

DRUM KIT

DIPLOMA REPERTOIRE LIST

2026 edition (June 2026 update)

Choosing pieces

- Candidates should compile and perform a programme displaying a range of moods, styles and tempi.
- Programmes must consist of a minimum of two works.
- All works should be performed complete, except where single movements are specified.
- The music performed can:
 - be drawn entirely from the appropriate repertoire list below
 - combine pieces from the appropriate repertoire list with own-choice pieces*
 - contain only own-choice pieces*
- * Any programme which includes own-choice repertoire must be pre-approved.
- Own-choice pieces must demonstrate a level of technical and musical demand comparable to the pieces listed in the relevant repertoire list.
- Timings are as follows:

| Diploma level | Performance duration | Exam duration |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| ATCL | 32-38 minutes | 40 minutes |
| LTCL | 37-43 minutes | 45 minutes |
| FTCL | 42-48 minutes | 50 minutes |

- Only one chart-based item (ie not fully notated) may be included in the programme. Chart-based pieces in the repertoire list are indicated with asterisks (*).
- For FTCL, at least one of the pieces included in the programme must be a listed work.

Performance

- Scores should be fully realised: any written notation must be played, and extemporisation used to embellish in fills and slash notation sections. Any simplification may result in referral and/or loss of marks.
- Permission to perform repeats as part of any work should be sought via the approvals process.
- Electronic drum kits may not be used for diploma exams.
- No more than half of any drum kit diploma can be played solo; the remainder must use either an accompanist, play-along CD(s) or supporting musicians/backing band.
- The use of supporting musicians must be arranged in advance with the local representative and approved in writing by Trinity's London office. If there is extra setting-up time required in the exam room, Trinity reserves the right to charge an extra fee.

Backing tracks

- Where a particular track version is specified, this must be used in the exam.
- All backing tracks must be played at the original speed, and digital tracks may not be adjusted to produce a faster or slower tempo. Exams may be referred to Trinity's London office, and a penalty may be applied, if this has taken place.
- Where 'study' and 'a tempo' versions of a backing track are available, candidates should use the 'a tempo' version as stated in the Preface to the book.
- Backing tracks must not contain original drums.
- Only items marked 'unaccompanied' may be played without backing.
- In alignment with Trinity's policies on Safeguarding, and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, candidates must not use material in their performance where the content supports discrimination or extremism. Candidates must also avoid content which includes inappropriate language, explicit references, or material that could be considered offensive, harmful, or unsuitable for a general audience. This includes, but is not limited to, profanity, sexual content, graphic violence, or language that may be seen as degrading or abusive. Examiners reserve the right to halt or refer a performance if any content is deemed inappropriate or in breach of these guidelines.

Click tracks

- ATCL & LTCL: Click tracks may only be played through headphones or in-ear monitors worn by the candidate, and must not be audible to the examiner. The exception to this is items in the published repertoire list where the backing track is not available without click.
- FTCL: Click tracks may only be played through headphones or in-ear monitors worn by the candidate, and must not be audible to the examiner.
- Click tracks must not be used for unaccompanied pieces.
- Indications are given in the repertoire list for items which come with a backing track without click, items which come with click, and items for which backing tracks without click can be downloaded from YouTube.

Own-choice pieces

- Please see the syllabus for full details about submitting own-choice programmes for approval.
- Submissions should include both the pdf score and the mp3 drumless track for each own-choice item.

Taking the exam

- Candidates must provide a written programme and copies of all pieces to be performed.
- Face-to-face exams: the appointment form, written programme, copies of the pieces and approval letter (if applicable) should be given to the examiner at the start of the exam.
- Digital exams: the written programme, scans of the pieces and approval letter (if applicable) should be uploaded with the video; pieces should be listed on the relevant screen.

Venues (face-to-face diplomas)

- Drum kit exams are available at the London centre without prior arrangement. Entries at other diploma centres will depend on the facilities available; approval must be obtained in advance from the local representative and confirmed in writing by Trinity's London office before an entry is submitted.

Further information

- For full details, including the process for submitting own-choice repertoire, please see the current syllabus at trinitycollege.com/performance-diplomas.
- Webpage links were correct at the time of printing, but please contact us if you have difficulties accessing listed scores.

ATCL

| | | | |
|-----|--|---|---|
| 1. | Agostini | Solo for Buddy Rich (unaccompanied) (from <i>Méthode de Batterie vol. 5: Études Supérieures</i>) | Carisch MK3368 |
| 2. | Animals as Leaders, <i>transc.</i> Garstka or <i>transc.</i> Wright | Physical Education †YT (from <i>The Joy of Motion</i>) | matt-garstka. myshopify.com wrightdrums.com |
| 3. | Avenged Sevenfold | Afterlife †YT | Hal Leonard 174555 |
| 4. | Avenged Sevenfold | Bat Country †YT | Hal Leonard 175141 |
| 5. | Avenged Sevenfold | Scream †YT | Hal Leonard 174552 |
| 6. | Brun | Mozaïque (Patchwork) (unaccompanied) | Combre C05922 |
| 7. | Cauberghs | Halasana (drum kit & piano) | Uitgave Metropolis EM4825 |
| 8. | Cobham | Eleuthera † (from <i>Conundrum</i>) | Alfred 00-0452B |
| 9. | Cobham | Kinky Dee † (from <i>By Design</i>) (this must be played as written, either by use of a double bass pedal, two bass drums, or with single pedal. It may not be simplified) | Alfred 00-EL03831CD |
| 10. | Cobham | Street Urchin † (from <i>By Design</i>) | Alfred 00-EL03831CD |
| 11. | Dream Theater | Fatal Tragedy †YT | Hal Leonard 175141 |
| 12. | Dream Theater | Hell's Kitchen †YT | Hal Leonard 175134 |
| 13. | Figueiredo | Mr Banana † (from <i>Vera Cruz Island</i>) | Hudson |
| 14. | Figueiredo | Renata † (from <i>Vera Cruz Island</i>) | Hudson |
| 15. | Gadd | The Solo (unaccompanied) (from <i>Steve Gadd: Up Close</i>) | Manhattan Music 00-MMBK0007CD |
| 16. | Gadd | Variations on Crazy Army (unaccompanied) (from <i>Steve Gadd: Up Close</i>) | Manhattan Music 00-MMBK0007CD |
| 17. | Garibaldi | Cobra * † (from <i>The Funky Beat</i>) | Manhattan Music 00-MMBK0066CD |
| 18. | Goodwin | Horn of Puente † (from <i>Drumset Essentials vol. 3</i>) | Alfred 00-21464 |
| 19. | Harrison | The Sound of Musak (Porcupine Tree) †YT | rufusdrums.com |
| 20. | Levy | Any <i>one</i> piece (with CD backing) * † (from <i>2+2=5: A Study in Odd Times</i>) | Music Minus One |

| | | | |
|-----|--|---|----------------------------------|
| 21. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Miel de Mer (supérieur version) † (must be fast version, track 3) (from <i>Stage Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL29392 |
| 22. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Stoa del Fuego (supérieur version) † (must be fast version, track 1) (from <i>Stage Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL29392 |
| 23. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Yaourt au Curry (supérieur version) ‡ (must be fast version, track 5) (from <i>Stage Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL29392 |
| 24. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Zampieri | Pink Paon War (must be fast version, track 4) † (from <i>Drums Movie Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL30430 |
| 25. | Metallica, <i>transc.</i> Woods | Master of Puppets †YT | onlinedrummer.com |
| 26. | Nilles, <i>transc.</i> Woods | Mister-Pikalar † | olliewoodsdrums.com |
| 27. | O'Connell | Afro Waltz ‡ (from <i>Funkifying the Clave: Afro-Cuban Grooves for Bass and Drums</i>) | Manhattan Music 00-MMBK0004CD |
| 28. | Peart (Rush) | Tom Sawyer (Lee/Lifeson) ‡ (from <i>Ultimate Drum Play-Along: Rush</i>) | TheDrumNinja.com |
| 29. | Riley | Any one piece * ‡ (from <i>Beyond Bop Drumming</i>) | Alfred 00-MMBK0070CD |
| 30. | Roach, <i>transc.</i> Vecchio | For Big Sid (unaccompanied) | francisdrummingblog.com |
| 31. | Robinson | False Start (Daily Chops) ‡ | tonyrobinson.co.uk |
| 32. | Sanders, Seward, Sullivan, Haner & Baker | Nightmare †YT | EMI Blackwood Music |
| 33. | Tool, <i>transc.</i> Ferrell | The Pot †YT | robertferrell.com |
| 34. | Tower of Power | Page One ‡ (from <i>The Code of Funk</i>) | Hudson HL06620094 |
| 35. | Weckl | Garden Wall * † (from <i>Contemporary Drummer + One</i>) (the groove bars must be based around the examples given by Weckl in the Chart Analysis for this piece) | Alfred 00-MMBK0022CD |
| 36. | Weckl | Rainy Day * † (from <i>Contemporary Drummer + One</i>) (the groove bars must be based around the examples given by Weckl in the Chart Analysis for this piece) | Alfred 00-MMBK0022CD |
| 37. | Wilcoxson | Any one piece (unaccompanied) (from <i>Modern Rudimental Swing Solos for the Advanced Drummer</i>) | Ludwig Masters 10300203 |

* Chart-based (NB only one chart-based item may be included in the programme)

† Comes with backing track with click

‡ Comes with backing track without click

‡YT Backing track without click available as YouTube download

LTCL

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Animals as Leaders, <i>transc.</i> Garstka | Woven Web †YT (from <i>The Joy of Motion</i>) | matt-garstka. myshopify.com |
| 2. | Animals as Leaders, <i>transc.</i> Wright | Tempting Time †YT | wrightdrums.com |
| 3. | Bieber, <i>transc.</i> Holland | Sorry †YT | lukeholland.bigcartel.com |
| 4. | Davies | Minez 58 (unaccompanied) | Southern Percussion SPMD1 |
| 5. | Donati | Inside Black † (from <i>Ultimate Play-Along Donati</i>) | Alfred 00-0752B |
| 6. | Donati | Native Metal † (from <i>Ultimate Play-Along Donati</i>) | Alfred 00-0752B |
| 7. | Donati | Pyramids on Mars † (from <i>Ultimate Play-Along Donati</i>) | Alfred 00-0752B |
| 8. | Dream Theater, <i>transc.</i> Wright | On the Back of Angels †YT | available on Scribd |
| 9. | Dream Theater | Panic Attack †YT | drumscoreworld.com |
| 10. | Dream Theater, <i>transc.</i> Jaslow | Pull Me Under †YT | jdrumsheets.com |
| 11. | Erskine | Not an Exit Solo (from <i>The Drum Perspective</i>) | Hal Leonard HL06620015 |
| 12. | Garstka, <i>transc.</i> Buell | VF Jams Garstka † | timbuellmusic.com |
| 13. | Greb, <i>transc.</i> Buell | VF Jams Greb | timbuellmusic.com |
| 14. | Hamm, <i>transc.</i> Smith | Katahdin * | vitalinformation.com |
| 15. | Hapke | Mastersong ‡ (from <i>Super Playalong</i>) | Hudson |
| 16. | Harrison | 19 Days † (from <i>Rhythmic Designs</i>) | Hudson HL06620146 |
| 17. | Harrison | Beyond the A † (from <i>Rhythmic Designs</i>) | Hudson HL06620146 |
| 18. | Harrison | Centred † (from <i>Rhythmic Designs</i>) | Hudson HL06620146 |
| 19. | Harrison | Source † (from <i>Rhythmic Designs</i>) | Hudson HL06620146 |
| 20. | Harrison | Unsettled † (from <i>Rhythmic Designs</i>) | Hudson HL06620146 |
| 21. | Igoe | Endure * ‡ (from <i>Groove Essentials</i>) | Hudson HMP0583 |
| 22. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Les Sept Soupirails (fin de premier cycle) † (from <i>Drums Movie Session</i>) | Leduc AL29464 |
| 23. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Loco Pacomillo (excellence version) † (from <i>Stage Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL29392 |

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 24. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Miel de Mer (excellence version) † (from <i>Stage Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL29392 |
| 25. | Melot, <i>arr.</i> Gastaldin | Yaourt au Curry (excellence version) ‡ (from <i>Stage Session vol. 2</i>) | Leduc AL29392 |
| 26. | Minnemann | Hair Off ‡ (from <i>Ultimate PlayAlong: Minnemann</i>) | Alfred 00-0725B |
| 27. | Minnemann | Train Check ‡ (from <i>Ultimate PlayAlong: Minnemann</i>) | Alfred 00-0725B |
| 28. | Morgenstein | Platt Opus * † | Vic Firth |
| 29. | Periphery, <i>transc.</i> Wright | New Groove ‡YT | wrightdrums.com |
| 30. | Periphery, <i>transc.</i> Wright | Icarus Lives ‡YT | wrightdrums.com |
| 31. | Priester | Colourblind † (from <i>Aquiles Priester: The PsychOctopus Play Along</i>) | Mel Bay 30493BCD |
| 32. | Priester | Hastiness † (from <i>Aquiles Priester: The PsychOctopus Play Along</i>) | Mel Bay 30493BCD |
| 33. | Robinson | Not So Simple Samba † (from <i>Beyond the Grades</i>) | tonyrobinson.co.uk |
| 34. | Robinson | Where's the One? † (from <i>Beyond the Grades</i>) | tonyrobinson.co.uk |
| 35. | Rogers | Conceptual Changes (unaccompanied) | Steve Weiss |
| 36. | Rogers | Rhythmic Elisions (unaccompanied) | Steve Weiss |
| 37. | Stevens | An Unseen Realm † (from <i>The Progressive Rhythm Method</i>) | Hudson |
| 38. | Stevens | Return of the Fallen † (from <i>The Progressive Rhythm Method</i>) | Hudson |
| 39. | Stevens | The Lost and the Broken † (from <i>The Progressive Rhythm Method</i>) | Hudson |
| 40. | Turnage | Crackdown (unaccompanied) (from <i>The Drum Perspective</i>) | Hal Leonard HL06620015 |
| 41. | Weckl | Island Magic * † (from <i>Contemporary Drummer + One</i>) (the groove bars must be based around the examples given by Weckl in the Chart Analysis for this piece) | Alfred 00-MMBK0022CD |
| 42. | Weckl | Road to Connemara * † | Dave Weckl |

* Chart-based (NB only one chart-based item may be included in the programme)

† Comes with backing track with click

‡ Comes with backing track without click

‡YT Backing track without click available as YouTube download

FTCL

| | | | |
|-----|---|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | Animals as Leaders | Waves of Babies †YT | wrightdrums.com |
| 2. | Cobham | Serengetti Plains † (from <i>Billy Cobham – By Design</i>) | Alfred 00-EL03831CD |
| 3. | Coleman, <i>transc.</i> Woods | S.O.A.R. | olliewoodsdrums.com |
| 4. | Dream Theater, <i>transc.</i> Woods | The Dance of Eternity †YT | olliewoodsdrums.com |
| 5. | Hangar | Like a Wind in the Sky † (from <i>Aquiles Priestor: The PsychOctopus Play Along</i>) | Mel Bay 30493BCD |
| 6. | Harrison | Scar † (from <i>Rhythmic Designs</i>) | Hudson HL06620146 |
| 7. | Lang | Dog † (from <i>Creative Control</i>) | Hudson |
| 8. | Lang | Mallory † (from <i>Creative Co-ordination</i>) | Hudson |
| 9. | Lang | Metal Fatigue † (from <i>Creative Co-ordination</i>) | Hudson |
| 10. | Lang | Moonrock † (from <i>Creative Co-ordination</i>) | Hudson |
| 11. | Lang | Nautilus † (from <i>Creative Co-ordination</i>) | Hudson |
| 12. | Lopez (Opeth), <i>transc.</i> Jaslow | Ghost of Perdition †YT | drumsetsheetmusic.com |
| 13. | Mayer | Performance 3 †YT | drummerworld.com |
| 14. | Minnemann | Broken Orange (with written solo breaks) † (from <i>Ultimate PlayAlong: Minnemann</i>) | Alfred 00-0725B |
| 15. | Minnemann | Golden Dolphin (with written solo breaks) † (from <i>Ultimate PlayAlong: Minnemann</i>) | Alfred 00-0725B |
| 16. | Minnemann | Isn't It 01 (with written solo breaks) † (from <i>Ultimate PlayAlong: Minnemann</i>) | Alfred 00-0725B |
| 17. | Minnemann | Streets † (from <i>Extreme Interdependence</i>) | Alfred 00-0560B |
| 18. | Murray & Woods | Procrastination † | olliewoodsdrums.com |
| 19. | Phillips | Free Form Solo (unaccompanied) (from <i>Simon Phillips</i>) | Alfred 00-MMBK0027CD |
| 20. | Robinson | A Simple 12.5-Bar (drum transcription version) † (from <i>Beyond the Grades</i>) | tonyrobinson.co.uk |
| 21. | Robinson | Afro-Cuban Crossing (unaccompanied) (from <i>Beyond the Grades</i>) | tonyrobinson.co.uk |
| 22. | Robinson | Theme in 15/16 (unaccompanied) (from <i>Beyond the Grades</i>) | tonyrobinson.co.uk |
| 23. | Royster, <i>transc.</i> Buell | Artist Spotlight (unaccompanied) | timbuellmusic.com |

| | | | |
|-----|---------|--|------------|
| 24. | Stevens | Constant Descent (Part 1) † (from <i>The Progressive Rhythm Method</i>) | Hudson |
| 25. | Stevens | Fractured Fate † (from <i>The Progressive Rhythm Method</i>) | Hudson |
| 26. | Stevens | Trial by Fire † (from <i>The Progressive Rhythm Method</i>) | Hudson |
| 27. | Weckl | Get to It (with written solos) † | Dave Weckl |
| 28. | Weckl | You Rang? * † (must use the transcribed solo by Tony Robinson in his <i>Advanced Drum Technique Library</i> , available at tonyrobinson.co.uk) | Dave Weckl |

* Chart-based (NB only one chart-based item may be included in the programme)

† Comes with backing track with click

‡ Comes with backing track without click

‡YT Backing track without click available as YouTube download