

ZENKO® equinox

Tutorial & Songbook



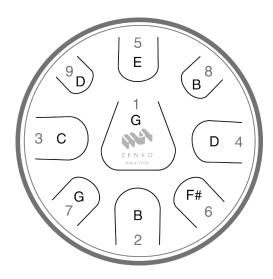


Zenko Equinox - Tutorial & Songbook

Introduction

Dear client, thank you for choosing our **Zenko equinox**! The Zenko, created by **Metal Sounds**, producer of the finest percussion instruments, hand making high quality stainless steel drums in France, since 2014.

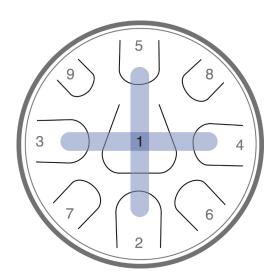
The Zenko is an 8 or 9 note Steel tongue drum, coming in 10 different models, with many scales and note layouts to choose from. For more information on our Zenko range please visit: https://metalsounds-shop.com



Range

The Zenko equinox comes tuned to G3, B3, C4, D, E, F#, G, B and D5. Its range corresponds to G major / E minor scales.

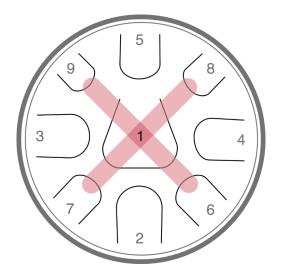




Note Layout 1-5

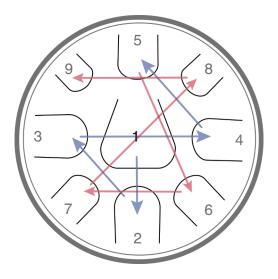
The Zenko's notes are arranged in a cross and an X formation in terms of pitch range. The lowest note (1) is in the middle and the following four (2-5) are the end points of the cross shape.





Note Layout 6-9

The 6, 7, 8 and 9 notes are positioned and the ends of the 'X' shape, these differ from the lower notes (1-5) not only by their position but also by their size.



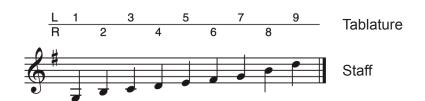
Playing the Zenko Scale

To go up the scale, you start with the center note (1), then follow the blue arrows at each of the ends of the cross (2, 3, 4 and 5). Then continue following the red arrows at the end of each of the "X" bars (6, 7, 8 and 9).

To descend the scale, you just reverse the order. You can play this scale by alternating between the right hand and left hands, starting with the left to avoid crossing them.

Notation

The staff is enlarged by a tablature which shows the play of the hands (right / left) as well as each note's pitch, represented by a number. In many cases, if reading notes is not your strong point, it is easier to find the right note by the tablature number on the sheet music.





Playing Position

To play the Zenko in a sitting position, place it flat on your lap, with the 2nd note closest to you, making sure its far enough away that you don't have to bend your arms to reach the nearer notes. Alternatively you can play the Zenko by placing it



on a stool, chair or table top using the foam support provided with your drum.

If you wish to play the Zenko in a standing position, we advise you to use the special Metal Sounds stand which the Zenko can be screwed to.

Technique

The easiest way to play the Zenko is to use mallets. Use the rubber head mallets included with the drum or your own of similar hardness. Playing with your hands is more demanding but gives a richer sound. You can also play with your



thumb or index finger. The thumb gives a rounder sound and is more suitable for the lower notes. The index finger produces an more accurate tone and is suitable for all notes. The best method is to hit the tongue directly letting your finger bounce away from the note immediately to avoid dampening or muffling its resonance.



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Thumb Slap



Index Finger Slap

When playing with your hands, you can dampen the sounds by applying light pressure with your fingertips on the note after hitting it with your hand.



Dampen Sound with Fingertips

In addition to playing with your hands, you can play two adjacent notes simultaneously with one hand by using your thumb and forefinger and start different chord.

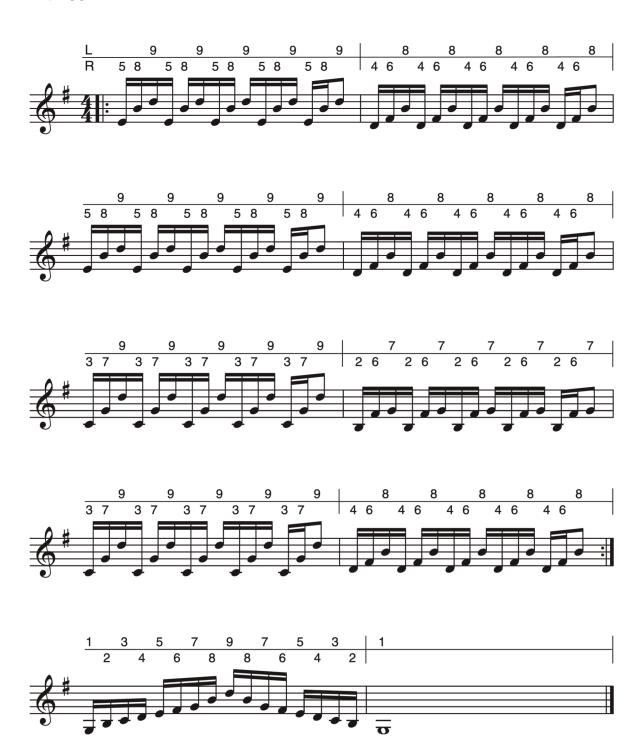


Thumb and Index Fingerr

Rainy Daydreams



Arpeggio Exercise



Except for its end, all parts of this piece use the same hand movement, always on the three adjacent notes. Practice the first bar in a slow tempo until you start playing seamlessly. For all the following bars, you simply have to change notes, without changing the hand movements.



La mouche et l'éléphant



Groove Exercise

Conny Sommer



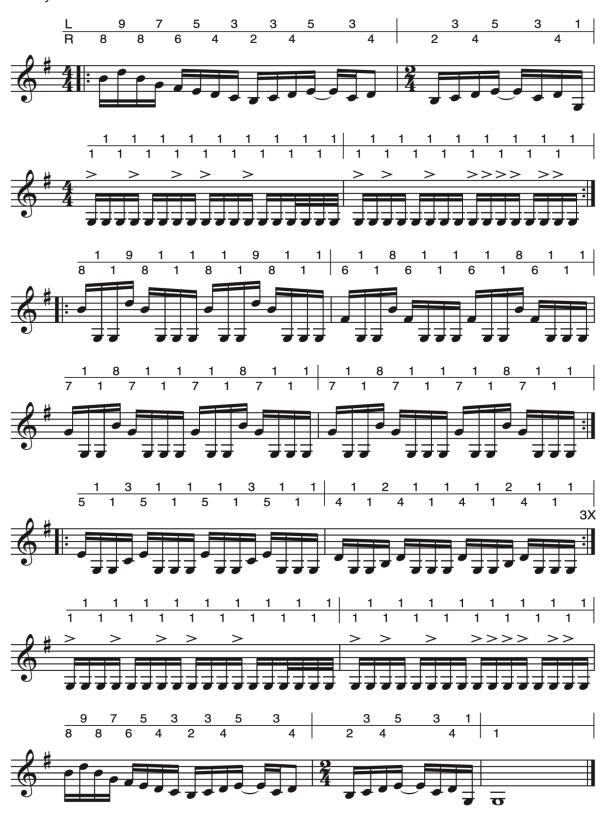
The central motif of this piece is the two chord groove, with the addition of slightly varying melodies in each repetition. Be creative and find your own groovy melodies to incorporate!



Chasing the Parrot



Conny Sommer



This piece seems complicated and virtuoso when played quickly, but is not difficult to learn and play under closer inspection.



Drummin´ Zenko



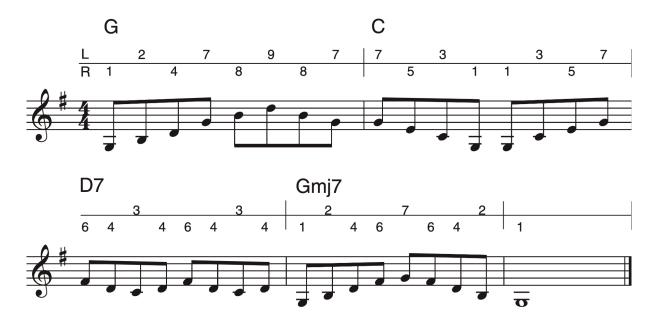


This piece is played with the hands only. All the notes represented by a cross should be dampened with the fingertips.



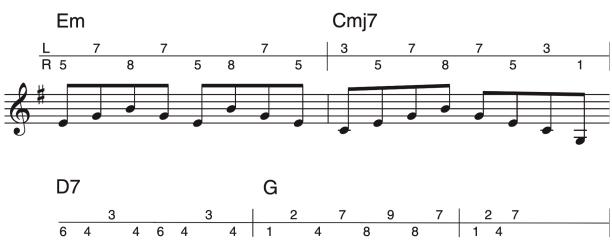
Chords Exercise No 1

Conny Sommer



Chords Exercise No 2

Conny Sommer





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