


Your drummer and the drum set together make up one of the most critical variables in the overall sonic landscape of your gathered worship space. Many of us struggle from week to week and drummer to drummer to get the right balance.  This quick list will give you some tips to achieve the volume and velocity from the drummer that is best for your room.

## 1. Tune your heart

Drummers, know the power you have to make the sound beautiful or brutal. Lay down your preferences (and your heavy metal cymbal set) and be a team player. You have been given incredible influence.

## 2. Tune your gear

A poorly tuned snare drum or $30 crash cymbal will sound “loud” even if it’s not. Learn to tune your drums and choose cymbals that don’t hurt the ears.

## 3. Choose your sticks

There might be a time where you have to use sticks you don’t prefer in order to help control the sound. Have lots of options on hand and don’t roll your eyes if someone suggests a different kind of stick.

## 4. Play to the room

Drums are fun to play because there is so much dynamic that can happen with every strike of the skins. Learn the nuance of loud, soft, super loud and super soft. Play to the room always and play to the song and the band. As we play these bold instruments in little rooms (often times before noon) it’s ok to be hyper vigilant about volume.




*My name is Mike O'Brien and I am passionate about teaching and mentoring worship leaders and teams. My calling is to use my experience as producer, worship leader, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist to come alongside musicians, helping them more fully worship God with their instrument and lives. Contact me to talk about how we can raise the bar through virtual or on-site training for your worship ministry.*