

LEARN FROM THE BEST™

## NEWSLETTER

**FEBRUARY 2025** 





Our monthly newsletter keeps you updated on what's new, featured, and coming up on Drum Channel. If you're not yet a member, we hope it inspires you to join our community. My goal is to make Drum Channel as affordable as possible with proven teaching methods and essential lessons to take your drumming to the next level.

In this issue, we are talking a lot about electronic drums. Electronic drums are becoming more valuable as a creative tool and also as a learning and practice tool because they are quiet. Over the coming months, we'll share lessons on building a hybrid kit—combining acoustic and electronic drums—just as many drummers are doing today.

Our course with Mike Mangini introduces some of these concepts, while Jules Tabberer-Stewart offers an approachable introduction to electronics, even for beginners. Terry Bozzio also has a great lesson on an electronic kit.

I'd love to hear from you! If you have any questions or feedback about Drum Channel, feel free to reach out to me directly at DonLombardi@drumchannel.com.

Don Lombardi

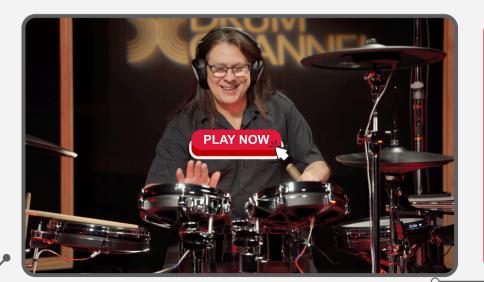




**Mike Mangini,** a world-renowned drummer and former Berklee College of Music faculty member, has decades of experience with Dream Theater, Steve Vai, Extreme, and Annihilator. Renowned for his speed, precision, and rhythmic mastery, Mike's courses offer drummers an unparalleled opportunity to learn from a true legend.

## Exclusively on Drum Channel

Unique Practice Techniques, taught by Mike Mangini, is a 10-Lesson Course that explores the electronic drum kit as a tool for technical mastery and creative inspiration. Mike demonstrates how to use the kit for precision training by assigning all pads to bass drum sounds, sharpening timing and stroke evenness, and showcasing innovative approaches like reconfiguring the kit layout and experimenting with random sound assignments to spark new musical ideas. This course encourages drummers of all levels to rethink their practice and unlock fresh possibilities with electronic drums.



#### **LESSONS LINE-UP:**

- DRUM SET POSITIONING
- USE OF DISTANCES
- PERFECT TIMING
- DYNAMICS AWARENESS
- SWITCHING LIMB PAIRS
- AMBIDEXTERITY
- STRIKING AWARENESS
- RANDOM ASSIGNMENTS
- INNOVATIVE ASSIGNMENTS
- TWO MINDSETS TO PRACTICE



# Unique Practice Techniques for Electronic Drums

I suggest two different mindsets to use when playing electronic drums.

First, you can focus on development. Work on your mechanics, hitting, dynamics, timing, and other skills we develop as drummers—your chops, essentially. You can use this kit to develop precision and control.

Second, you can get into a creative mindset. This is a great kit for exploring creativity and letting your ideas flow freely in a different state of mind.

Ultimately, these two approaches will merge as you play because you'll be aware of your technique while staying in time and being creative.

E-drums are versatile and don't bother those around you, making them a great practice tool. Plus, you can take them to gigs and adjust the volume as needed, which is ideal for situations where you're told to keep it down.

Playing for the room is a common challenge for working drummers. Thanks to this kit's responsiveness and dynamic range, it's easy to adapt.

Whether you're developing physically as a player or exploring new ideas creatively, this kit is an excellent tool. There's something enjoyable about playing an unconventional setup and making something out of it.

I've had a blast teaching this course, and I hope you have just as much fun with your e-kit. Hopefully, this course will help you streamline your approach and decide what mindset—developmental or creative—you want to adopt for each practice session.

Enjoy the process, whether you're improving your skills or letting your creativity shine.



## Fun Facts Speed Round

**Favorite Vacation Destination?** 

When are you most creative - morning or night? When I wake from sleep earlier than planned.

**Favorite song to play?** *Mob Rules* 

**Dream Collab?** 

Just one cannot exist for me.

If you weren't a drummer, what instrument would you focus on? I would focus on virtual instruments via a keyboard.

**Starbucks Order?** 

Americano - less water, extra shot of espresso

**Favorite Food?** 

New England Lobster

**Favorite Treat?** 

**Red Twizzlers** 

What time do you go to bed?

11:30 PM

Words of wisdom to share with up-and-coming drummers?

Make a pencil and paper your best friend. Draw out your world, your environments - the stuff in them - your goals, your monthly calendar, and write, write, write, and don't be afraid to throw the paper out or make a stack of notes. GET ALL YOU CAN OUT OF YOUR MIND AND ON PAPER. Then, research.

**Book Recommendations?** 

The Golden Ratio, by Mario Livio

**Hidden Talent?** 

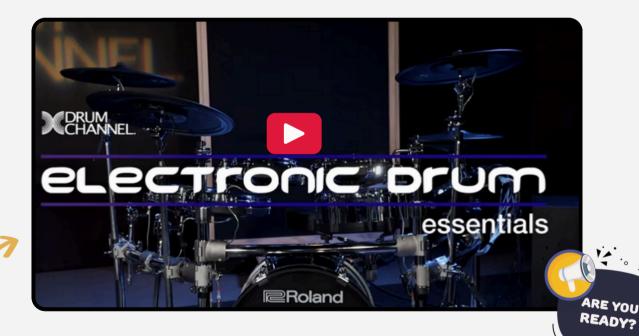
W. S. W.

Making a one-time, unconventional, tasty meal out of fridge leftovers and odd things.





**Jules Tabberer-Stewart**, Roland's Global Marketing Manager, is here teaching this exclusive 4-lesson course on using, maintaining, and getting the most out of your electronic drums. This course covers everything you need to know, from unlocking built-in features that enhance your practice and creativity to essential tips for cleaning and maintaining your gear for peak performance. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced drummer, you'll learn how to get the most out of your electronic drum set.

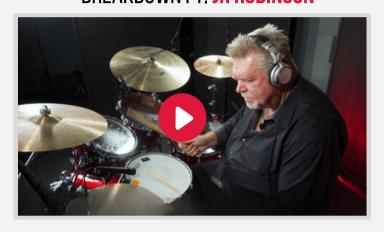


### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- HOW TO SET UP YOUR E-DRUMS
- · PLAYABILITY & DYNAMICS
- GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR E-DRUMS
- MAINTENANCE & CLEANING TIPS

# DC MUST-SEE

### DON'T STOP TILL YOU GET ENOUGHH BREAKDOWN FT, JR ROBINSON



PRACTICING ON A DIFFERENT BEAT VALUE CAMILLE BIGEAULT



**RAMON MONTAGNER DRUM SOLO** 



EXPLORING HOW TO COMMUNICATE MUSICALLY FT, NATE WOOD AND KNEEBODY



"GOODBYES" BY POST MALONE

JACOPO VOLPE



HOT FOR TEACHER BREAKDOWN FT. **GREGG BISSONETTE** 



HAVE FUN.

#### DRUM CHANNEL

## Terry Bozzio 16th Note Grid Exercises

