

Tamborim

A *tamborim* (Portuguese pronunciation: [tɐ̃boˈɾĩ] or Portuguese pronunciation: [tɐ̃buˈɾĩ]) is a small, round Brazilian frame drum of Portuguese and African origin.

The frame is 6" in width and may be made of metal, plastic, or wood. The head is typically made of nylon and is normally very tightly tuned in order to ensure a high, sharp timbre and a minimum of sustain. The drum is devoid of snares or jingles.

The tamborim is used in many genres of Brazilian music. It is most commonly associated with samba and pagode, but is also used in chorinho, bossa nova, and some northeastern folklore rhythms such as cucumbi.

In most musical styles, the tamborim is played with a small wooden drumstick. In samba-batucada, it is played with a beater made of several flexible nylon or polyacetal threads bound together. On rare occasions, it may be played with the fingers.

The tamborim is held with the weaker hand with the thumb either crossing the rim and resting on the drumhead, or gripping the frame. The other fingers are curled under the rim, with the index typically applying and releasing pressure on the underside of the head to achieve higher or lower notes. The beater is held with the strong hand and the head is struck a little off-center.

A playing technique called *virado* is often used, in which the drum is flipped upside-down in the middle of the pattern, which produces one note that is slightly delayed, giving the samba its characteristic lilt. The instrument may also occasionally be struck on the rim.

Tamborim players alternate between the *carreteiro*, the main groove pattern, and other signature phrases which are easily distinguished above the other percussion instruments.

Further reading

- Samba
- Samba Band

External links

- Tamborim information and pictures (Traditional Sounds of Samba)^[1]

References

[1] <http://www.tdsounds.co.uk/ixxocart/catalog/Tamborim-104-1.html>

Article Sources and Contributors

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