

Snare Left Hand Grip Guidelines

The following guidelines will provide snare drummers with a consistent approach for holding the sticks.

1. **Finger and Thumb Contact Point:** The stick will rest on the ring finger just below the first knuckle and slightly above the nail. The index and middle fingers should be comfortably wrapped around the stick and make contact at all times while avoiding tension. The little finger follows the natural curve of the hand. The pad of the thumb should lie on top of the index finger, approximately at the first knuckle. Maintain contact for maximum control.

2. **Palm Angle:** When the tip of the stick makes contact with the drumhead, the palm should be at approximately a 60 degree angle.

3. **Fulcrum:** This is where the stick pivots. The fulcrum is located at the base of the thumb and the index finger. *The fulcrum must be maintained at all times or you will lose "fine" control.*

4. **Pressure Points:** These points are located between the thumb (on top of the index finger) and the ring finger (just below the first knuckle and slightly above the nail). Pressure between these points will change depending on the demand of the music you are playing. Different speeds of rolls, flam passages, and accent patterns will require different amounts of pressure.

