



# Athens Djembe Company 2011

16922 South Canaan Road

Athens, Ohio 45701

## Care Instructions

### General Care:

1. Avoid excessive heat or direct flame to the surface of the drum skin (Gentle radiant heat from a campfire at a safe distance is okay).
2. Avoid contact of any liquid to the drum skin. Excess humidity will loosen the skin, but shouldn't cause any damage.
3. Keep Children away from any loose rope.
4. Do Not play drums with drumsticks or anything besides your hands.

### Tuning Your Drum:

1. Undoing the excess rope braid.

There are several feet of excess rope wound in a braided looking rope around the outside of the lower ring in the middle of the djembe. Find the loose end of this rope and pull out from behind the vertical ropes to unlock. Unwind from around the drum and you will have a braided looking rope attached near the bottom of the handle. This rope is a big *slip-knot*. Simply undo the last knot in the end of the rope and pull from the end, the whole braid will disappear and you will be left with around six feet of rope.

2. Tuning your drum with the *Mali Weave*.

\*Note: These drums are rather tight as is, so this may not be necessary immediately. After playing for a while, the skin may slightly loosen and then will need tightened (tuned).

Starting at the knot where the *Rope* (A capitalized '*Rope*' refers to the long rope) attaches to the drum, near the bottom of the handle, you work from left to right. Notice that the vertical ropes are in pairs (we will call them rope one and rope two respectively going from left to right and pair 1,2, etc going left to right). Start at the first vertical pair to the right of the *Rope* attachment. The weave is done about 1-2 inches above the bottom ring. Pass the whole *Rope* left to right under rope two (of pair 1) and under rope one (of pair 2). Then take the *Rope* back over rope one (of pair 2), to the left. Then continuing to the left, feed the *Rope* back under rope two (of pair 1). Snug the *Rope* to the left, pulling out slack in the weave. Now grab the *Rope* about a foot from the weave and pull pretty hard to the right. This should flip rope two (of pair 1) over rope one (of pair 2). Pull out all the slack in the *Rope* both before the weave and in the weave. Repeat this pattern from left to right along the drum, keeping the same distance from the bottom ring. Continue around the drum and check the sound after each flip, until it sounds the way you want it to. You probably want to re-tie the excess rope around the drum again for future tuning if needed.

*Having trouble with the weave?* Try searching the internet for "mali weave" to find images of the process.

**Thanks for your purchase of an Athens Djembe Company Drum, we appreciate your business.**

**Any further questions can be sent to [andy@athensdjembe.com](mailto:andy@athensdjembe.com)**