

Example Questions and Answers for GSMD Percussion Exams.

The Snare Drum

1. A Snare Drum is so called because it has **Snares** (wires) underneath.
2. The snares are normally made of coiled wire but could be made of cable or gut.
3. The top head is called the **Batter** head and the underneath head (on a snare drum) is called the **snare** head. On other drums the bottom head is called the resonant head.
4. Both heads are made of plastic but used to be made of animal skin (calf).
5. Drum shells can be made of:

Wood –	Birch	Metal -	Brass	Other -	Fibreglass
	Maple		Steel		Plastic
	Plywood		Aluminium		
6. A drum is tuned with a special **key** which turns the **Tension Rods** which pulls the head down over the rim creating tension.
7. **Types** of plastic head include: Pinstripe, Single Ply Coated, Oil filled, Centre Spot, Doughnut, Clear and Double Ply.
8. Different types of heads make different sounds due to the damping effects of the oil or patches.
9. Coated heads are used to create a good sound with **brushes**.
10. **Makes** of drums include: Premier, Pearl, Tama, Yamaha, Ludwig, Percussion Plus, CB Drums.
11. **Makes** of cymbals include: Sabian, Zildjian, Paiste, Stagg, UFIP.
12. **Drum Sticks** are made from hickory, oak, maple or more recently, plastic or carbon fibre.
13. **A Snare Drum** is normally **14 inches** in diameter but can be **13** or even **12 inches**.
14. **Drum Kit sizes:**

Standard sizes: 14 inch snare drum, 12, 13 and 16 inch tom toms and 22 inch bass drum.
Fusion sizes: 14 inch snare drum, 10, 12 and 14 inch tom toms and 22 or 20 (sometimes 18) inch bass drum.