Iowa State University  
Percussion Studio  
Required Equipment

**KEYBOARD MALLET**
1. 1 Set of (two pairs) of general use marimba mallets. I recommend Mike Balter 23 XL blue cord mallets due to their endurance and wide playing ability for beginning mallet students. If you already have a set of mallets, please bring them to your first lesson.
2. 1 pair of xylophone mallets. Be sure to purchase mallets that intended for xylophone. Hard plastic mallets that are made for bells sound great on xylophone but ruin the keyboard.
3. 2 Pairs of hard plastic bell mallets.

*There are many keyboard mallet manufacturers in existence today offering many types of mallets. I recommend investigating others mallets from Mike Balter, Pro-Mark or Malletech. We will discuss mallets choices as part of your lessons.*

**SNARE DRUM STICKS AND BRUSHES**
1. 1 pair of Pro-Mark SD-1 sticks for concert playing.
2. 1 pair of Pro-Mark SD-4 sticks for drum set.
3. 1 pair of Pro-Mark TB-3, TB-4 or TB-5 brushes.
4. 1 pair of Pro-Mark Cool Rods, or Hot Rods.

*I prefer to perform with maple sticks. When ordering from Pro-Mark, remember you have a choice of hickory or maple. If you already own sticks, please bring them to your first lesson.*

**TIMPANI MALLET**
1. 1 Pair of Mike Balter T3 General timpani mallets.
2. 1 Pair of Mike Balter T2 Staccato timpani mallets.

*The mallets listed above are recommended for beginning study. As you develop your playing, I would encourage exploration of higher quality mallets such as those manufactured by Adams. If you already own timpani mallets, please bring them to your first lesson.*
ASSESSORIES
1. 1 high quality tambourine. I recommend a Neil Grover double row jingles made of copper and silver. I would recommend purchasing a case made by Grover or Steve Weiss to protect your investment.
2. 1 high quality triangle. I recommend the standard large Alan Abel triangle.
4. 1 set of triangle beaters. I recommend Per Del beaters.

OTHER EQUIPMENT
1. A metronome with earphone capability. Dr. Beat is a recommended brand although many others are available.
2. A kitchen timer for practicing timed exercises. I use West Bend timers and they can be purchased at Westbend.com. Try to find a model that counts backwards...starts at three minutes and counts down to zero.
3. I strongly recommend a device for recording your practicing. A microcassette-corder made by Sony can be purchased at any Radio Shack for about $35.00. This recorder will enable you to record everything from soft marimba to loud drum set for instant evaluation. The two speed settings (2.4 cm and 1.2 cm per second) allows for individual strokes of an open roll to be heard for analysis.
4. A big stick bag to hold all of your new stuff. If you do not have one already, I would wait and talk to current majors at Iowa State to determine which one is favored.
5. Two Ludwig or Yamaha timpani tuning keys.
6. One, 1/2” box wrench (can purchase at any hardware) for tuning congas and bongos.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ACQUIRE AS MUCH (IF NOT ALL) OF THIS EQUIPMENT BEFORE CLASSES BEGIN. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE AT IOWA STATE ONLY TO TELL ME THAT YOU ARE GOING HOME NEXT WEEKEND AND YOU AND MOM ARE GOING TO YOUR LOCAL STORE TO ORDER EVERYTHING. BY THE TIME YOU RECEIVE YOUR SUPPLIES FROM SMALL MUSIC STORES, IT WILL BE THE MIDDLE OF NOVEMBER. I REALIZE THAT THIS MAY SEEM LIKE A TREMENDOUS EXPENSE ALL AT ONCE, BUT REMEMBER, THIS IS THE MAJORITY OF THE EQUIPMENT YOU WILL NEED DURING YOUR YEARS AT IOWA STATE.

I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU PURCHASE THESE ITEMS FROM THE STEVE WEISS MUSIC COMPANY (215.659.0100) (STEVEWEISSMUSIC.COM) OR THE PERCUSSION SOURCE (866.849.4387) (PERCUSSIONSOURCE.COM). STEVE WEISS HAS ALL OF THE MUSIC AND SUPPLIES, PERCUSSION SOURCE DOES NOT DEAL IN MUSIC.
BOTH OF THESE COMPANIES SHIP VIA UPS AND YOU WILL HAVE YOUR SUPPLIES WITHIN A WEEK.