



NEIL GROVER

• Grover Pro Performance Snare System •

Grover Pro Percussion started quite by accident! In the '70s I was playing percussion alongside Vic Firth in the Boston Symphony when I heard an old Leedy triangle that had a magnificent shimmer. Vic explained to me that it was the most beautiful triangle he had ever heard and that there was not one quite like it. I just had to find out why! Along with a friend who was a student across the river at MIT, we reverse engineered the old triangle. I found a blacksmith at the old Charlestown Navy Yard and gave him the MIT specifications. When I returned to see him a week later he handed me a new triangle THAT SOUNDED EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE BEAUTIFUL OLD LEEDY!

The next week I used my new triangle in a rehearsal of "Scheherazade" (which has a great triangle part) and the moment I struck it the other percussionists took notice. Soon, at their request, I was having the blacksmith make a few more. While I had hoped that this would be the end of my foray into triangle making, word quickly spread (yes-without the internet) and I started getting calls from orchestral percussionists across the US, requesting the "Grover" triangle. One memorable call came in from a large percussion retailer wanting to order twelve triangles. I explained to him that I was NOT in the percussion business, to which he replied, "You are now!"

Here I am, 40 years later, about to receive a "Small Manufacturer of the Year" award from the US Small Business Association. It has been 40 years of hard work, determination and perseverance. What has kept me going is the passion for drums and percussion that sparked in me when I was just nine years old. It is the opportunity to create instruments for dedicated musicians around the world that has kept me moving forward all these years. Of course, I have not done this alone, I have had the benefit of many, many helping hands along the way. Hopefully, I have successfully paid it forward by helping others who are starting out on their journey.

While many drum manufacturers focus on features that have negligible impact on a snare drum's sound quality, at Grover Pro Percussion we believe that the snare wires ARE the most critical part of any snare drum. It stands to reason that it is the interaction (slapping) between the wires and the bottom head that accounts for a snare drum's unique sound. It is this belief in the importance of quality snares that drive us to handcraft each snare unit in our USA factory.

Traditionally, snares were made from gut (don't ask whose) that was stretched, twisted and dried into long hard strands, like spaghetti. The problem with those gut snares was that they were subject to unpredictable changes in tension as a result of temperature and humidity variation.

With the onset of the jazz age drummers found that their gut snares were not nearly sensitive enough, especially when the drummers were playing a ballad with brushes. Gut snares would just not respond to the light touch required of jazz drumming.



SX SILVER WIRE/BRONZE CABLE COMBO



STADIUM DARK



CLUB BRIGHT



CLUB COMBO



CLUB DARK



JAZZ BRIGHT



JAZZ DARK



STADIUM BRIGHT

It is said that necessity is the mother of invention and the needs of drummers are no exception. Widespread dissatisfaction among jazz drummers using commercially available gut snares led to the invention of the wire "snappy" snare, which is commonly found on snare drums today. Originally also known as "James" snares, they were easily manufactured using thin steel music wire coiled into a spring and then stretched so that the coils spread open into a helix. Jazz players flocked to



these new snares because they responded so well when playing at the softer end of the dynamic spectrum.

Since 1980, Grover Pro has been hand-crafting snares that fit any standard snare drum and which provide drummers with an increase in snare projection, sensitivity and “fatness” of sound. In fact, some very famous drummers have used our snares over the years, but, their restrictive drum endorsements prohibit us from sharing which drummers prefer our retrofitted snares (if you catch us at a convention you may just convince us to tell you!)

Unlike ordinary “snappy” snares (which only contact the bottom head at small points along the apex of the wire), our snare wires make continuous contact across the bottom head over the entire length of the wire. This means that our snares have a contact area many times greater than ordinary spiral snares. Increased snare wire contact with the bottom head translates to maximized attack and increased projection across a fuller spectrum of sonorities. Our snares are designed to also be sensitive thanks to our special brass end plate design.

Every strand of our snare material is hand soldered into a brass end piece. Incorporated into the design of the end piece is a miniature flange that acts as a lever. Unlike ordinary snappy snares, tensioning our snares across the bottom head results in increased pressure against (into) the bottom head. This results in the ability to “dial-in” the optimal lateral and vertical tension settings, even using a simple snare strainer.

Today, our Performance Snares are used by drummers who desire the ultimate snare drum articulation at any dynamic level. Simply put, where ordinary snappy snares fail, ours are just getting

warmed up! Whether it is a new custom drum, or an old vintage snare drum needing restoration, the simple retrofitting of a Grover Pro® Performance Snare System™ will drastically and positively transform the sound of your snare drum!

Our Performance Snare Systems are available in three weights: Jazz (light), Club (medium) and Stadium (Heavy) and with a choice of two different wire alloys: Bright (Nickel Silver) and Dark (Phosphor Bronze).

Since we manufacture each unit by hand, our snares can be manufactured in sizes suitable for a 10” “popcorn” piccolo to a massive 16” field drum. Our 13” and 14” models are also available

for drums that require extended versions of our snares.

Available at select drum shops and percussion retailers. Priced from \$35 to \$55. More info at: GroverPro.com.✱

GROVER PRO PERCUSSION®
PERFORMANCE SNARE SYSTEM

Improve the sound & performance of your snare drum!
 Non-spiral snare wires feature increased surfaced area, resulting in:

- Maximized snare projection
- Enhanced snare response
- Minimized sympathetic snare buzz

Handcrafted in the USA

Retrofit the Grover Pro Performance Snare System onto any standard snare drum. It easily attaches using either the enclosed heavy-duty strapping or flexible Dacron cord (for increased sensitivity).

APPLICATIONS

Model	Projection	Sensitivity	Brightness
Jazz Dark	Low	Low	Low
Jazz Bright	Low	Low	High
Club Dark	Medium	Medium	Low
Club Combo	Medium	Medium	Medium
SX Wire/Cable	Medium	Medium	High
Club Bright	Medium	Medium	High
Stadium Dark	High	High	Low
Stadium Bright	High	High	High