



What Are Rudiments?

Rudiments are basically patterns that are played - often repeated or chained together. They focus on sticking patterns between the right and left hands. Working on rudiments will improve your stick control, hand independence and speed. Rudiments are as fundamental to drumming as passing and dribbling are to basketball.

Let's Be Honest

So let me be really honest here...when I was starting out, I never learned rudiments. There...I said it. Did it keep me from achieving success on the drums? Nope. However, I wish I had taken the time to work on rudiments. I would have been a much better drummer.

I mean, I heard what rudiments sounded like and I could reproduce a lot of the sounds, but it took a lot more effort than if I had learned them properly. And I missed out on a lot of hand muscle growth, not to mention dexterity and coordination.

You'll Be Better Off If You Learn Them

If you just intend to jam in your bedroom forever, then you might be ok taking a pass with rudiments. However, If you want to play in school or in a marching band, you won't even get through the door unless you can play a good amount of rudiments. A lot more options will be open to you if you take the time to develop these skills, even though it isn't as exciting as playing along to your favorite song.

Don't Cheat Yourself

While there are about 40 in total, I plan to only focus on a handful. Now I can't force you to do these exercises, but i can provide you with opportunities that will help you become a better drummer than you are now. Rudiments WILL help. Rudiments are the cornerstone of drumming. You will only cheat yourself if you don't take the time to develop these. Working often with these will create dexterity and coordination in your hands that will serve you many, many times over as you improve.

Start Slowly And Focus On Clean Playing

The more you play them, the faster your muscles will automatically memorize them and start to take over without you thinking about it; that is when the speed will start to come! Also, it is tempting to raise the tempo with these, but take the time to play them CLEANLY (where every note is heard clearly) before rushing to get faster. It will pay off soon enough!