

Bass Drums: Setting up Stands and Carriers

The Stand

A tripod design with an independent front leg, stadium stands are very adjustable and adaptable to different rehearsal and performance venues, such as stadium bleachers or uneven ground.



Begin by opening the legs and positioning the stand with the centre post close to the ground but without touching it. This enables the stand to have a low centre of gravity, and be more stable when the drum is mounted.



Adjust the four cradle arms to sit against the shell of the drum and in contact with the flesh hoop of the drumhead.



Adjust the cradle lock to help hold the cradle in place during use.



Levelling the drum is achieved by adjusting the stand's legs. The height of the drum is correct if the player's forearm is parallel to the floor, the mallet is on a 45 degree incline, and the mallet head is in the centre of the drumhead.



The Carrier

The belly plate should be adjusted to fit as low as possible on the player's torso. This will help to shift the drum's weight to the player's pelvis, and away from the lower back.



Place the carrier's mounting hooks in the bass drum's eye bolts.



If the carrier has J-rods, place them against the shell and in contact with the flesh hoop (as you do with the stand cradle arms).



Lift the drum by the hoops to place carrier on the player.



As with the placement of the drum on the stand, adjust the height of the drum so that the player's forearm is parallel to the floor, and the mallet is on a 45 degree incline with the mallet head centred on the drumhead.



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