



Congratulations on your new HAPI Handpan!

Care of your HAPI Handpan. When using your hands all that is required is a light touch with one finger, do not use too much force. Over driving the notes can eventually lead to a slight shift in the tuning. As an example, there is no need to hit it as hard as you would a djembe drum.

Store in a dry air area, not in a moisturized area. Never store long term in a closed carry bag as this can trap moisture with the steel. Avoid rain, beaches, sea water, swimming pool water.

The handpan is sealed inside and out with Frog Lube, a specially designed natural clear coating oil for metal. It should be reapplied after every playing session with a soft cloth or paper towel to keep the instrument sealed, looking great and not forming rust. Frog Lube liquid or presoaked wipes are available on our website. Properly applied, you should feel a very thin layer covering the metal. A little goes a long way!

We are working on specially designed mallets for handpans. For now, don't use any mallets to play your instrument. Mallets often impact more force than playing with a finger and this can also lead to a shift in the tuning.

The handpan is created and tuned with hammer blows (some of them very light). You should be careful to never drop the instrument. Especially on its top. This can drive it out of tune like a giant hammer blow.

Just like any Caribbean Pan Drum or Handpan, eventually your instrument may need retuning. This is not a big problem. As with stringed instruments, handpans can also be brought back into tune. Using a chromatic tuner you can check your tuning. Once a note has shifted to 25 cents (1/4 tone) up or down from "0" you may want to send it in for a tune up. Save your box and packing materials for this purpose. The human ear is usually not sensitive enough to notice pitch changes of 15 to 20 cents. How long your instrument stays in tune is directly related to how roughly it is played, so be careful if you loan it out to a friend. Our current retuning rate is \$90. 1st retune is free (Does not include shipping costs). Do not attempt to retune the instrument yourself.

Can anyone play a HAPI Handpan? Sure! Anyone who wants an easy to play intuitive instrument can enjoy one. The HAPI Handpan is ideal for jamming and rhythms. The note layout makes it easy to jump right into playing.

Enjoy creating a soothing harmonic journey with your HAPI Handpan. You will love being able to add a melodic component to your beats. An intuitive arrangement to the notes makes it easy to explore new musical horizons.

The Hapi Handpan uses a technique similar to Caribbean Pan Drums to create tone fields. A flat and slightly domed note area creates a fundamental tone. Into this area an octave and a fifth are added to the note area. When a note is struck it activates all three tones simultaneously. The note shape is typically oval. Imagine the oval placed with the longest portion running up and down and the shorter width running left to right. If you were to draw a compass on the note the octave resonates towards the north and south poles while the 5th rings from the west and east sides. Playing the note in these different areas will enhance the sound of the octave or 5th. You can also dampen one or the other by lightly touching it with a finger to absorb the vibration.

A wide range of sounds can be created with different techniques. Playing by hand connects one with the instrument in a way that traditional drums are enjoyed. A minimal amount of force creates a big sound. The arrangement of the notes make going up and down the scale easy with a left, right, left, right sequence. Orientate the highest note in the 12 O'clock position.

This HAPI handpan comes tuned in the El Capitan scale derived from D Minor. The top note is the lowest at D3. The next lowest is A3 then C4, D4, E4, F4, G4 and A4 is the highest. The bottom shell is tuned to E5 for finger strikes.

The udu tone is tuned to F2 and can be comfortably played by lightly "slapping" your hand into the bottom opening. Your fingers will reach just inside the drum. With your other hand, practice slightly covering the hole when playing the udu to lower the pitch. Be careful to not set the handpan on the top ding when playing the udu. Set the handpan upside down on your lap with it touching the untuned steel between the side notes and the top note.

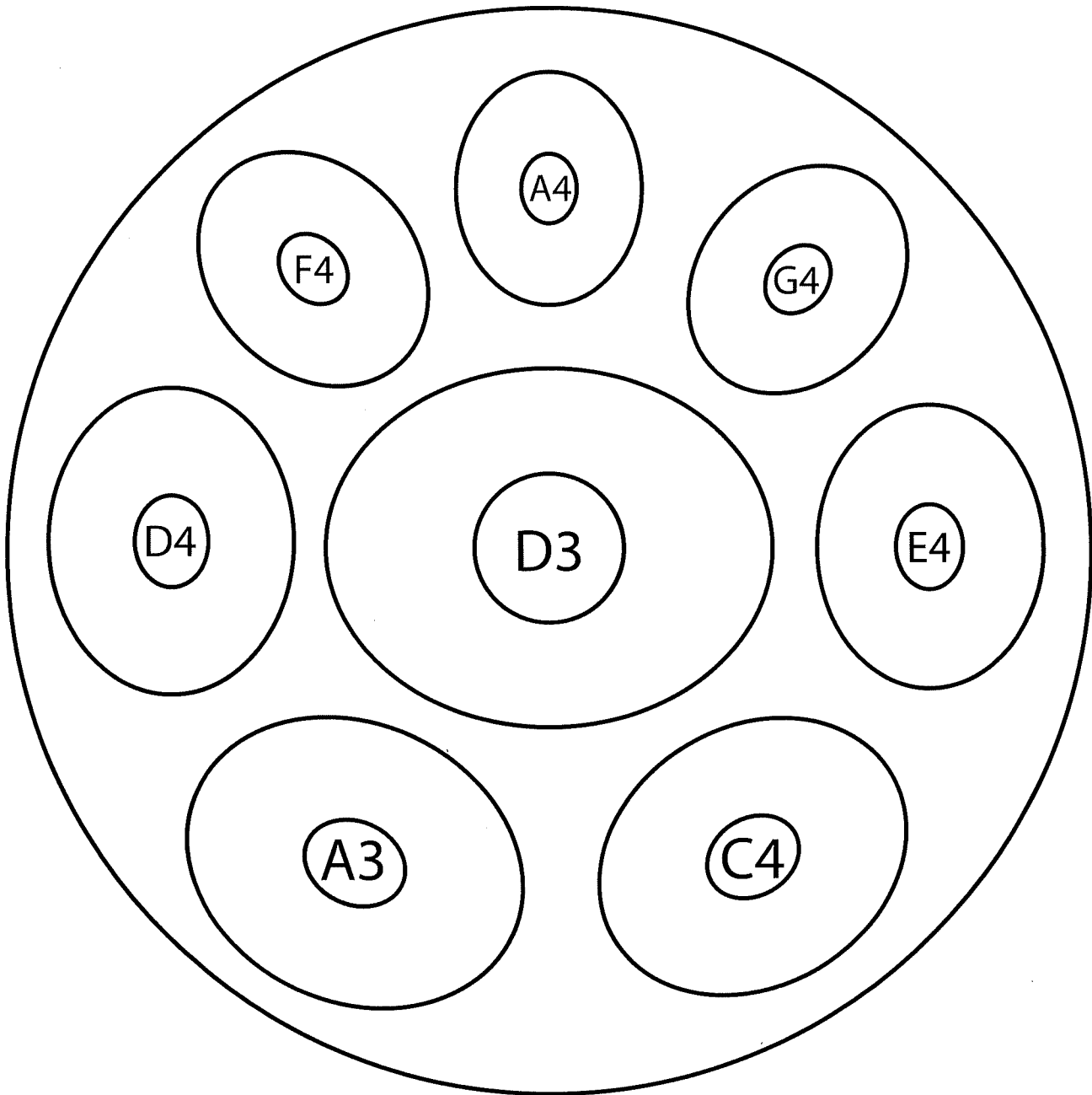
Some notes will activate harmonics and fundamentals from other notes creating a beautiful sound sculpture. Some notes may be slightly stronger than others, this is normal with this type of instrument.

Finger Slap. With just the index or middle finger quickly and lightly slap the note. The technique here is to not use the tip of the finger but rather the pad. Try to keep the finger as parallel to the note as possible. Raise your finger up and flick it down on the note to create the tone. Let the finger bounce back off the note so as not to dampen the sound. This should be a very light slap and not painful. The elbow should not move much, as most of the motion is created in the wrist.

Thumb. Being able to use the thumb is very useful. Rather than making your hand move a large distance between notes you can use your thumb to quickly and easily reach them. The technique is similar to a finger slap but instead of using the pad of the thumb, use the side of the knuckle to make contact. Rather than the up and down motion the wrist uses for the finger slap, you will use a left to right twist to raise and drop the thumb onto the note.

Many hours go into the creation of this instrument and we hope it brings you countless hours of enjoyment!

# HAPI Handpan El Capitan Scale



## Playing suggestions:

Orientate the highest note, A4 so it is in the 12 o'clock position in your lap.

To play through the scale, start with D3 for the right hand, then A3 left, C4 right, D4 left, E4 right, F4 Left, G4 right and finally A4 left. This is an easy zig zag pattern for the left and right hand to follow.

Learning patterns: Feel free to experiment, as all the notes will work well together. When playing two notes simultaneously, try combinations of C4, E4, G4 or A3, D4, F4, A4. These have nice compatible harmonics. You can also add D3 to any combinations as well.

D3 is tuned with a D4 octave and A4 fifth into the note. You will find that the D4 and A4 notes around the sides will harmonize with the center D3 note.