

# Quick Fixes When Traveling with Percussion Instruments

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Obviously, good maintenance procedure, careful preparation, and good training will prevent most of these issues. Here's what to do when reality asserts itself:

## Vibraphone

### Slipping Pedal-

- Missing thumb screw, or perhaps screw is stripped
- Slide shaft could be dirty, especially if smooth

### Solution-

- Thin layer of duct tape to increase slide shaft diameter. Jam into receiver.
- If slide shaft is disconnecting from damper bar, zip-tie to damper bar.
- Clean slide shaft

### Missing or Broken Drive Belts-

- Belts have aged and loosened or cracked.

### Solution-

- Spare belts from McMaster Carr: Part Number 9452K197
- String together rubber bands for a temporary belt.

## Timpani

### Drum not holding pitch in upper/lower range-

- Balance-spring system uncalibrated
- Head has stretched

### Solution-

- Righty tighty toe, then raise head tension.

### Tuning Gauges Missing or Destroyed-

- Pitch labels have fallen off
- Mechanism is damaged

Solution-

- Homemade gauge made of fishing gear, office supplies and craft felt.

### **Cymbal/Snare Stands**

**Height Adjustment Slipping-**

- Shaft could be dirty
- Clamping mechanism is damaged
- Wing nut is stripped

Solution-

- Clean affected area
- Gear clamp at desired height

### **Marching Equipment**

**Carriers Missing Fasteners-**

- Nuts and bolts come loose due to vibration
- Bolt could have sheared off

Solution-

- Assorted Fastener kit
- Zip-ties
- Take fasteners from other points on the carrier

**Cracked Bass Drum Hoops**

- Drum fell off of carrier
- Over-tensioning of head

Solution-

- Duct tape crack, rotate to less visible side of drum, place under a claw.

**What should I keep in my Percussion instrument emergency kit?**

- Basic Hand Tools, Small spare parts, Replacement materials.

## Percussion Crash Kit Component List

<p><b>Tools:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 x 8" Tool Box</li> <li>8" Adjustable Wrench</li> <li>7" Locking Pliers</li> <li>40pc. SAE/ Metric Socket Set</li> <li>Folding SAE/ Metric Hex Key Set</li> <li>6" Pliers</li> <li>6" Needle Nose Pliers</li> <li>6-in-1 Screwdriver</li> <li>Precision Screwdrivers</li> <li>25" Tape Measure</li> <li>Thread pitch gauge</li> <li>Rawhide or Rubber Mallet</li> <li>Drum Keys</li> <li>High-Tension Drum Keys</li> <li>Ludwig Timpani Key</li> <li>Yamaha Timpani Key</li> <li>Adams Timpani Key</li> <li>Flashlight</li> <li>Hobby Knife</li> </ul>	<p><b>Materials:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assorted Gear Clamps</li> <li>Super Glue</li> <li>Small Roll of Duct Tape</li> <li>Small WD-40</li> <li>Assorted Zip Ties</li> <li>50ft of Paracord</li> <li>50ft of fishing line</li> <li>2 3/4 oz. Fishing Weights</li> <li>Small Binder Clips</li> <li>Napkins</li> <li>Rubber Bands</li> <li>Masking Tape</li> <li>Permanent Marker</li> <li>Wet Erase Marker</li> </ul>
<p><b>Parts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cymbal Sleeves</li> <li>Cymbal Felts</li> <li>Cymbal Wingnuts</li> <li>Cymbal Washers</li> <li>Assorted Fasteners</li> <li>Spare Vibraphone Belts</li> <li>Assorted Tension Rods</li> <li>Bass Drum Claws</li> </ul>	<p><b>Electronics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Switchable Power Supply</li> <li>Extra IEC C7 (No Polarity)</li> <li>Extra IEC C13/C14</li> <li>Extension Cable</li> </ul>



<http://a.co/1U3klAw>