

“Creating Vitality Through Sound.”



KINDRED SPIRIT DRUMS

“Creating Vitality Through Sound”

www.kindredspiritdrums.com

www.kindredspiritdrums.com

Dear Kindred Spirit,

Thank you for your purchase of a “Kindred Spirit” Steel Tongue Drum. We strive to provide affordable and high-quality instruments to the local and global markets, and we thank you for becoming part of the growing family of Kindred Spirits around the world! Our home-base is located in Roberts Creek on the Sunshine Coast which is a beautiful peninsula on the West Coast of British Columbia, Canada.

Hand-based steel percussion (Such as Steel Tongue Drums and Handpans) have the ability create a powerful connection between the player and their own inner-world regardless of age or musical experience. They can be used to attain a deep meditative state, for healing purposes, and for the care-free experimentation with music. Each of the instruments we create is a physical manifestation of gratitude; A heart-felt thank you to the world we share, and for everything and everyone in it. I hope when you play your Kindred Spirit Steel Tongue Drum you will embody the same sense of wonder, love, and gratitude that we experienced while making it for you.

We take extreme pride in our customer-relations, so if you have any questions, concerns, or wish for illumination on anything not mentioned in this booklet please feel free to contact us at anytime.

Sincerely,

Brynn Clingwall
Founder, Kindred Spirit Drums

Thank you for letting us share our love of singing steel with you, and for being a Kindred Spirit, who is willing to carry one of our musical gifts to share with the world. We hope that you will find tranquility and healing in the soft waves of melody you create, and that you may resonate with other Kindred Spirits on your journey.

Many blessings, and may your spirit find peace and serenity on the wings of singing steel.

- Brynn.

Contact Information:

Email:

kindredspiritdrums@gmail.com

Phone:

604-740-2467

Address:

Kindred Spirit Drums
1134 Flume Road
Roberts Creek
British Columbia
Canada
V0N 2W2

Website:

www.kindredspiritdrums.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/kindredspiritdrums/

Soundcloud:

www.soundcloud.com/kindredspiritdrums

Twitter: @ KindredDrums

Instagram: kindredspiritdrums

Thank You For Your Interest! We Will Respond To Your Inquiries
As Soon As Possible!

Table Of Contents:

1. Drum Safety
2. About Kindred Spirit Drums
3. Understanding Your Drum
How To Play!
4. Drum Care
Trouble Shooting
5. History Of The Steel Tongue Drum
6. The Scales We Offer

Please be aware that you can find more information about
your instrument on our website:

www.kindredspiritdrums.com

Drum Safety:

Steel Tongue Drums are quite heavy, and they come with mallets and other small parts that can be hazardous to children if handled improperly or ingested!

Not recommended for children under 5 years old

1. **Steel Tongue Drums are quite heavy and can cause severe damage to people or property if dropped on them.**

Be careful and make sure your hands are free of grease/water before attempting to pick up your instrument. This will ensure you have a solid grip on the drum and will not inadvertently drop it on anything or anyone.

2. **Do not leave young-children unattended with the mallets provided with the drums, and absolutely do not allow your child to put the mallets in their mouth!**

Although we preform our due-diligence when we produce our products, there is always a danger that a mallet-head could come off and it could become lodged in an airway. Never leave your child unattended with the mallets.

3. **Do not leave young-children unattended with the optional magnets you can purchase with your instrument!**

Magnets can become lodged in the intestinal tract of children and cause severe illness that can lead to extensive surgery and death.

Never leave your child alone with the optional magnets.

Kindred Spirit Drums accepts no responsibility for incidents of damage or injury caused by the misuse or neglectful supply of our products to young-children.

Use common sense! Stay safe!

Standard Scales:

These are the standard scales we apply to our Steel Tongue Drums, although sometimes they may be a varied transposition (Higher/lower key). Information on transpositions can be found on our website:

www.kindredspiritdrums.com/soundmodels

<u>Scale Name:</u>	<u>Notes:</u>	<u>Key:</u>
Akebono (Minor Pentatonic)	E3, F#3, G3, A3, C4, E4, F#4, G4, A4	E minor
Arbutus (Mixolydian Mode)	E3, A3, B3, D4, E4, F#4, G#4, A4, B5	A Major
Beta-Tone (Minor Pentatonic)	E3, G3, A3, B3, D4, E4, G4, A4, B4	E minor
Hijaz (Phrygian Mode)	D3, A3, Bb3, Db4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4	D minor
Melog (Major Pentatonic)	E3, G#3, A3, B3, D#4, E4, G#4, A4, B4	E Maj
Penta-Tone (Major Pentatonic)	G3, A3, B3, D4, E4, G4, A4, B4, D5	G Major
Pacific Swell (Minor Scale)	E3, G3, B3, C#4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, B4	B minor
Pygmy (Minor Pentatonic)	E3, F#3, G3, B3, D4, E4, F#4, G4, B4	E minor
Renaissance (Dorian Mode)	D3 G3 A3 Bb3 C4 D4 E4 F4 G4	D minor
Solstice (Aeolian Mode)	E3, G3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, B4,	G Major
Chilcotin Renaissance Penta-Tone	D3 G3 A3 Bb3 C4 D4 E4 F4 G4 F3, G3, A3, C4, D4, F4, G4, A4, C5	D minor F Major
Damascus Hijaz: Mixolydian Mode:	D3, A3, Bb3, Db4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4 E3, A3, B3, D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4	D minor D Major
Shogun Akebono Solstice	E3, F#3, G3, A3, C4, E4, F#4, G4, A4 E3, G3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F#4, G4, B4,	E minor G Major
Yin-yang Pygmy: Solstice:	D3, E3, F3, A3, C4, D4, E4, F4, A4 D3, F3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, A4	D minor F Major

History Of The Steel Tongue Drum:

“The steel tongue drum had several predecessors, most notably the Whale Drum by Jim Doble and the Tambiro by Felle Vega. In February 2007 Dennis Havlena, inspired by the physical properties of the Tambiro and the tone layout of the [Hang](#), created a steel tongue drum with a circular cross pattern layout and from an empty 20-pound [propane](#) tank. Steel Tongue Drums are similar to, but are not handpans.

Steel Tongue Drums are Idiophones!

An idiophone is any musical instrument that creates sound primarily by the instrument as a whole vibrating—without the use of strings or membranes. It is the first of the four main divisions in the original Hornbostel-Sachs scheme of musical instrument classification. The early classification of Victor-Charles Mahillon called this group of instruments autophones.

Most percussion instruments that are not drums are idiophones. Hornbostel-Sachs divides idiophones into four main sub-categories. The first division is the struck idiophones (sometimes called concussion idiophones). This includes most of the non-drum percussion instruments familiar in the West. They include all idiophones made to vibrate by being struck, either directly with a stick or hand (like the wood block, singing bowl, steel tongue drum, triangle or marimba)—or indirectly, by way of a scraping or shaking motion (like maracas or flexatone). Various types of bells fall into both categories.

About Kindred Spirit Steel Tongue Drums:

Our Steel Tongue Drums are made in our workshop, in Roberts Creek, which is on the Sunshine Coast in British Columbia Canada. We strive to use as much recycled material in our production techniques as possible and are determined to have the smallest environmental foot-print we possibly can.

Each drum is fabricated with a particular scale, and then given a highly durable and water-proof finish, before being fine-tuned with a strobe-tuner, to its final pitch. Your instrument also has a fitted wooden plug to increase the overall sound quality. Our drums can be made with a variety of scales in either **Single-Sided(8, 9 or 10 note)** or **Double-Sided(18 note), in 432 or 440 Hertz.**

440Hz – This is the Western Standard, and most music that you hear on the radio, CD’s, concerts, etc is in 440Hz. Music was elevated to this frequency in 1953. There are many different ideas about why music was changed from 432Hz to 440Hz, but if you are interested in the history, you can find links and more information on our website.

432Hz – The frequency of 432Hz is considered to be more harmonically stable, and more in-line with the base vibration of the universe because when each note frequency is graphed, and the points are connected it creates the “universal spiral” (Also known as the golden ratio, the golden mean, etc). For those who have researched the Fibonacci sequence this “spiral” will be familiar to you. For those wanting more information please see:

<https://attunedvibrations.com/432hz/>

Tuning Magnets: If you have purchased the optional tuning magnets, you can use these to tune your instrument down from 440Hz to 432Hz. To do this you will need a strobe tuner (such as a snark or other guitar tuner) and to remove the wooden plug from the base of the instrument. Having done that, place a single magnet towards the tip of each tongue and strike the notes individually. You should see the strobe tuner begin approaching the center line for a 432Hz note. Continue adjusting the magnet back and forth until it shows the note is on the correct pitch.

Understanding Your Drum:

Inside of your drum you will see notes, numbers, the scale name and a Hertz value written. The notes correspond to the note on the tongue, and the number corresponds to the sequence you play them to create the scale. The #1 represents the largest tongue, and the tongues get smaller as you move up the scale to the highest note (#8 or #9).

I have set the notes up in such a way so you are always playing “back and forth” between your hands as this is the most ergonomic movement possible across the surface of the drum.

How To Play:

These instruments are meant for melodic exploration and the free expression of music, so we highly encourage you to find your own playing style. However here are a few tips to help you a long the way:

Using your thumbs, finger-tips or mallets make soft strikes on the centre of the tongue, near the tip to create the best sound.

You can use one hand to mute notes/sound while striking notes with your other hand or a mallet.

Once you have the desired sound, begin to create patterns counting out the beats, such as 1-2-3-4 1-2-3-4, 1-2-3 1-2-3, etc.

Try speeding up and slowing down smoothly, striking 2-3 notes at the same time to create chords, different styles of mallets, pausing and allowing space to enter your melody, experiment with every different way to play that you can!

Have fun!

Drum Care:

1. Avoid playing your Steel Tongue Drum extremely aggressively with the mallets. This can cause the tongues to bend and experience “Metal Fatigue” which can cause the tongues to fall out of tune. We suggest gentle playing with the mallets, or using the hands/fingers/thumbs.

It is suggested that if you are attempting to play at comparable volumes to other loud instruments **that you mic your Steel Tongue Drum.**

2. Your drum is very tough, but it is susceptible to scratches and dings if rubbed against abrasive surfaces, or dropped.
3. Avoid exposing the drum to extremes in temperature. For instance: Hot cars in the summer, snow, saunas.

Washing/Cleaning:

Your drum has been powder-coated, so it is relatively impermeable against moisture. We suggest using a light touch-up of clear nail-polish to coat scratches. Due to the nature of powder-coat used, the instrument cannot be re-coated if it gets scratched. However, if you treat it well it will last you a lifetime!

Trouble-Shooting:

1. I hear a rattle/buzz!

Please check to make sure that your wooden plug is affixed firmly in your instrument (It must be very snug to avoid buzzing).

Make sure there is no debris inside the drum/no debris stuck to the tongues. If it is still sounding off please contact us.

2. There is rust forming at the base of the tongues!

We fine tune our instruments after they come out of the kiln by cutting the tongues slightly longer. Although we re-coat these areas on the drums with rust paint before they come to you, we may miss small areas.

Please take a fine sandpaper, give the area a light sanding and use a desired metal paint to re-coat the area. Acetone free nail-polish will remove paint without hurting the finish.