

Chapter 1

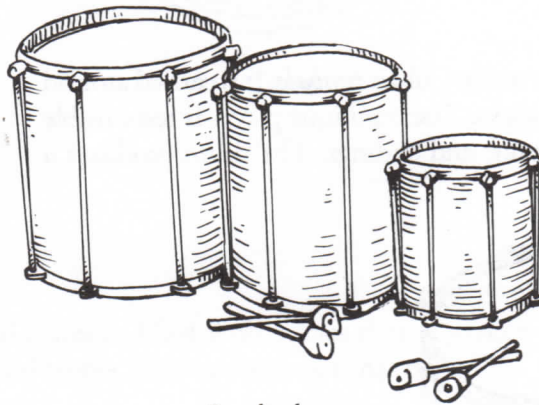
BRAZILIAN PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS



In this chapter, we'll take a look at the most commonly used percussion instruments in Brazilian music.

SURDO DRUM

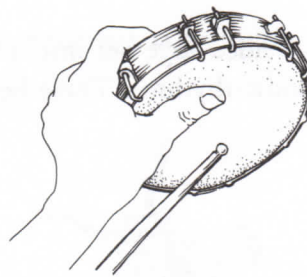
The *surdo* is the largest drum in the Brazilian percussion family. It is a double-headed drum that is played by striking the drumhead with a mallet in one hand while *damping*, or muffling, the drumhead with the other hand according to the style of music being played. There is a strap that holds the drum around the player's neck for portability. Surdo drums come in several sizes, usually larger for low tones and smaller for high tones. The surdo drum fills the role of bass drum in the samba groups, providing the bottom end of the groove.



Surdo drums.

TAMBORIM

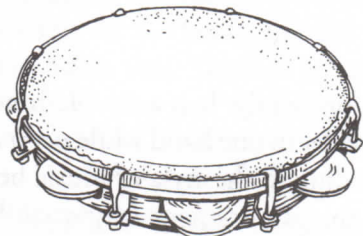
The *tamborim* is a small drum that is very similar to a tambourine. The tamborim has one drumhead and is played by striking it with a drumstick while muting the drumhead with the other hand. By changing pressure with the muting hand, the tamborim player can produce different combinations of high and low pitches.



Tamborim.

PANDEIRO

The *pandeiro* is another Brazilian instrument similar to a tambourine in that it is constructed of a frame, drumhead, and metal jingles, or *platinelas*. It is played with open hands, and the sound is produced by a combination of the drumhead and the metal jingles. Unlike the tambourine, the *pandeiro*'s drumhead can be tuned to accommodate a range of high and low pitches.



Pandeiro.

REPINIQUE

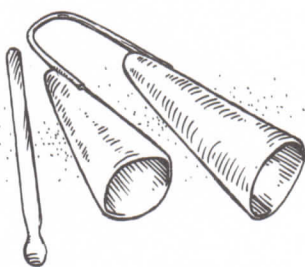
The *repinique* is a metal drum that is very similar to the Cuban *timbale*. It is carried around the shoulder with a strap and played with two sticks. The repinique player is responsible for cues that lead the ensemble into tunes, breaks, and endings. The drum produces a very high-pitched sound.



Repinique.

AGO-GO BELLS

The *ago-go bells* consist of two or three bells that are welded together into a single instrument. They are used to play very distinctive melodic rhythms. These bells are originally from West Africa.



Ago-go bells.

Chapter 3 THE SAMBA



BATUCADA

In this chapter, we'll use the basic concepts you just learned and begin to play more advanced samba rhythms. Our first topic will be samba grooves in the batucada style. Batucada is a Brazilian style played exclusively by percussion instruments. In the following example, we'll play some snare drum rhythms common to this style. The snare drum in Brazilian music is also called the *caixa*. Let's begin with an accented snare drum rhythm played as a single-stroke roll.

15A
Track 13.1

♩ = 100

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

Now, add the bass drum and hi-hat ostinato to the snare pattern above.

15B
Track 13.2

♩ = 100

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L

Following are some examples of the snare drum playing some double strokes within the roll. This is a great way to introduce some rhythmic variety into the groove.

16
Track 14

♩ = 100

A B R L R L R L R L R LLR L R LLR L R LLR L R LLR L R LLR L

C D R LLR RL R LLR RL R LLR RL R LLR RL R LLR LLR RL R LL R LLR RL R LL R LLR RL R LL