

Calypso Steel Drum

INSTRUCTIONS

The steel band is a 20th century invention, originating around 1935 when steel "pans" were created from discarded 55-gallon oil drums for the first time in Trinidad & Tobago. Since then, steel bands have played everything from the songs of calypso to entire classical symphonies and are an integral part of the Carnival celebration every year. You'll find that our Calypso Steel Drum sounds much better than decorative souvenir models plentiful in the islands.

Your new steel drum is a truly playable, scaled version of the real thing, harmonically tuned to enhance the color of each note. You'll notice the notes are not in sequential order around the drum. If consecutive notes were adjacent, (i.e., C, D, E, F) they would have a tendency to cancel each other's sound. Playing the scale smoothly will require a bit of practice, since the notes are dispersed over the surface of the drum. Try playing the scale by starting at "C", and moving counterclockwise around the drum, basically playing every other note.

This booklet gets you started on some traditional steel drum songs. We hope you have fun with this unique adaptation of one of the world's favorite instruments!

*For more information on
the Calypso Steel Drum, call Customer Service,
Woodstock Percussion, (800) 422-4463
or (800) 4-A-CHIME.
E-mail: woodstock@chimes.com
www.chimes.com*

CARE

To protect the tuning of the steel drum, play it only with the sticks we've provided, and use only the rubber-tipped side to strike the pan. Do not strike the drum with great force. Sound will project with the gentlest touch. The Calypso Steel Drum is 100% steel and should be kept dry. To clean it, dust the pan occasionally with a dry cloth or dusting spray. You can revitalize the wooden stand with Danish or lemon oil.

ASSEMBLY

To set up the stand, join the slots on the vertical supports with the slots on the base of the stand. The recessed holes at the top slots should face out away from the drum. Drop the plastic loops into the top slots of the vertical supports and pull to lock into place. The steel drum swings freely on the stand.

