

Playing a Snare Drum

- When you strike the stick on the drum head, pretend it is your finger touching a hot stove. You subconsciously lift your finger at the last minute because it doesn't want to stay on the stove. This is the same manner in which you want your stick to hit the drum.
- Sticks should not strike dead center, but an area between the edge of the drum and dead center as this will produce the best sound.
- We have come away from a double stroke roll – this is a thing of the past when drums were largely used for parade marching. Now we use a multiple bounce approach. Students learn this by getting as many bounces from their initial impact with each individual.
- It is important to use even strokes. Try to get the same number of multiple bounces from each stick. Do this and your rolls will sound smooth and even – you don't even have to move your wrists fast if you are getting several bounces on the head from each stick.



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Discussion Overview

- The Lift Principal
- Sticks between edge & center
- Multiple bounce technique
- Even strokes



The Lift Principle

- Finger on hot stove
- Alternate sticking



Sticks between edge and center



Multiple Bounce Technique

- Start slowly
- Many bounces per strike



Keep Strokes Even

- Strokes sound the same
- One not louder
- Gradually faster

