Drum Set Resources

Typical Drum Diameters: <u>Snare Drum</u>: 14”; <u>Toms</u>: 10”, 12”, 14” OR 12”, 13”, 16”
<u>Bass Drum</u>: 20” for general purposes. 22” is also common. 18” is ideal for lighter playing / jazz combo.

Tune the toms about a 3rd apart, or up to a 4th if using only two toms (you don’t want extreme differences in pitch or the drums won’t create a cohesive sound).

Good Drum Set Brands: Pearl, Yamaha, Mapex (each company makes various models of drum sets from beginning level / student models up to high-end professional drums).

Recommended Methods:

Drum Set 101 by Steve Houghton - A great introduction to the drum set for the total beginner.

The Drum Set Soloist by Steve Houghton - an intermediate to advanced book that covers many styles, each featuring drum solos in various contexts.

Advanced Funk Studies by Rick Latham - A series of written-out drum set etudes that cover many ideas relevant to funk drumming.

Bucket of Fish by Lalo Davila - A new book featuring written out drum solos for the beginner, including play-along tracks.

Encyclopedia of Groove by Bobby Rock - Good introduction to rock coordination, including fill ideas. Comes with play-along tracks.

Groove Essentials by Tommy Igoe - This book presents many drum set styles, along with charts and tracks for each one. Can be used at the beginning up to advanced levels.

Ultimate Play-Along by Dave Weckl - Presents six tracks from a variety of styles, complete with charts.

Survival Guide for the Modern Drummer by Jim Riley - Similar to Groove Essentials, covers a wide variety of styles, each with a play-along track.

The Art of Bop Drumming by John Riley - A great resource for jazz / bebop drumming. Includes a section on playing brushes.

Beyond Bop Drumming by John Riley - Builds on his previous book and covers more advanced modern drumming techniques and concepts.

Ed Soph Brushes Series - A great introduction to brush fundamentals! See the 7-part series on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN-zCHM5epTeoO12AIBMmzpNR2hau7Jn-

The Drummer’s Ultimate Reading Anthology by Steve Houghton - Features real-world charts from a variety of styles. Great for honing your drum set chart reading.

The Jazz Drummer’s Reading Workbook by Tom Morgan - A great resource for learning combo as well as big band drumming. Features sections on playing figures and fills, and charts with tracks.

Syncopation by Ted Reed - A classic rhythm reading book. Great for use in coordination exercises - there are whole book dedicated to describing various ways of using this book!