

Not all set-ups will be the same. We can create our own unique instrument

This example is a way to notate for an *Expanded Drum Set* (a set-up of 6 Pieces and beyond). For example, 20 pieces are shown (below) ...

Drum-Write™ templates go from 1 drum to plus 20 drums (electronic batter pads, TAMA Octobans, Roto Toms™ etc)

Legend

High Hat
Bass Drum (kick)
High Hat pedal
Snare Drum

Musical notation for a 4-piece drum set in 4/4 time. The notation is spread across four staves. The top two staves use a simplified notation system with 'X' marks for snare and high hat, and solid black circles for bass drum. The bottom two staves use a more traditional notation system with stems and heads for snare and high hat, and solid black circles for bass drum. A legend on the left identifies the symbols: High Hat, Bass Drum (kick), High Hat pedal, and Snare Drum.

Legend

4 Roto-Toms

4 Electronic Pads

Tom-Toms 10" 14" 16"

12" 15" 18"

Mounted Bass Drums

18" 20" 22" 24"

Crash Cymbal

Musical notation for an expanded drum set in 6/4 time. The notation is spread across four staves. The top two staves use a simplified notation system with 'X' marks for snare and high hat, and solid black circles for bass drum. The bottom two staves use a more traditional notation system with stems and heads for snare and high hat, and solid black circles for bass drum. A legend on the left identifies the symbols: 4 Roto-Toms, 4 Electronic Pads, Tom-Toms (10", 14", 16"), Mounted Bass Drums (12", 15", 18", 18", 20", 22", 24"), and Crash Cymbal.

With this approach, a common notation system can be used among those drummers whose setup is larger than the traditional 5 piece...simply include a legend of what is setup around you. Sight-reading another's setup will not be expected as it is for sight-reading the tradition 5-piece. Above is a drum set showing over 20 instruments. Naturally, most set-ups will not contain extremely large drums as notated above.

By adding clefs, notation for tuned percussion instruments is quite easily done. This author has always encouraged students to think more about including tuned percussion instruments in their personal setup...an interesting area for the drummer/percussionist to pursue.