PLAYLISTS





Introduction

All our tracks are designed for beginners using just a pair of sticks and a pillow or a practice pad if you have one.

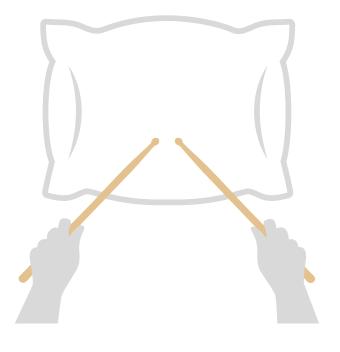
For simplicity, we suggest using your right hand to play the kick drum, this is the boom sound you hear at the start of a piece of music. These are beats 1 and 3. Now introduce your left hand to play beats 2 and 4. This is the snare drum where you would normally clap along. Combine your right & left hands playing all 4 beats together (R-L-R-L) in time with the music.

Good luck, I hope you like the playlists.

Stu

Founder





Left Hand Beats 2 & 4 (snare) Right Hand Beats 1 & 3 (kick)

Getting Started

Step 1: Pick a Song from the Playlist

Choose a track with a clear, steady beat between 80–110 BPM. Start with slower tempos.

Step 2: Play a Simple Pattern

Use this basic pattern: Kick - Snare - Kick - Snare.

- Kick drum = your right hand
- Snare = your left hand
- Keep repeating this in time with the music

Step 3: Focus on Coordination

Try to match the beat with your body. If you get off track, stop, breathe, and jump back in. You're building motor control and rhythm.

Step 4: Track Your Progress

Use the daily tracker at the end of this guide to log your focus, timing, and mood after each drumming session. Even just 5 minutes of drumming can boost your energy, coordination, and mood. There's no right or wrong, just rhythm.

The Technical Bit

Tempo/Beat per minute (BPM)

To determine BPM we cross-reference from a number of sources:

- Tunebat / Song BPM / Spotify metadata
- Drum transcriptions / actual player timing
- Beat maps when available
- Context: how it feels to play vs. how it's measured technically

Some songs are rhythmically structured in a way that they can be interpreted in half or double-time. This means some websites may show a slower BPM, which reflects the perceived pulse of the groove.

Our BPM reflects the subdivided rhythm or how a drummer might count/play it as this aligns with our focus on motor coordination and practice tempo.

This is important because it better supports the rhythm-brain function connection (especially in conditions like Parkinson's or ADHD, where entrainment and beat salience are key)

Timing & Planning Playlist

This playlist is designed around steady, strong beats that encourage rhythmic entrainment – where the brain and body sync to an external beat. For people with Parkinson's, this can help improve timing, coordination, and even gait. These songs offer:

Clear Pulse & Groove

Most tracks have a solid 4/4 beat, perfect for stepping or drumming in time.

Moderate Tempos (90–120 BPM)

Ideal range for movement-based tasks like walking, drumming, or tapping.

Predictability

Repeating rhythmic patterns and simple fills make them beginner-friendly and ideal for motor planning.

Mood Boosting

Familiar songs can activate memory and motivation, increasing engagement and emotional well-being.

Timing & Planning Playlist

Song Title	Artist	Tempo	Groove Highlights	Why It Helps
Stayin' Alive	Bee Gees	104	Strong 4/4 disco beat	Used in CPR training Great for consistent pacing and walking rhythm.
Billie Jean	Michael Jackson	117	Steady kick-snare groove	Enhances step timing and cue-based movement.
Uptown Funk	Mark Ronson ft. Br <mark>uno Mars</mark>	115	Punchy, danceable rhythm	Aids motivation and dynamic footwork.
Another One Bites the Dust	Queen	110	Tight bass and snare sync	Great for initiating movement and stride consistency.
Come Together	The Beatles	84	Slower, head-nod tempo	Promotes body awareness and control.
Boulevard of Broken Dreams	Green Day	84	March-like 4/4 beat	Encourages strong heel-to-toe gait.
Take It Easy	Eagles	138	Laid-back shuffle groove	Encourages smooth, relaxed motion.
Let's Dance	David Bowie	114	Groove-heavy pop-rock	Enhances lateral weight-shift and coordination.
Go Your Own Way	Fleetwood Mac	120	Rolling toms, straight beat	Works well for rhythmic hand-foot movement.
Shut Up and Dance	Walk the Moon	128	Punchy kick-snare hits	Boosts energy and upper-limb coordination.

Repetition & Rhythm Playlist

After a stroke, drumming can support motor recovery, rhythm perception, and cognitive engagement. This playlist was crafted to promote repetition, bilateral coordination, and cross-limb control – especially beneficial for retraining brain-body pathways. The tracks were chosen for:

Even Rhythms

Encourage consistent movement between limbs.

Simple Structure

Helps with cognitive load; users can anticipate changes in the music.

Mid-Tempo Grooves (80-110 BPM)

A sweet spot for relaxed yet focused physical engagement.

Musical Familiarity

Encourages recall and confidence during practice.

Optional Challenges

Some slight variations for users ready to push their coordination or timing further.

Repetition & Rhythm Playlist

Song Title	Artist	Tempo	Groove Highlights	Why It Helps
Clocks	Coldplay	130	Great for right/left limb alternation	Steady pulse and simple backbeat aid rhythmic motor practice
Come As You Are	Nirvana	120	Easy groove, good for limb control	Repetitive patterns encourage motor memory
Yellow	Coldplay	144	Ideal for relaxed timing practice	Smooth dynamics and predictable timing
One Love	Bob Marley	76	Encourages bilateral movement at gentle pace	Slow groove, supports relaxed coordination
Seven Nation Army	The White Stripes	124	Simplified beat easy to follow	Iconic riff helps with memory & timing
Dreams	Fleetwood Mac	120	Feel-based drumming improves fluidity	Soft shuffle supports flowing coordination
Billie Jean	Michael Jackson	117	Great for practicing groove precision	Clear hi-hat pattern and snare placement
Use Somebody	Kings of Leon	130	Encourages relaxed, even sticking	Builds endurance and coordination with moderate tempo
Lean On Me	Bill Withers	72	Slower tempo for controlled movement	Emotional connection boosts motivation
Africa	Toto	92	A good mid-level challenge track	Layered groove challenges motor sequencing
Uptown Funk	Bruno Mars	115	Engaging and fun	Syncopated beats support cognitive- motor interaction
Better Together	Jack Johnson	90	Nice for finger control and light playing	Relaxed tempo for stress-free practice
High Hopes	Panic! At The Disco	160	Optional challenge track	Energetic and upbeat, boosts mood and responsiveness

Focus & Impulses Playlist

For individuals with autism or ADHD, rhythm-based activities like drumming can help regulate attention, improve impulse control, and support sensory processing. This playlist was designed to promote focus, rhythmic anticipation, and creative self-expression – while offering enough structure to stay anchored. The tracks were chosen for:

Clear, Repeatable Rhythms

Tracks provide structure and predictability, key for neurodiverse drummers.

Controlled Start/Stop Moments

Helps with impulse control, anticipation, and rhythm resetting.

Dynamic Energy Range

Some tracks help calm the nervous system; others help activate it.

Beginner Friendly

Songs follow basic 4/4 beats with limited fills and straightforward transitions.

Focus & Impulses Playlist

Title	Artist	Tempo	Groove Highlights	Why It Helps
Seven Nation Army	The White Stripes	124	Straightforward beat, ideal for beginners	Hypnotic, repetitive riff anchors focus
We Will Rock You	Queen	81	Minimal kit needed, body percussion friendly	Stomp-clap pattern aids motor timing and mimicry
Feel It Still	Portugal. The Man	160	Fast, but beat is consistent and playable	High-energy groove, boosts alertness
Clint Eastwood	Gorillaz	90	Simple loop-based drumming	Lo-fi groove, good for entrainment and calm
Buddy Holly	Weezer	121	Intro to hi-hat/snare coordination	Structured pop-rock, upbeat without overwhelm
Come As You Are	Nirvana	120	Strong kick/snare structure	Repetitive, predictable groove, good for rhythm locking
Take On Me	a-ha	170	Great for coordination once warmed up	Fast tempo for energy release, layered synth-drums for interest
Billie Jean	Michael Jackson	117	Practice ghost notes and tight snare playing	Groove-focused track with clear snare/kick patterns
My Hero	Foo Fighters	130	Big open beat, suitable for emotional release	Build-and-release structure supports anticipation and reward
Stressed Out	Twenty One Pilots	85	Encourages relaxed groove with accents	Lyrical relevance + syncopated drumming helps focus shifts
Radioactive	Imagine Dragons	136	Great for building dynamic control	Percussive, tribal-like rhythm helps sensory engagement

Daily Tracker

Use the chart below to record your daily experience

Date	Tempo (BPM)	Duration (min)	Notes