

# THR-10 Tambourine Head Replacement Kit

## Instructions – Read Me First!

This kit is suitable for any standard 10-inch tambourine. If you have *never* mounted a skin head before, follow the *instructions* carefully, and if possible, seek out the help of an experienced friend. If you *have* mounted skin heads before and your method works, you are advised to use that method.

### What you need:

1. **Glue** – we recommend either **Elmer's Wood Glue (not white glue)** or **Titebond Wood Glue**
2. **A helper**

### Preparing the Shell

Remove the tacks and the old head. Lightly sand off any glue residue that remains, and if there are large holes from split rivets, fill with wood putty and sand smooth. Wrap masking tape around the perimeter of the shell, *just below* the area where the head will be glued, and just above the jingles. This will protect the shell and jingles from glue drips. 1/2 to 5/8 of an inch should be left bare at the top of the shell. This is where the head will be glued on.

### Mounting the Head

You may put either the rough or smooth side of the head up. Mark the top side at the edge of the head (a small “x” with a pencil will suffice), and soak in warm water for about 30 minutes. Before removing the head from the water, spread a thin layer of glue on the shell's side and top. Do not leave gaps, and do not over-apply. Take the head out of the water, and dry off the excess water by patting with a towel. You and your helper should now place the head (top up) on the shell, and stretch the rubber band over the head, securing it to the shell. Pull out any wrinkles on the playing surface, as well as the portion beneath the rubber band. Pull the head taut, making sure the rubber band is below the lip of the shell so it doesn't spring off.

Keep an eye on the head as it is drying and moisten if necessary, because the glued portion under the rubber band will take longer to dry than the exposed surfaces. Place a damp towel on the head if necessary to slow the drying process. If the top dries too quickly, it will pull the head off the shell before the sides dry. Let dry 24 hours or more before removing the rubber band. **Before cutting off excess head material** make sure that the head is not too tight or too loose. You can remove the head by soaking in water until the glue loosens, then repeating the mounting process. However, there is no substitute for doing it right the first time. Once you are satisfied, cut off the excess portion of the head.

You can cut a straight line easily by placing the tambourine head down on a smooth table, then laying a utility knife flat on the table. You may shim the knife with something in order to cut the head at the proper place.