THE Percussion Family

Any instrument that you hit, shake, or scrape to make sound is a percussion instrument!

Here are some percussion instruments you might see on stage at the Schermerhorn:

SNARE DRUM

The snare drum is made of wood or metal, with metal wires called “snare” that are stretched across the bottom of the drum.

BASS DRUM

The bass drum is one of the largest and lowest-sounding drums in the orchestra. The bass drum is played by striking on its sides with a beater or mallet.

XYLOPHONE

The xylophone is made of wooden bars which are set on a metal frame.

The xylophone is like a piano keyboard with lower-sounding bars on the left and higher-sounding bars on the right.

CYMBALS

The cymbals consist of two large brass plates and are played by hitting the two plates against one another.

TIMPANI

The timpani consist of animal skin stretched over a large copper bowl.

Timpani are also sometimes called kettledrums.

MAKE YOUR OWN PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT and more!

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