

DW COLLECTOR'S SERIES BLACK ON BRASS SNARE

£463 DW's renowned Collector's Series is treated to an alluring new snare

WORDS: DAVE HOLMES



As well as some stunning high-end kits, Drum Workshop Collector's series also encompasses a wide and varied selection of wood and metal snare drums. The black on brass snare is the latest addition to the world famous Collector's series which features several interesting and innovative design elements.

Build

There are two snare sizes available, both have a 14" diameter, but one has a depth of 5½" (as in the review model) and the other has a slightly deeper, 6½" shell. There are 10 lugs per head, with each opposing lug pair sharing a single DW turret-style lug, centred in between the two rims.

The wafer thin brass shell is rolled, welded and then finished in a lush coating of black nickel. In contrast to the shell, the substantial chromed counter hoops are DW's triple-flanged 'True Hoops' which are made from a 3mm-thick steel and feature an extremely

tight 'roll' at the pinnacle of the rim, making them appear similar to a die-cast hoop.

For the strainer, DW has employed their unique MAG throw-off and three-position 3P butt-end. This lever maintains strainer position in the 'on' with the aid of a small magnet sited in the actual throw-off housing, keeping the lever upright and the strainer up against the snare within three selectable tensions, courtesy of the three-position butt-end.

The throw-off stays in position, no matter how heavily the drum is struck. However, with just one flick, the lever drops 90° and the snare is (no matter what position the butt-end lever is in) instantly and completely slackened off. Any fine snare adjustment necessary is made via a knurled knob integrated into the MAG throw-off.

Hands On

Whether cranked up or kept low, this snare drum exudes power - but it is an extremely 'open' drum which, initially, had me grasping

for the Moongel in an attempt to tame it. Realising that I could be turning into a fruitcake sound engineer, I left it entirely naked - the drum cuts like a hot knife through runny butter.

In use, the MAG throw-off proves effective, though when turning the snare on (unless controlled by your thumb), the actual lever has a tendency to clonk back into position as the magnet gets a grip. The 3P lever allows a surprising degree of control, where slackening off creates a thicker sound without having to fiddle about with the fine adjuster. **R**

VERDICT: A great sounding and versatile snare which is up to the usual standard of DW build quality and detailing.

BUILD QUALITY	★★★★★
PLAYABILITY	★★★★★
VALUE FOR MONEY	★★★★★
RHYTHM RATING	★★★★★

Essential spec



PRICE

14"x5½", £463

SHELL MATERIAL

Brass

CONSTRUCTION METHOD

Rolled brass with welded seam

SHELL THICKNESS

1mm

BEARING EDGE

Rolled 45°

FINISHES AVAILABLE

As with review model

HOOPS/RIMS

3mm steel triple-flange True Hoop

SHELL AVAILABILITY

14"x5½", 14"x6½"

SUPPLIED HEADS

Batter, white coated DW badged Remo USA; Snare Head, clear Remo USA

LUGS

True Pitch, 10 per head

SNARE STRAINER

MAG throw-off, 3P butt plate

SNARE WIRES

True Tone

CONTACT

Westside Distribution
0141 248 4812
www.dwdrums.com