



## Stolfe Percussion Studio Success Guide

Welcome to my studio and the exciting world of percussion! I am so glad that you have chosen this musical path, and that you have decided to join me here at the studio! For every student, my primary goal is to attain personal success with each lesson in an enjoyable and educational format. Drumming is an incredibly FUN and rewarding activity! It also requires hard work, commitment, and consistent effort. With these elements, drumming will be even more FUN!!!

The intent for this success guide is to provide a framework for each student, and to provide guidelines and general studio policies for students, and parents/guardians. Where required, this guide provides Stolfe Percussion Studio (Studio) with your authorization and acknowledgement of terms of service.

### Practice Expectations

Yes, I do expect all students to PRACTICE! However, I do not define practice as a few minutes of practice crammed in prior to a lesson! We've all tried...it just doesn't work!

Early on, I present a structured method for each student to practice the materials we are working on. Practice assignments are given with the expectation that students will practice **consistently** during the week, at least 3-4 days per week. **Minimum** expectations *per percussion instrument studied* are as follows:

- 5-10 minutes warm-up/scales/rudiments
- 10 minutes etudes/solos
- 5-10 minutes assigned exercises in books
- 5-10 minutes sight reading (or additional technique/solo work)

### Equipment & Materials to obtain

All percussionists and drummers should always be equipped with the proper tools for the job. Minimally, each student should own some/all of the following based on their percussion/drumming experience:

- **Sticks (5A or 5B) for drum set** (optional concert Snare Drumsticks) & **Stick Bag**
- **Snare Drum & Practice Pad**
- **Bell Kit or Student Xylophone** (elementary/middle/high school students)
- **Drum Set (Acoustic or Electronic)**
- **Bell/Marimba/Xylophone Mallets** (for mallet percussion studies only – ask for recommendations)
- **Music Notebook with staff paper, 3-ring binder & Pencils**
- **Method Books /Solo music** (I will let you know as these are needed)
- **Music Stand** (kept at home)
- **Metronome/Metronome app** (kept at home)
- **Ear protection** (ask for recommendations)

As I typically wait one year (minimally) with beginning students before I teach drum set, do not give in to the temptation to rush out and buy a drum set prematurely. Please ask me if you have any questions regarding this.

### Tuition

- Tuition for lessons is billed/paid for **monthly**, due the **first** lesson of each month. Invoices will be sent out prior to the first lesson of the month. Invoices may be paid online via provided link or in person. Other accepted payment methods are cash, credit/debit card or check payable to "John Stolfe – Stolfe Percussion Studio."
- Lesson fees are prorated on an annual basis and divided into monthly payments as follows:
  - \$100/month – 30 minutes
  - \$200/month – 60 minutes
  - Ensemble/Group Classes will be billed at the determined rate prior to the first class, and payments are due at the first class.
  - There are no refunds/credits for missed/skipped lessons. Any teacher cancelled lesson will be rescheduled or credited at my discretion.
  - Failure to pay may result in forfeiture of scheduled lesson time. Excessive late payments past the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month may incur a \$15.00 late fee.
  - If a student discontinues lessons for any reason, advanced lesson payment WILL NOT be reimbursed.
  - Feel free to contact me regarding balances or questions regarding current rates and payments.

## Lesson Attendance

Consistent lesson attendance is critical for student success and progress. Most percussion studios and music lesson studios rarely allow for make-up lessons. Therefore, it is imperative that students and parents make lessons a priority in their schedules. There will be NO credits or refunds given for missed lessons.

I do realize that serious, irresolvable conflicts do arise on rare occasions. Therefore, please use the following as a guide for excused cancellations. These are the only excused absences that can be made up:

- Student illness or family emergency – when possible, please notify me by **10:00am on the day of the lesson.**
- Pre-planned vacations (please provide at least 7 days' notice when possible.)
- Lessons scheduled during some holidays may be rescheduled without penalty for absences.
- Lack of preparation for a lesson or busy schedules **are not** suitable reasons for excused absences.
- Make up lessons will be offered based on my schedule availability.
- Lessons requiring rescheduling for reasons other than excused absences, should be requested with at least 7 days' notice. Rescheduling done with proper notice should be scheduled by contacting me directly. When possible, based on my schedule availability an alternate lesson time may be offered.
- Not all rescheduling requests may be granted and will be considered on a first come first served basis.

I can be reached at 262-818-1173 or by e-mail [john@stolfepercussion.com](mailto:john@stolfepercussion.com). Either way is acceptable for cancellations.

## Media/Email/Text Consent

Parent and/or student hereby consents to and authorizes Stolfe Percussion Studio (aka Studio) and/or it's representatives to capture and use photographic images, audio recordings and video images of student and student's musical performances and quoted statements in print, electronic or online media, for educational and Studio promotional purposes only, without any compensation to Parent or Student. Parent and/or student agrees to waive and release any and all claims against the Studio relating to the use of these recordings, images, and statements. This consent is binding upon all heirs and future legal representatives. Studio will not personally identify a minor child by full name in connection with any video recording or photographic image of the child, without separate written consent from Parent or Guardian.

Parent and/or student have provided an email address and phone number and agree to receiving emails and text notifications from the Studio regarding current and future studio lessons, programs, and promotions.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and support of music education, as well as your support of Stolfe Percussion Studio!

John Stolfe  
Stolfe Percussion Studio  
Percussion/Drum Instructor  
262.818.1173  
[john@stolfepercussion.com](mailto:john@stolfepercussion.com)  
<http://www.stolfepercussion.com>

I have read and understand the Studio policies and grant my consent and authorization.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (if required): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent signature required if student is under the age of 18 years old)

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact:

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Teaching Artist/Owner  
Stolfe Percussion Studio  
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