

## How to Make a Drum Kit out of ANYTHING

Literally **anything** can be a drum kit. If it makes a noise when you knock it, then you can use it. Just make sure that it's not breakable, expensive, or alive! Whatever objects you decide to use, make sure you check with somebody that it's okay to use before you begin drumming with it!

### Ideas for Making Your Own Unique Drum Kit...

- The Drums:
  - Pots and Pans
  - Cardboard Boxes
  - Plastic Plates and Bowls
  - Surfaces (like a Table)
  - Walls, Floors, Doors and Chairs
  - Metal Cutlery (Forks and Spoons)
  - Keys – try jangling them!
  - Aluminium Foil – You can Sellotape this over something and knock it (like a cardboard box) or scrunch it up to make a different sound
- The Drum Sticks:
  - Wooden Spoons
  - Pens or Pencils
  - Your fingers, palms, fists, and feet!

### Things to Try:

1. **Low to High:** Line up your drum kit around you in a line from biggest to smallest. Which instruments sound lower and which sound higher?
2. **Long and Short:** Do any instruments in your drum kit make a *long* sound and do any make a *short* sound? If you hold them up with your hand and hit them, do they make an even longer sound? Listen carefully: how long does the sound last for...? If you press your hand on the other side of one of your instruments when you hit it, what happens to the sound?
3. **Loud and Quiet:** Which of your instruments are louder and which are quieter?

### Games & Activities:

1. **Copycats:** With a parent, brother, sister, uncle, grandparent, or even your dog (if they'll sit still for long enough!), try playing a short pattern on your drum kit for them to copy. Give them a point for every one they get right! Start by playing really short rhythms, then make it harder by playing longer ones...
2. **Detectives:** With a partner or in a group, get everybody to close their eyes whilst you hit just one instrument on your drum kit for them to hear. They then have to open their eyes and guess which instrument you were playing! Try taking turns and see how many you can get right...
3. **Play Along:** There are *so* many good songs you can play along to with your drum kit. Try out some of these:

- Queen, *We Will Rock You*
- *The Greatest Show* from 'The Greatest Showman'
- Queen, *Another One Bites the Dust*
- Jimmy Rainsford, *The Drumiverse* (on YouTube)
- The Lumineers, *Ho Hey*
- *You're Welcome* from Moana
- *Not Evil* from Lego Movie 2
- *Catchy Song* from Lego Movie 2
- *Everything is Awesome* from Lego Movie

We've also sent out some Disney songs that you can play along to – see if you can match our loud and quiet playing, and our slow and fast playing! As an extra challenge, stop playing when we stop playing!

What else could you play along to? The radio? The TV?