

YAMA TAIKO / “Mountain Drums” -by Kurt Griffith, Shangö Percussion -
Version 2, Aug 2020

	1	-	2	-	3	-	4	-	
Jiuchi	<i>don</i>	<i>tsuku</i>	<i>don</i>	<i>tsuku</i>	<i>don</i>	<i>tsuku</i>	<i>don</i>	<i>tsuku</i>	

Main Patterns

*This empty end space is **important**. (virtual “su”)— v*

1.	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	kara	Ka	Ra	kara	-	Lead-in DONs only
1a.	DON	kara	kara	Ka	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
2.	DON	doko	DON	kara	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
3.	DON	doko	Don	Don	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
4.	DON	doko	doko	Don	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
5.	DON	DON	doko	Don	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
6.	Doro	doro	DON	DON	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
7.	Doro	tsuku	doko	DON	Ka	Ra	kara	-	
8.	DON	doko	DON	doko	Don	Don	kara	-	
9.*	Don	kara	Don	kara	DON	kara	kara	Ka	- *indicates end of sequence.

Version 2 Note: - by adding the Ninth Line/Break that allows the 1-1a pattern to run with an even number count under the Main Sequence (ten lines total), and act as a signal for the end of the main sequence, an improv segment or a solo. This allows more flexibility and layering options in arranging the piece. - August 2020.

Solo Patterns (these are experimental, mix-n-match, be creative!)

	DON	DON	DON	<i>su</i>	Don	Don	kara	-	
	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	Don	Don	Don	-	
	DON	kara	DON	kara	DON	Ka	kara	-	
	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	-	
	Ko - Don		Ko - Don		DON	DON	DON	-	
	Doro	doro	DON	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	kara	-	
	Don	kara	Don	kara	<i>su</i>	DON	DON	-	
	kara	kara	Don	Don	<i>su</i>	DON	DON	-	
	kara	kara	kara	Ka	don	Don	DON	-	
Break*	Don	kara	Don	kara	DON	kara	kara	Ka	- *indicates. end of solo.

Yame

DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	
DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	DON	<i>su</i>	
don	don	Don	Don	DON	DON	DON	<i>su</i>	Ko - DON!

YAMA TAIKO / “Mountain Drums” - 2

Notes and Arrangement

The idea for “Mountain Taiko” was a somewhat formal, feeling of a march, reflecting the flavor of the hills of West Virginia. Inspiration is drawn from the structure of *Matsuri Taiko*, and the African and Middle Eastern rhythms studied and performed by Shangö Percussion. A full arrangement would include world percussion instruments. *Version 2 note:* by adding the Ninth Line/Break that allows the 1-1a pattern to run with an even number count under the Main Sequence (ten lines total), and act as a signal for the end of the main sequence, an improv segment, or a solo.

Djembe / Doumbek

	1	-	2	-	3	-	4	-
Baseline	B	t t	B	t t	B	t t	B	t t
<i>Layer one</i>	B		B	t t	S	T	t t	-
	B	t t	t t	T	S	S	t t	-

The main rhythms of *Beladi, Kuku, 2/4, etc.* fit easily here. See arrangement.

Djun Djun

D	-	D	-	-	-	-	-
D	-	-	-	s	s	s s	-

Djun-Djun may also mirror Taiko main or solo lines

Simple Arrangement (V.1a)

Taiko - Lines 1, 1a Doms only **2X**

Taiko - Lines 1, 1a Doms only *Hand drums* - *Jiuchi/Baseline starts* **2X**

Taiko - Lines 1, 1a *Hand drums* - *Jiuchi / Baseline* *Djun Djun starts pattern* **2X**

Taiko - Lines 2-8 *Hand drums* - *Jiuchi / Baseline* *Djun Djun* - pattern

Taiko - Lines 1-8 *Hand drums* - *Kuku / Beladi / etc.* *Djun Djun* - pattern or 1,1a

Tempo change – End segment: - **DON su DON su DON su DON su** - **2X**
Ramp up *Jiuchi* to new tempo, count-in *Taiko* - other drums follow.
-Or- lead taiko plays *jiuchi* 2-4 measures to lead in tempo change.

Taiko - Lines 1-8 *Hand drums* - *Kuku / Beladi / etc.* *Djun Djun* - pattern or 1,1a

Solos, Variations and Improvs - [Optional]**

Taiko - Lines 1, 1a *Hand drums* - **Solos/Variations*** *Djun Djun* - pattern or 1,1a**

Taiko - **Solos*** *Hand drums* - *Jiuchi / Baseline.* *Djun Djun* - pattern or 1,1a**

Taiko - Lines 1-8 *Hand drums* - *Kuku / Beladi / 2-4 / etc..* *Djun Djun* - pattern or 1,1a

Taiko - **YAME** *Hand drums* - play out / end breaks *Djun Djun* - **Yame** pattern

** In place of Solos and Improv section, a second ramp-up & lines 1-9 section could be substituted. It would be less *interesting*, but it would still work. -or- go whole hog with *three* sections, *with* solos.