

Holding the Sticks

RIGHT HAND

The stick is “gripped” or “pinched” between the pad of the thumb and the top knuckle of the first finger. The other fingers are loosely curled under the stick, and the fingertips are used to move and control the stick.



LEFT HAND

The stick lies in the valley between the thumb and first finger, pointing horizontally across the body at almost 90° to the arm. The thumb lies along the top of the stick, the first and second fingers support the stick from the side, and the stick should rest on the top knuckle of the third finger.



PLAYING POSITION

The sticks should be held at approximately 90° to each other above the centre of the Practice Pad or Snare Drum. It is important to learn to play with the stick heads close together in the centre of the pad, as it will affect the sound of the drum if you do not play on the centre of the skin.

