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Smash Cans

by **Chris Crockarell**

Easy - 1:05

Instrumentation

Snare, Tenors, Cymbals, Bass Drums,
20 or 30-Gallon Metal Trash Cans & Lids

Performance Notes:

Set-Up: The players in the front ensemble play the trash can part. Place the cans in a straight line or slight arc in the front ensemble area facing the audience or where it works best for your marching show design. The battery should be relatively close to the can players especially during any “call & answer” sections. It’s best if the cans are slightly off the ground for projection. This may be done with bricko blocks or by building a wooden frame using 2”x 6” boards with cut notches for the rims of the cans to fit into. (The cans are turned over for striking on the bottom.) Remove the handles from the lids and drill a 1/4” inch hole in the middle for mounting onto a cymbal stand as you would a cymbal. There should be a lid (with stand) between each can placed more in front of the cans for easy striking by players on each side. The players should use medium to heavy wooden sticks for performance.

Performance: Make sure that each player is comfortable maneuvering between their can, the cans to the left and right as well as the lids on each side. (The can part contains a “Can Key”.) Please observe all stickings for ease and uniformity. In the cross-over section between bars 17-20 every other player will go below or over the other’s arms to execute safely without smashing any hands or knuckles. In the big half-time finish, beginning at bar 28, have the players “ham it up and rock out”. Visual is key to pulling this feature off and attaining maximum audience hysteria.

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♩ = 132

The musical score is arranged in five systems, each containing five staves. The instruments are Snares, Tenors, Cymbals, Bass Drums, and Cans. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 132 bpm. It consists of 8 measures. The notation includes rhythmic patterns, dynamics (f, mf, ff, p), and specific performance instructions like 'rim shot', 'crash choke', 'rims', 'sides of can', 'can to right', and 'can to left'. Rhythmic patterns are indicated by 'R' and 'L' below the notes.

System 1 (Measures 1-4):

- Snares:** Measure 1: R L L R L L R L. Measure 2: rim shot. Measure 3: R L L R L L R L. Measure 4: R L L R L L R.
- Tenors:** Measure 1: R L L R L L R L. Measure 2: rim shot. Measure 3: R L L R L L R L. Measure 4: R L L R L L R.
- Cymbals:** Measure 1: f. Measure 2: crash choke. Measure 3: f. Measure 4: f.
- Bass Drums:** Measure 1: f top. Measure 2: mf rims. Measure 3: f. Measure 4: f.
- Cans:** Measure 1: f, can to right. Measure 2: mf sides of can. Measure 3: f. Measure 4: f.

System 2 (Measures 5-8):

- Snares:** Measure 5: f. Measure 6: R. Measure 7: ff. Measure 8: p.
- Tenors:** Measure 5: R L L R L R R L R L R L. Measure 6: R. Measure 7: ff. Measure 8: p.
- Cymbals:** Measure 5: f. Measure 6: f. Measure 7: ff. Measure 8: p.
- Bass Drums:** Measure 5: f. Measure 6: f. Measure 7: ff. Measure 8: p.
- Cans:** Measure 5: can to left. Measure 6: f. Measure 7: ff. Measure 8: p.