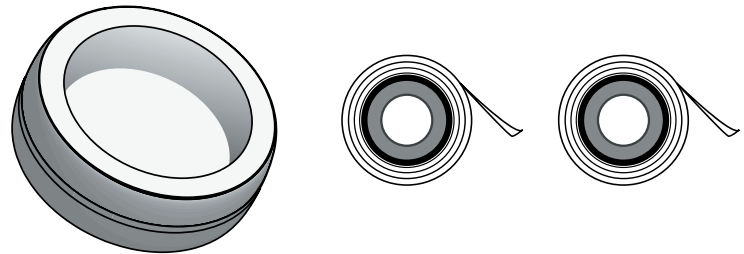




This is a lesson on how to make a practice taiko drum from a car tire. This makes a great, lightweight practice drum for beginners and allows you to take your drum with you and practice your newfound Taiko drumming skills!

Items you will need:

- ① Standard Car Tire ② Rolls Clear Packaging Tape



Step ①

Prepare your “drum.”

The day before putting your drum together, wash your drum with warm water and dish-washing detergent. Often the tire has oils on it which can prevent the tape from adhering properly. While this isn't always crucial, it is highly recommended. Washing the drum the day before allows the porous rubber a chance to dry.

Step ②

Begin Taping Your Drum

Start your tape at the middle of the tire's edge (fig. 1) and loop directly across the diameter of the tire (fig. 2), crossing both sides. Cut your tape when you overlap your starting point by half an inch (fig. 3). Please note, it is important that you pull the tape very tight. It is recommended to have two people making the drum as pulling the tape tight and flipping the drum simultaneously can be challenging.

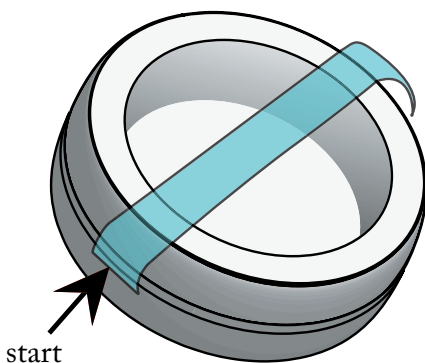


fig. 1

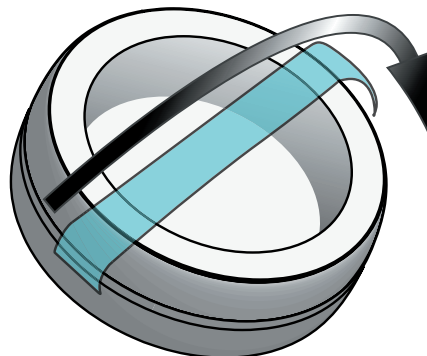


fig. 2

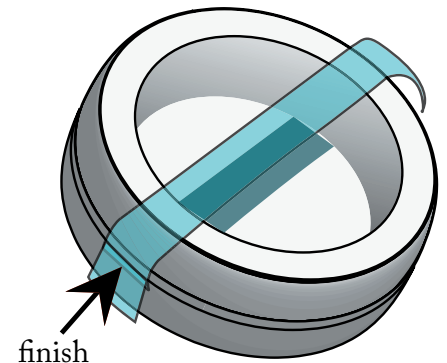


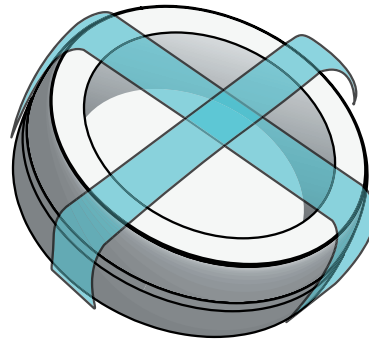
fig. 3



Step 3

Turn your drum 90 degrees and lay down your second stretch of tape. Try to cross as close to the center as possible. (fig 4.)

fig. 4

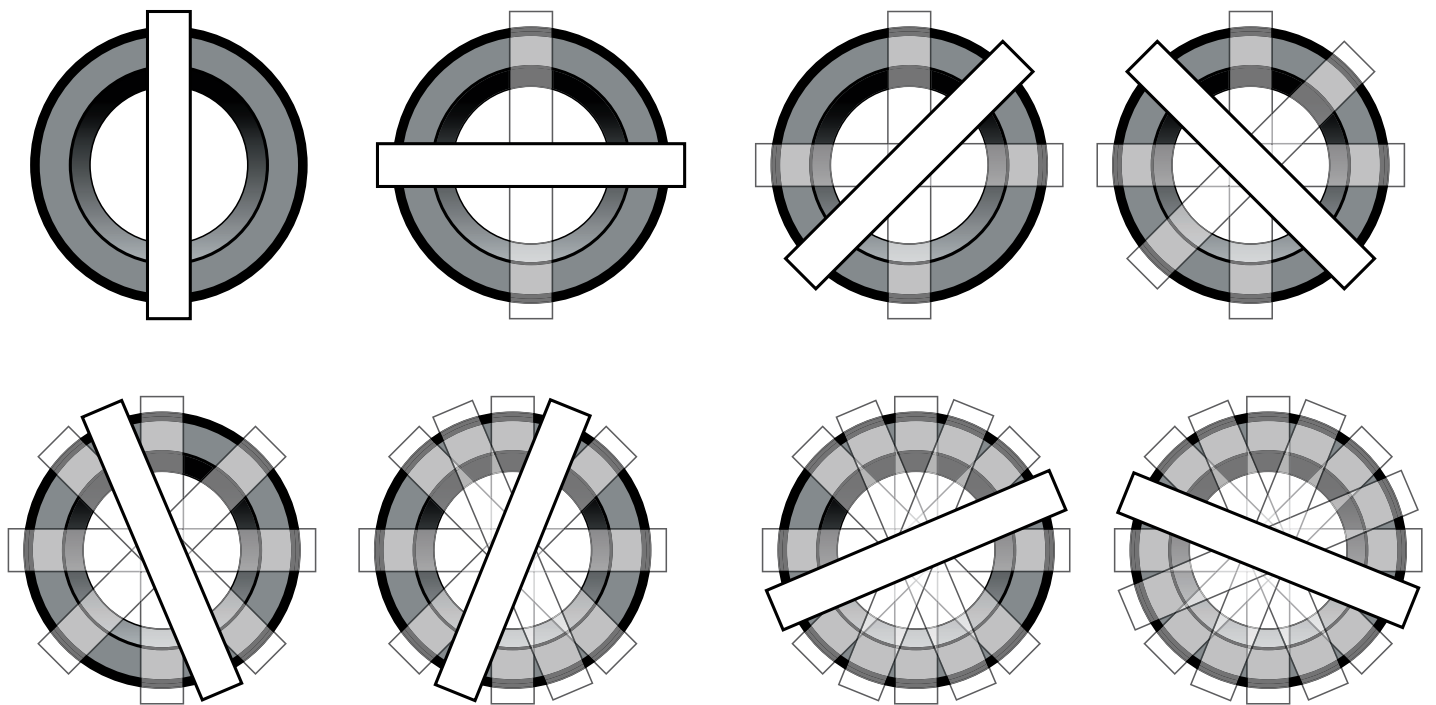


Step 4

The Criss-Cross

Now keep turning your drum and stretch more tape across in a star pattern. (fig. 5) When you have both sides covered, continue to step 5. Note, there may be some small openings and gaps even after you have crossed at all angles. Don't worry as we will cover those in the next step.

fig. 5





Step 5

Now that you have finished the star pattern that loops and covers both sides, it is time to put strips across. Starting with the center, begin taping, once again, at the middle of the tire's edge. While pulling tightly, pull a strip across the center of the drum and end the strip at the middle of the edge on the opposite side. (fig. 6a) Cut the tape. Do not loop.

Next, stretch tape in strips to cover the right side, and then the left. (fig. 6b) Always overlap by at least 1/4". Do not loop. This will cover any open holes or gaps left by the star pattern.

When finished, repeat on back side of tire.

fig. 6a

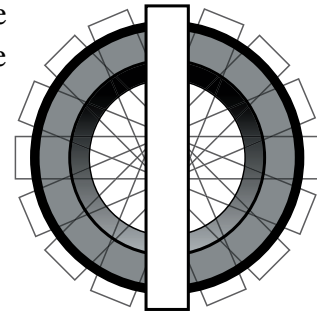
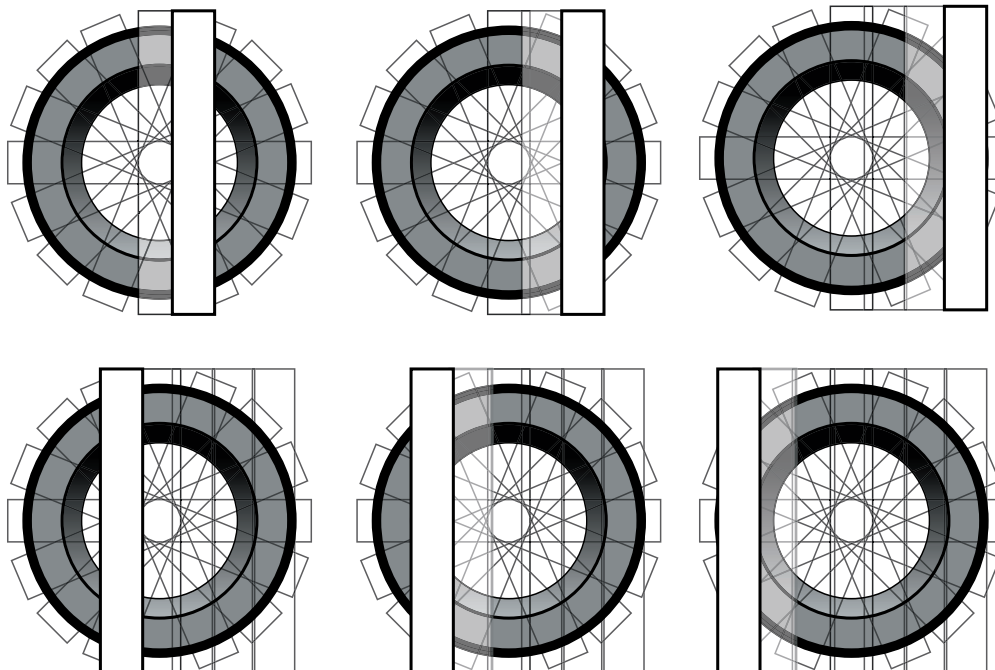


fig. 6b





Step 6

At this point you have:

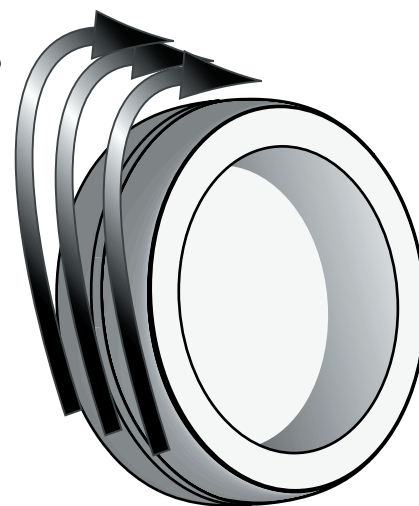
- looped a star pattern covering both sides of the drum
- covered side one with overlapping strips
- covered side two with overlapping strips

Now all that remains is to tape around the edge. Usually three strips will do, but more is fine. This is just to hold down the edges so things don't come unravelled easily.

Start at the center of the tread and loop all the way around the edge of the drum. Then, overlap a strip (or two) to either side.

There you are! You are done! So go enjoy your practice Taiko Drum!

fig. 7



For more information regarding Taiko classes, performances, or actual performance drum making workshops, please contact us! (see information below) We would love to hear from you!