

DRUM NOTATION

(Key:) *note: Sometimes, as an addendum to your drums chart, you may wish to add a key.

For clarity, write the name of the instrument beside the notated rhythm. Use abbreviations:

Snare drum = s.d.
bass drum = b.d.
Cymbal = cym. etc

note: "x's" as noteheads are reserved for cymbals.

examples:

High-hats: another way to indicate open + closed H.H.'s is with "+" and "o"

example:

*some arrangers will write this above the staff

- For most charts, write the basic beat in the 1st 1 or 2 measures and then write "sim.", followed by / or |||||

- Fills:

Fill - - - - -

Ensemble rhythms: - written above the staff. Write "Ens." to clarify that these are not necessarily played by the drummer.

example: