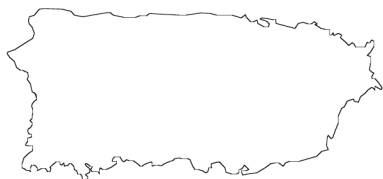


At this stage, you are ready for your first ensemble rhythm - Bomba - presented below. In traditional settings, drumming is a social venture, where people play together in groups. If you can't rustle up some friends to play with, try each of the parts with the CD. Listen carefully to hear each part, and the way it converses with the other instruments.



Bomba - Puerto Rico

The Bomba is a traditional rhythm and form of music from Puerto Rico. This music is very festive and is definitely for dancing!

The rhythm is presented here in a simplified version from the traditional form, but is great for novices as each part is only 1 measure long. Play it slow at first, counting carefully and giving the correct time for notes and rests. When it becomes familiar, stop counting and let the rhythm really take off!

Bomba Drums look like Congas, only shorter and squatter. This rhythm is traditionally played on three drums named **Requinto**, **Seguidora**, & **Buleador**. They are pitched high to low respectively

	1	+	2	+	3	+	4	+
Requinto	O		C	c		O	o	
Seguidora	B	b	C			O	o	
Buleador	C			b	O		o	

To complete the percussion ensemble, add more players to play the **Cuá**, (A kind of woodblock), **Cow Bell**, and **Maracas**. These instruments add great texture, and are notated simply with an "x" when you are to strike (small x for weak hand, big X for strong hand). The **Guicharo**, a hollow, serrated gourd scraped with a stick, is noted by the up and down hand motion one uses to play it. For the **Cuá** you can substitute the shell of the drum, sticks, or any other wooden sound

	1	+	2	+	3	+	4	+
Cuá	X		X	X		X	X	
Cow Bell	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Maracas	X		x	X	x		X	x
Guicharo	↓		↓	↑	↓			↑