This document is available in Adobe Acrobat format at www.f3p.com/doumbek/
Version 2.0

Covers:
- Basic strokes
- Basic rhythms
- Finding rhythms
- Learning resources
- Holding the drum

Does NOT cover:
- Playing in a group
- Intermediate/advanced strokes
- Drumming etiquette
- Choosing a drum
- Drum care
- Authenticity/Research/Documentation issues

Rings:
Rings will mess up your drum and your ring. Do not ever wear rings when
drumming. Put them on a leather strap around your neck so they don't get
lost and the strap doesn't wear them out. If you put them on a metal
(silver, gold, stainless, whatever) necklace, eventually the necklace will
wear away at the band of the ring, and that will be a bad thing. Use
leather or some other non-metallic material.

Holding the Drum
- Traditional
- Turkish
- Gilchrist
- Shoulder
- Lap
- Between Legs
- On a strap

Basic Strokes - the Language of the Doumbek
- Doum
- Ka
- Tek and Teka

Rhythm Notation
- DdKkTt
Baladi (Masmoodi Saghir) (“Small Masmoodi”)  
This is a common rhythm. Maqsum and Saiidi are variations.  
1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a  
(common) D-D-tkt-D-tkT---  
(open) D-D---T-D---T---  
Maqsum D-T---T-D---T---  
Saiidi D-T---D-D---T---  

Masmoodi Kabir (“Big Masmoodi”) This is also known as a “warring” masmoodi, as it works well as a marching rhythm and sounds very militant.  
1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a5e&a6e&a7e&a8e&a  
D---D---tktkT---D-tktkT-tktkT---  

Chiftitelli Played fast or slow. Lots of room for fills and fun to play around with.  
1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a  
D-TT-DT-D-D-T---  

Malfouf Count 12312312. Played fast or slow.  
1e&a2e&a3e&a4e&a  
D--k-k-D--k-k-T-K-  

Kashlima An odd 9-beat. Usually played very fast.  
Played slower has lots of opportunities for fills and is fun to play around with. When counting think of it as long, long, long, short short short.  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
D---T---D---T-T-T-
Breaking a Rhythm into Parts
   2’s and 3’s
   breaking up is easy to do
   playing 8 as 3-3-2 (and others) (Malfouf)

Playing in a Group
   Playing steady
   Dropping Back

Practicing
   Steady Beats
   Patterns
   Finger Drills
      Rolls
      Alternating fingers
      Butterfly

Hiding Your Cheat Sheet
   embroidery
   beads
   rhythm wheels
   straps

Rhythm Sources
   www.f3p.com/doumbek/links.html

Learning Resources:
   www.f3p.com/doumbek/fihrist.html

What make me an expert, and why is what I say right?
   I'm not, and it's not. There is no "right", only an individual interpretation.
   Take what I say and do, learn from it, learn from others, and build your
   own style.

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