

# GROVER

## PRO PERCUSSION®

Percussion Primer *by Neil Grover*

TAMBOURINE

### **SELECTION**

---

The tambourine is available in many sizes and jingle configurations. Most importantly, for concert playing, a tambourine with a quality skin head is essential! Headless “rock” tambourines are not a viable substitute. I suggest a general purpose 10” diameter quality tambourine with a double row of bright sounding jingles. Of course it is always beneficial to have a few instruments with a range of sound characteristics available.

### **GRIP**

---

Hold the tambourine with a firm, yet flexible grip. Remember, the instrument needs to vibrate when struck. Right handed players should hold the tambourine in the left hand and strike with the right. Maximum clarity and articulation is achieved by holding the tambourine parallel to the floor. Maximum jingle resonance is achieved by holding the tambourine vertically. For general playing, the tambourine should be held at a 45 degree angle.

### **STROKE**

---

- THREE FINGERS - general playing (pp-mf).
- FOUR FINGERS - strong playing (f).
- CLOSED FIST - very aggressive playing (ff-ffff).
- ROLLS - played by shaking with grip hand or using thumb (friction) roll.

### **EXTRA SOUND**

---

The tambourine can easily produce unwanted sounds if not handled with care. Be careful not to create unnecessary jingle sound when handling the tambourine during performance!