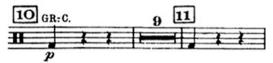
I don't believe composers want an attack on the front of every bass drum note. At times the bass drum needs to sound like BOOM! or BANG!, but just as often it should be more like WHHHA...

Example 42



Holst: The Planets, Mvt. VII, Rehearsal 4, bass drum part

Example 43



Ravel: La Valse, Rehearsal 10, bass drum part

This does not only apply to soft notes:

Example 44



Stravinsky: The Rite of Spring, Rehearsal 49, bass drum part

As with most drums, avoid playing in the center of the head unless you specifically want that sound. I only play in the center if I am imitating a cannon, as in the first movement of Prokofiev's *Lieutenant Kijé Suite*.

By the way, while you're at it, take the handkerchief off your snare drum, too!