AFRICAN DRUMMING

Online classes and training

Zoom Setup Guide

We need to hear your drum, and you need to hear ours. Zoom is built for voices, so it filters drumming out unless you change a few settings. Set up the day before and you'll be ready to play from the first minute.

Laptop or desktop
Not a phone or tablet

Wired headphones
Bluetooth earbuds can drop the sound

Zoom desktop app
Updated, not a web browser

Your djembe
Ready and within reach

Before the day

about 10 minutes

1. **Update Zoom**
   Open the Zoom app, click your profile picture (top right), then **Check for updates**. Always join through the app, not your web browser.

2. **Plug in wired headphones**
   Once a Bluetooth headset's microphone switches on, sound quality drops a lot. Wired is best.

3. **Choose your microphone and speaker**
   Go to **Settings > Audio**. Set **Speaker** to your headphones and **Microphone** to your laptop's built-in mic (not the headphone mic).

4. **Turn on Original sound for musicians**
   Still in **Settings > Audio**, find **Microphone modes** (called **Audio profile** in some versions) and select **Original sound for musicians**. Untick **Automatically adjust microphone volume**. Leave the other boxes as they are.

5. **Test your drum**
   Click **Test Mic**, play a few strokes, then listen to the playback. If your drum sounds clear and full, you're ready.

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On the day

1. **Join at your session start time**
   The first 15 minutes are for final checks and housekeeping, then we start playing. Please do your setup beforehand, as there isn't time to start from scratch.

2. **Switch Original Sound on**
   Look for the **Original sound** button at the top left of your meeting screen and click it so it shows **On**. Zoom asks you to do this every session.

3. **Check your camera**
   We need to see your face, hands and drum. Stay muted when you're not playing or talking, and unmute when the facilitator asks you to play.

Quick fixes

I can't find Original sound	You're probably in a web browser, on a phone or tablet, or on an old version of Zoom. Use the updated desktop app. On a school or work laptop, IT may have locked the setting: try a personal laptop or ask your IT team.
Others can't hear my drum	Check the Original sound button at the top left says On. Check your microphone is set to your laptop mic, not your headphones.
I can't hear the facilitator's drum	In **Settings > Audio**, check Speaker is set to your headphones. If you're on Bluetooth, swap to wired.
Sound is choppy or drops out	Move closer to your Wi-Fi or plug into your modem, close other apps, and restart Zoom.

Only have a tablet or phone? In the Zoom app, go to Settings > Meetings and turn on Original sound for musicians. In the meeting, tap More to switch it on. A laptop still gives you the best experience.

Stuck before your session?
Email info@africandrumming.com.au or call (03) 9525 3073, 9am to 5pm weekdays.