



TUNING INSTRUCTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR SNARE DRUMHEADS BY ROY BURNS

Bottom Head (Snare Side)

1. "Finger-tighten" down the tension screws while pressing lightly on the drum rim with the other hand.
2. Using a drum key, tighten each tension screw 1/2 of a turn at a time, until the head feels "firm". Press with your thumb about one inch in from the edge of the drum. If it feels "spongy" or "soft", tighten it until it feels "firm" when pressing with your thumb.
3. Now tighten or loosen the tension screws as needed to bring all of them to approximately the same pitch all around.

Top Head (Batter Side)

1. "Finger-tighten" down the tension screws while pressing lightly on the drum rim with the other hand.
2. Using a drum key, turn each tension screw 1/2 of a turn, until the head feels moderately tight. Press the head with your thumb. It should "give" a little but not too much. It should not feel "spongy".
3. Tap at each tension screw with a drumstick or drum key one or one and a half inches in from the edge of the drum. Tighten or loosen the tension screws as needed to bring all of them to approximately the same pitch all around.

Note: Checking to see if the head is the same pitch all around is extremely important in order to achieve a responsive and musical sound.

Tuning Suggestions

1. For all around tuning and playing, a moderately firm or medium tight top head is best. Leave the bottom head "firm".
2. For a real "crack" with high-end projection gradually tighten the top head until the desired pitch and sound are achieved. Leave the bottom head "firm".
3. Last but not least, each snare drum is a little different from the next and some experimentation may be needed to find the proper top head for your drum and your musical style.

Some of the most popular AQUARIAN Snare Drumheads are described on the other side of this sheet.