

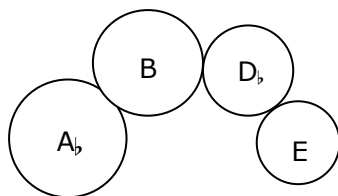
Marking Percussion Parts for Rehearsal and Performance Success

By Doug Wallace

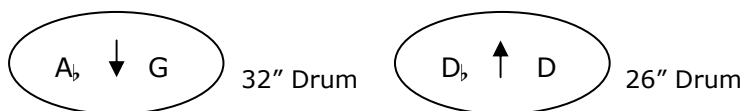
1. Circle meter changes, tempo changes, key signature changes, and other instructions (other instructions may include musical terms, references to tempo or "feel" changes, stick and mallet instructions, etc.)
2. On timpani parts, mark tuning changes.
3. Mark articulations. Is this cymbal note short or long? Do I muffle the bass drum here? It is sometimes necessary to look at the score in order to match articulations with other instruments in the band or orchestra.
4. Mark in phrasings and dynamics. If a dynamic is already written in the part, you might want to circle it for emphasis.
5. Figure out (and write in) stickings when necessary.
6. Figure out (and write in) the type of sticks or mallets that you plan to use in each section. This may change as you become more familiar with the piece or the hall that you are performing in.
7. Using the score or another percussion part, write in as many percussion and timpani cues as possible.
8. Using a score, write in important cues from other instruments. For example, there may be an obvious trumpet solo at letter D (three measures before you have to enter).
9. As rehearsals progress, be sure to write in anything that the conductor or coach instructs you to do.
10. Always be on the lookout for things that will help you remember your particular part and the piece in general. Write these things in!
11. If a recording of the piece is available, listen to it with a score in hand. If you do not have a score to use while you are listening to the piece, use your percussion part.

Symbols that can be used to Mark Parts

Top left corner of timpani part (initial tuning for the piece or movement)-



Tuning changes during the piece-



Let the note ring-



Muffle the note completely-



Muffle note, but not as heavy a muffle-



Cues from other instruments (put in parentheses)-



Alert of a quick page turn-

VS.