

This document is available in Adobe Acrobat format at www.f3p.com/doumbek/
Version 2.0

Covers:

- Basic strokes
- basic rhythms
- finding rhythms
- learning resources
- holding the drum

Does NOT cover:

- Playing in a group
- Intermediate/advanced strokes
- Drumming etiquette
- Choosing a drum
- Drum care
- Authenticity/Research/Documentation issues

Rings:

Rings will mess up your drum and your ring. Do not ever wear rings when drumming. Put them on a leather strap around your neck so they don't get lost and the strap doesn't wear them out. If you put them on a metal (silver, gold, stainless, whatever) necklace, eventually the necklace will wear away at the band of the ring, and that will be a bad thing. Use leather or some other non-metallic material.

Holding the Drum

- Traditional
- Turkish
- Gilchrist
- Shoulder
- Lap
- Between Legs
- On a strap

Basic Strokes - the Language of the Doumbek

- Doum
- Ka
- Tek and Teka

Rhythm Notation

DdKkTt

Baladi (Masmoodi Saghir) ("Small Masmoodi")

This is a common rhythm. Maqsum and Saiidi are variations.

1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a
 (common) D-D-tkt-D-tkT---
 (open) D-D---T-D---T---

Maqsum D-T---T-D---T---

Saiidi D-T---D-D---T---

Masmoodi Kabir ("Big Masmoodi") This is also known as a "warring" masmoodi, as it works well as a marching rhythm and sounds very militant.

1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a5e&a6e&a7e&a8e&a
 D---D---tktkT---D-tkTkT-tkTkT---

Chiftitelli Played fast or slow. Lots of room for fills and fun to play around with.

1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a
 D-TT-DT-D-D-T---

Malfouf Count 12312312. Played fast or slow.

1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a
 D-k-k-D-k-k-T-K-

Kashlima An odd 9-beat. Usually played very fast. Played slower has lots of opportunities for fills and is fun to play around with. When counting think of it as long, long, long, short short short.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
 D---T---D---T-T-T-

Breaking a Rhythm into Parts

2's and 3's
breaking up is easy to do
playing 8 as 3-3-2 (and others) (Malfouf)

Playing in a Group

Playing steady
Dropping Back

Practicing

Steady Beats
Patterns
Finger Drills
Rolls
Alternating fingers
Butterfly

Hiding Your Cheat Sheet

embroidery
beads
rhythm wheels
straps

Rhythm Sources

www.f3p.com/doumbek/links.html

Learning Resources:

www.f3p.com/doumbek/fihrist.html

What make me an expert, and why is what I say right?

I'm not, and it's not. There is no "right", only an individual interpretation.
Take what I say and do, learn from it, learn from others, and build your own style.

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