

# plug-ins

E-DRUM FACTSHEET No. 1

digitalDrummer Magazine and EPIC present:

## Electrify Your Drumming

*Develop Your Drumming Skills Further Faster With Electronic Percussion.*

featuring Antoine Fadavi

**W**hile drumming has traditionally been based on a combination of physical and musical skills, today, as in so many areas of contemporary life, technology has become an important and essential element for drummers, too. Electronic drums and electronic drum technology not only give modern drummers access to increased levels of creativity and control in music production and performance, they are also powerful, effective educational tools that allow players of all ages and abilities to develop their drumming further and faster than ever before.

To begin with, E-Drums provide the inherent benefit of **sound control**. Because drum pads are quiet, they allow individual and group practice, instruction, rehearsal and recording at virtually any time and place without disturbing the parents or the neighbors. Furthermore, electronic drums make it easy for drummers to hear themselves play at a safe, comfortable volume level with headphones or in-ear monitors regardless of the live volume level. Using headphones also blocks exterior noises, creating a great sound experience.

### ***E-Drums & Developing Traditional Drumming Skills***

Electronic drums offer drummers many more developmental benefits than merely the ability to control their volume by turning a knob. Here are a few more...

- **Chops** - For drummers who are working to improve their **hand and foot technique** (speed, control, dynamics, independence, etc.), practicing on electronic drums is an attractive alternative to acoustic drums and practice pads. E-Drums offer the clarity, focus and reduced volume of a drum pad plus the sound and dynamic sensitivity of an actual drum.
- **Groove** - Most electronic drum brains feature a built-in metronome, which is important in maintaining a **consistent tempo** during warm-up and practice sessions and developing good time-keeping skills.
- **Taste** - On the musical side, drummers can sharpen their **listening and tuning** abilities with e-drums as they practice programming parameters such as pitch, decay, sensitivity, volume, mixing, panning and effects like reverb, filters, echo and more.

- **Play-Alongs** - Since most electronic drum devices offer audio in and audio out jacks, they're a great way for drummers to experience the developmental benefits of **playing-along** with everything from on-board tutorials and loops to tracks from their favorite bands.

### ***E-Drums & Developing Modern Drumming Skills***

For today's drummers, electronic drums are a natural gateway to the world of music technology.

- **Sound Selection** - E-drummers have access to hundreds of high-quality drum, percussion and other pitched and non-pitched sounds in their **internal (built-in) and external (user acquired) sound libraries**. In addition to being able to adjust selected sounds and **grouping, saving and storing** them as unique kits that fit the song, style or situation, the original sound can be replaced, expanded, stacked and cross-faded with other sounds. On **multi-zone** e-drum pads and cymbals, multiple sounds can be assigned and triggered from different locations on a single device.

These features give drummers a familiarity with a **variety of drum and percussion sounds** without the expense of buying or renting a warehouse full of instruments while also providing an opportunity for them to discover a wider range of musical genres— all at an earlier stage of their development.

- **Electro-Acoustic Integration** – For both electronic and acoustic drummers, creating **hybrid acoustic-electronic kits** using triggers, auxiliary pads or multi-pads and incorporating computers into their set-ups helps them learn how to integrate electronic drum technology with their conventional drumming expertise/knowledge and apply it in real-time situations. In addition, many bands use **sequences, backing tracks and sound samples** live and in the studio and it is often the drummer who runs this tech from their kit, laptop, tablet or phone. Learning how to apply this technology intelligently in different situations is as important to young drummers as learning paradiddles and a fat backbeat.

- **Music Production** – E-drums are not just the wave of future. They are the wave of the present. For more than a decade the

vast majority of recorded audio and video music production—and most live performances— have relied on technology, including recording and performing with **MIDI, DAW, VST** and software like ProTools, Kontakt and Abelton. Electronic drums and percussion are the best way for today's drummers and percussionists to gain this essential knowledge.

With all these features and developmental benefits, as well as the availability of electronic drumkits to fit every budget, learning to play the drums has never been easier, more affordable, more relevant or more fun. And, because drumming technique is complementary and compatible on all types of drums, an e-drummer can smoothly transfer his or her skills to acoustic drums as their abilities grow.

Along with the traditional physical and musical skills that drumming has previously required, technological skills have become a fundamental part of being a drummer in the modern age. Electronic drums can significantly help facilitate the development of this expanded skillset— allowing all drummers to meet the needs of today's music and avoid the risk of being left behind... or left out.

### ***E-Drums For Educators***

Electronic drums offer educational advantages for teachers as well as students. In addition to giving young drummers a head start in the areas mentioned in this article, e-drums are ideal instruments for individual and group lessons.

E-Drums encourage students to explore technology and use it to supplement their education offline and online. In teaching studios, rehearsal rooms and schools, the variety and quality of electronic drum and percussion sounds let students sound like pro's while they concentrate on learning.

Finally, using e-drums to record audio and video without microphones, mixers and additional gear makes it easy for teachers to let their students see and hear their progress in between lessons and share it via email, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other social media.



**Antoine Fadavi**

**S**ixteen-year old Antoine Fadavi caught the drum bug during a visit to a local music store when he was eleven. He began teaching himself to play by watching Cobus Potgieter, Luke Holland and the new generation of “YouTube” drummers. Within a year, Antoine was producing his own drum videos and posting them online. Today, he has over 1,000,000 views on his YouTube channels and was voted the #2 electronic drummer in the world in the 2015 digitalDrummer magazine readers poll.

In 2013, Antoine began a relationship with the KAT Percussion Electronic Drum division of Drum Workshop Inc. In addition to producing drum videos for KAT, he appeared at trade shows and music festivals around the world

and was featured in KAT's advertisements that appeared in Modern Drummer, DRUM!, Alternative Press and Digital Drummer. Antoine has been invited to perform in North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East and, among his other recent projects, recorded an album with French jazz-guitarist Tom Ibarra.

Currently, Antoine's goals are to continue to develop his technical skills on acoustic and electronic drums for live and studio applications as well as the musical and technological skills that will allow him to perform professionally in a wide range of styles and situations.

Scan this code to watch Antoine's KAT Percussion “Quick Tips” tutorials for e-drums (<https://goo.gl/I5vzxx>) >

**Antoine Fadavi endorses KAT, Gretsch, TRX, GoPro, Cympad and LP.**

See more of Antoine Fadavi at [www.YouTube.com/AntoineFadavi](http://www.YouTube.com/AntoineFadavi) and on his social medias.



# epic™

The Electronic Percussion Industry Council (EPIC) is a new organization that was formed to promote drumming and provide educational resources for drummers, teachers and retailers. EPIC is supported by leading electronic drum and percussion manufacturers from around the world.

[www.e-drums.org](http://www.e-drums.org)

# digitalDrummer

digital Drummer magazine is a free online magazine and the only music publication that is exclusively dedicated to covering electronic drums, drummers and drumming. With a variety of the latest news, reviews and interviews with players and products, Digital Drummer is always on the leading edge of modern drumming.

[www.digitaldrummermag.com](http://www.digitaldrummermag.com)

