

**92.06 - Percussion musical instruments (for example, drums, xylophones, cymbals, castanets, maracas).**

Percussion musical instruments are struck with an object of a similar kind, or with a stick or similar device, or with the bare hand. These instruments are also known collectively as "the drums".

The main instruments in this heading are :

**(A) Those with a stretched skin, e.g. :**

- (1) **Tabors and tambourins.**
- (2) **Drums (shallow side drums, bass or big drums, etc.).** These consist of a wooden or metal cylinder with parchment or vellum stretched over each end (double-headed drums). They are sounded by striking with one or two plain or leather-headed sticks.
- (3) **Timpani and kettle-drums.** These consist of parchment stretched over hollow copper hemispheres (varying considerably in size and usually resting on the ground). They are tuned to a definite note and are sounded with sticks.
- (4) **Tambourines with jingles.** These consist of a hoop covered with skin and are fitted with jingles or copper tongues which are sounded by shaking the instrument in different ways, or by striking it with the palm of the hand, the fingertips, etc.
- (5) **Tom-toms.**

**(B) Other percussion instruments such as :**

- (1) **Cymbals.** These are circular plates generally sounded by striking one against the other or by rubbing them together; in some cases, one single cymbal may be sounded by striking with a soft-headed stick.
- (2) **Gongs** (e.g., Chinese gongs), which are metal plates usually struck with a heavy stick tipped with a skin or felt wad.
- (3) **Triangles,** which are steel rods bent into the form of equilateral triangles; they are sounded with an iron rod.
- (4) **Jingles johnnies** (Chinese pavilions, Turkish crescents), which are fitted with jingles and small bells which sound on shaking the staff on which the instrument is mounted.
- (5) **Castanets,** which are small wooden, bone or ivory concave or shell-shaped instruments; they are either fixed to the fingers or mounted on a handle, and are sounded by striking one against the other.
- (6) **Xylophones** consisting of a series of small wooden slats of graduated lengths, mounted on two supports and played by striking with sticks.
- (7) **Metallophones,** which are similar to xylophones but have narrow metal plates (steel or duralumin) instead of wooden slats; (both xylophones and metallophones are often fitted with metal resonance tongues or tubes beneath the table). The heading also includes **similar instruments with glass plates.**

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- (8) **Celestas** and the like, used in the percussion instruments group as a substitute for conventional chimes. These have the outward appearance of a small piano with pedal and dampers. Sound is produced by striking special thick steel plates with mechanical hammers operated by a keyboard.
- (9) **Bells, sets of bells, chimes and tubular bells** (a series of tubes suspended in a frame and struck either with a bare hand or with a hammer).
- (10) **Maracas** and similar instruments consisting of hollow bells or tubes sounded by shaking.
- (11) **"Claves"** consisting of a pair of hard wooden sticks.
- (12) **Flexatones** consisting of a metal plate mounted on a handle, and two wooden balls placed on either side of the plate. On shaking the instrument, the balls hit the plate causing it to vibrate, while the tone is controlled by bending the plate with the thumb.

Some of the instruments mentioned above are occasionally combined so that a single performer may play several at the same time. In dance-bands, for instance, the soft-headed stick used to sound the big drum is pedal-operated and, in addition, the drum is fitted with cymbals, gongs, wood-blocks (types of wooden resonance boxes either equipped with bells or forming a xylophone), etc.

**Carillons** for public buildings, suitable for producing music, are also classified here.

However, electronic percussion musical instruments are classified in **heading 92.07**.

The heading also **excludes** :

- (a) Door or table bells and gongs, door chimes, etc., which are not musical instruments (**heading 83.06** or **85.31**).
- (b) Chimes and other striking mechanisms for clocks (**heading 91.14**).