

Drum Kits

Since 1967 I've been a Rogers man, meaning I've been playing Rogers drums for 46 years. I still have my first Rogers kit and you can see photos of it on this web site. The pearl covering of gloss black, gold sparkle, gloss black was my way of individualizing my kit as an 8th grader way back when. The set configures as follows; 14 x 20 Bass Drum, 8 x 12 and 9 x 13 Rack Toms, 16 x 16 Floor Tom with a legendary 5 x 14 COB, (chrome over brass), dyno-sonic Snare Drum. The set was a special order and I was told it could take six months to complete. It came to me in four weeks. The only other drums I've ever owned are a beautiful set of first generation Gretsch Catalina Birch drums. This kit also fits into a special category because of the sizes; 16 x 18 Bass Drum, (which I converted from a Floor Tom), (2) 7 x 8 rack toms, a 8 x 10 rack tom, (which I use as a small Floor Tom), a 12 x 14 Rack Tom, (which is my large Floor Tom), all of which are mounted on a Gibraltar tube rack system.

I've been restoring and repairing drums for many years and 5 years ago decided it would be nice to restore a kit for me for a change. I went online and began my assembly of what would become my "big kit". The purple wood grain Rogers drums you see in other photos are all from different years and restored one-at-a-time by yours truly. It took over a year to complete the process. The sizes are as follows; (2) 14 x 24 Bass Drums, 14 x 20 Bass Drum, 16 x 18 Floor Tom, 16 x 16 Floor Tom, 10 x 14 Rack Tom, 9 x 13 Rack Tom, 8 x 10 Rack Tom, 8 x 8 Rack tom. With all these drums I can mix and match the drums to fit any musical style or need.

I use Remo White Suede Emperors on the tom batters and Remo clear tympani heads for the resonant side. I sanded these drums for 6 months and carefully redid the bearing edges and the tympani heads because they have no shoulder or factory collar bring a beautiful full tone to each drum. I'm a big fan of Aquarian Super-kick II clear Bass Drum batters and it's all I use on my Bass Drums. I like the Kickports as well and use those on all my Basses. Snare drum batters are a mixed bunch because experience tells me that one kind of drumhead, (or one head manufacture) doesn't fit all. I use Remo, Evans and Aquarian heads on my snares and if I can find them I'll use Ludwig extra thin snare heads on the snare side.

Snare Drums

6 x 8 Steel Gretsch with a coated Pinstripe Remo batter
6 x 10 Premier 10 ply Maple with a coated Emperor, (with a reverse dot)
3 1/2 x 13 Mapex Black Panther Brass Piccolo with a Evans dry coated batter
4 x 14 Tama smooth Copper with a Evans G1 coated batter
7 x 13 Yamaha Steve Jordan model with a Aquarian coated with reverse dot batter
5 x 14 Gretsch 10 ply Maple with a custom yellow finish I applied with Aquarian coated
5 x 14 Rogers COB dyno-sonic, (1967) with Aquarian coated
6 1/2 x 14 Gretsch Hand Hammered Brass with Aquarian Studio X batter
7 x 15 Ludwig Maple, (1962), with Remo Powerstroke 4 batter