exercises that takes the student for a compelling journey of learning to think musically and percussively. There are warm-ups, isolated technique exercises, theory, clear explanations, audio examples, well-organized exercises, extra practice exercises (if desired) and culminating etudes for each lesson. Best of all: it's easy to use. The lessons are laid out on two facing pages. The corresponding supplemental material is in the appendices which are assigned on the lesson pages. That is desirable because you can tailor these to the individual student. That's why this method is masterful. it is clear and concise yet expandable all in one book. The CD's and intro DVD come with it! These are valuable tools and make sure you USE them. They alone are worth the price of the book. They will help to build a sure foundation in correct technique saving you hours of unnecessary frustration not knowing if you are doing it right or making progress. If you follow Mark Wessells' powerful method you or your students will be able to play and have fun doing it. Thank you Mr. Wessells!

I'm an old drummer who never learned to play right. Along with some you tube videos on rebound, this is the way to go. The book is laid out really well in an easy to understand manner. The music tracks that come with the book are great. They actually sound like you're drumming along to music, and they serve as a little reward for your progress. He goes into pretty good detail of technique. You really get the best experience by watching the you tube videos as well. It's just great that he took the time to make a video for every lesson. It's so convenient to watch them. I actually had a pirated copy of this book that I could have used just fine, but the book seemed so nice, that I wanted the real deal. I'm glad I did because it's been updated as well. I also got a chance to check out some other popular beginner/snare books and I like this one the best. I'm using this with the level system presently because that book goes into a lot of detail about up and down strokes. I also recommend the Jo Jo Mayer video "Secret Weapons", for the best video I've seen explaining rebound technique. I'm going to eventually have to pay a teacher a dollar a minute to help me fine tune my technique, but this book will help me get there.

If you truly want to learn to play the snare, this is the book w/mp3. I've always liked drums but only knew how to play the tenor. This book gives you every bit of information you need to get started and stay on the path to learning the 40 rudiments to play the snare. It takes a lot of practice but the end results are well worth it. You will learn how to hold your sticks, read the music, and how to stick consistently to get that drum roll that can go on forever. I have purchased other CDs and DVDs on playing the drums. This one beats them all as far as information is concerned. This book is not done

half way. He tells you everything you need to know to be successful. You've just got to do it.

I absolute love this book: Each page layout, the structured lessons, and the sequential exercises. The explanations are clear and easy to understand. I'm an adult learner and I have no music background at all. By using this book, it has made believe that it's still possible to play and to have fun with it. I enjoy playing the etudes. Great job, Mr. Wessels!

This is the definitive manual to learning to play the snare drum and the necessary rudiments while also learning to read music in a fast, easy manner. The book comes with a CD that has play-along music for the various exercises. This is great because right away you are exposed to a variety of playing styles, and it makes playing even the most basic exercises fun. The book comes with a link to some free youtube videos, but to see all of the videos that match up with the lessons, you must pay from the author's website. I think these are very valuable and worth the extra money. In only a matter of weeks you will be reading music and playing along to song tracks. Excellent!

In my opinion, this is one of the great bodies of work for music method, absolutely clear and concise, easy to follow and understand. It takes one from first drumstick touch through intermediate. There is easily 2 years worth of study in this book. My 8 year old, who plays piano, looked over my shoulder and figured out how to drum and read drum notation in just a few minutes. The beginning exercises are so simple and gradually increase, that if one applies themselves they will be assured of success. Absolutely A++ method book. I wish all instruments had such a book!

If you are consdering learning the basics, this is the ultimate beginning. I have been following the program for about 4 months and have experienced significant improvement. This guy, Mark Wessels, knows how to do it right. He knows how to do right by you.

I discovered this book through the Vic Firth website. I started the method with the free lessons found there. The practice routines on the Vic Firth site seem to be from an older edition of the book. Pay close attention to the changes to routine when transitioning from the free lessons to the book. It's a fine method. I am a guitar player and instructor. I wish there were books like this for guitar. I'm using this book for self instruction (I get occasional drum lessons to check my form). After about two months of daily practice, I've reached the sixth lesson (out of twenty). The lessons are well paced, with an emphasis on gradual, consistent development of rudiments and exercises. The visual

presentation in the book is tight and concise. The supplementary online videos are thoughtfully done and very helpful. The included audio recordings are indispensable. I wish this book were widely available in Canada.

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