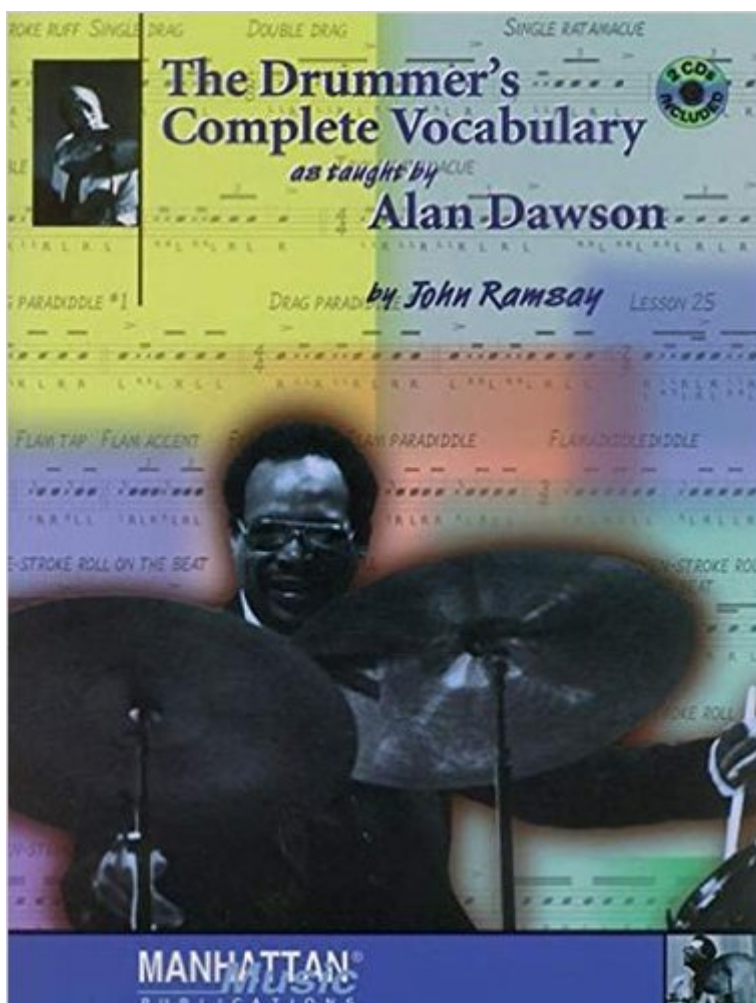


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# The Drummer's Complete Vocabulary As Taught By Alan Dawson: Book & 2 CDs



## Synopsis

Alan Dawson was a legendary drummer and educator, known for his work with the top artists in jazz as well as for his 18-year association with Berklee College of Music. This new text and CD combination was put together by John Ramsay, a prominent drummer in his own right and a former student of Dawson's. The book contains all the important techniques and concepts that Alan Dawson embraced in his own playing and subsequently taught to his students. The two CDs include some remastered audio examples from actual lessons taught by Dawson himself over the years. This is a highly comprehensive textbook from a jazz master.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I don't know why this book is unavailable at this time, I bought it a few years ago and found it to be a big help. Alan Dawson was the drum teacher of Tony Williams and he was big on drummers knowing their craft and playing musically. The book starts off with 86 rudiments and how to play them. You should already know how to read music before attempting this book. Its best for people who have been playing awhile as it does not cover how to hold the sticks, music notation and other basic topics. The presentation is more like an outline for improving technique and how to better your independence. After the rudiments, the author show the "rudimental ritual" which is a method for practicing all 86 rudiments equally. The next section covers how to use Ted Reed's Syncopation as a tool for improving independence and reading ability. He presents many ways to interperet the material in Ted's book and show how to play it musically. Next comes a section on using George Stone's Stick Control and finally some thoughts on improving your single stroke roll. The book

finishes with some solo material demonstrating everything covered in the book. I use the book as a refresher on technique and for improving my independence. Like I said its not for beginners but if you know how to read music and want to improve in the areas the book covers then its a good buy. Its a good reference on rudiments but to me the best part is the section on using Ted Reed's book.

I studied with two drummers who studied with Alan Dawson (who taught, among other giants, Tony Williams). Not surprisingly, they taught me what Alan taught them. But not until now (as far as I'm aware) has any of Alan's students documented and published his methods. Now it is here, under a single cover. Between the covers of this book is a huge amount of challenging exercises that will broaden your musical vocabulary. It's not a long book. But the methods and exercises in it will keep you busy for months, and even years. It contains the very stuff (secrets?) that has made many good drummers great drummers. At the risk of sounding melodramatic, it is the holy grail of drumming. Be prepared to purchase two books to go with it, if you don't already own them: George Lawrence Stone's "Stick Control", and Ted Reed's "Syncopation". You will need these two books to complete most of the exercises in this book. (Maybe will bundle them one of these days.)

This book was recommended to me by my jazz drumming teacher. It contains a way of using Ted Reed's Syncopation book that is very interesting. It is an inspiring book, which really comprises a total concept for teaching and learning drums. Every drummer should have this book, I think. It is probably the one and only really essential drum exercise book I've seen. And yes, that is even including G L Stone's books.

This material is absolutely essential to the serious drummer. I studied with Alan for several years at his basement studio at his home in Lexington. Also there in attendance were the likes of people such as Steve Smith and a very young Terri Lynn Carrington. The list of famous students would be far too long to mention. This was the method he used back then and the information is priceless. Alan was a stern taskmaster and would not allow a student to proceed to the next lesson before he became proficient with the current one. Study this material religiously and attain complete four way coordination, speed, massive chops a musical approach to solo work and all around confidence with the drum set. I owe Alan a debt of gratitude for all he imparted. The kind of discipline required will also transfer positively to other personal goals and endeavors one may undertake in life. **GET THIS BOOK!!!** The Drummer's Complete Vocabulary as Taught by Alan Dawson.

...the key to true drumming greatness lies within. During the twelve years that I have been studying the drums, I have come across a great deal of information. Out of all that information, I have concluded the following to be absolutely certain: 1. Practice time is a privilege, not a chore 2. There is only a small percentage of information that is actually worthy of your practice time 3. Alan Dawson was probably the greatest drummer/teacher to ever walk the face of the earth. By using this book, you will realize all three of these facts within a short period of time. When properly utilized with George Stone's Stick Control and Ted Reed's Syncopation, you essentially have the makings of a drumming system that will literally condition you for the rest of your life. Keep in mind that John Ramsay would drive 180 miles round trip once a week to receive the information found within this book. And from what I understand, these are the very same exercises that Alan himself would use in his own practice routine. The mere fact that John has compiled these invaluable lessons into a single source (in the very same order in which Alan would teach you, I might add) is truly priceless. He has done the drumming world a tremendous service and should receive endless praise for his work. Bottom line: you should consider this book to be the very best investment that you could ever make towards improving your drumming.

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