

# KICKPORT INTERNATIONAL LLC

[WWW.KICKPORT.COM](http://WWW.KICKPORT.COM)

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## Getting the *MOST* out of The KickPort®

US Patent: 7582820, Other Pats Pending

For years drummers have been stuffing pillows, blankets, foam and other materials to provide dampening with the objective of achieving better definition and punch. In doing so, the natural resonance of the drum is sacrificed in two ways: One, anything coming in contact with the shell chokes the tone, and two, the internal dampening materials reduce the resonant space.

**The KickPort®** is designed to enhance the sound of your drum by doing four things:

- **It** ports the kick drum in the same manner as a bass reflex speaker cabinet which boosts low frequencies.
- **It** adds ideal dampening directly to the resonant head which allows you to remove most if not all of the internal materials thus reclaiming all of the natural resonance and tone of your drum.
- **It** focuses the air as it exits the kick drum and this compression increases punch.
- **It's** tunable! Due to its broadband design, **The KickPort®** improves the sound of bass drums sized 16" to 28." It can be tuned up or down by adjusting the tuning of the resonant head.

**The overall result is more lows, more tone, better definition and more punch in varying acoustical environments. Additionally these are benefits the drummer can feel *behind* the kit.**

### tips & suggestions

We recommend that dampening materials touch the batter head **only**. We also recommend the use of the reinforcement ring (included) around hole. See *Installation Instruction Sheet*. Note that **The KickPort®** works in 5" to 5 ½" inch hole. We prefer a 5 ¼" hole (included in packaging), but hole size should NOT affect the sound. We have been asked about use of the KickPort in a 6" hole and we recommend the following: Take off resonant drum head, stick a 5" to 5 ½" ring over hole on front of head and a

second ring on back of head so sticky surfaces adhere to each other and effectively make hole smaller. Install KickPort as usual.

## **Tips con't... Drum Heads and Stuff**

**The KickPort®** has been used with great results by drummers utilizing many different drum and head combinations. We generally prefer thicker heads especially for the resonant head. On the batter side, we like heads similar to the Remo Powerstroke, Aquarian Super-Kick 2, or Evans EMAD-Batter. On the resonant head side, we like the Remo Powerstroke series and the Emperor. Do note sometimes we've had to add several small pieces of tape to the inside edge of the Mylar underlay on Powerstroke 3 (and similar designed heads) to eliminate noise that may occur. **Please note that **The KickPort®** adds an ideal amount of dampening to the resonant head. Resonant drum heads with felt or foam muffling rings used with **The KickPort®** may result in excessive dampening and a significant reduction of its benefits.**

Another thing on heads: The above head combination suggestions reflect *our* preferences. Start with the heads you have and go from there.

**Regarding Tuning:** Tuning is very important! It directly affects the results you get from your drums **and** the sound enhancement the KickPort offers. We suggest you tune the drum first without the KickPort and then install the KickPort. Listen, retune and then fine tune. Pay careful attention to lug tuning and **not** just *lug tension*. Additionally, inconsistencies and/or defects in the hoop or drumhead can cause the tension to vary. Note that even tension at each lug is necessary to achieve a consistent and even tuning at all lugs. Once you've achieved an even tuning with the KickPort, you might try getting another person to hit the kick while you tune and detune one lug at a time to maximize results. Experiment and have fun! The use of an auto tuner can also be helpful. When **even tuning** at all lugs is achieved and the resonant head is truly in tune with itself, we have found the green light of the tuner will light up and we absolutely hear the difference!

**The KickPort®** is an innovative tool and drummers worldwide testify to the incredible results. The consensus is that **The KickPort®** is destined to become a standard part of every bass drum!

Peace and love,

*Sammi & Jesse*

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