

## *Appendix B - Musical Instruments and Instrumentation*

The following is a list of the most commonly used musical instruments, in the order in which they generally appear on the page of a musical score, followed by their French, Italian, and German equivalents, respectively. Note that divided parts are customarily designated by roman numerals (i.e., horn I, horn II, etc.).

### A. Symphony orchestra

#### 1. winds, woodwinds / vents / venti, fiati / Bläser, Blasinstrumente

piccolo / petite flûte / piccolo, ottavino / kleine Flöte  
flute / (grande) flûte / flauto (grande) / (grosse) Flöte  
oboe / hautbois / oboe / Oboe  
English horn / cor anglais / corno inglese / englisch Horn  
clarinet / clarinette / clarinetto / Klarinette  
[score order of clarinets: E-flat; B-flat (or A); B-flat bass clarinet]  
saxophone / saxophone / saxofono / Saxofon  
bassoon / basson / fagotto / Fagott  
contrabassoon / contrebasson / contrafagotto / Kontrafagott

#### 2. brass / cuivres / ottoni / Blech, Blechinstrumente

horn, French horn / cor / corno / Horn  
trumpet / trompette / tromba / Trompete  
trombone / trombone / trombone / Posaune  
bass trombone (usually designated as trombone III)  
tuba / tuba / tuba / Basstuba

#### 3. percussion / batterie / percussione / Schlagzeug

(which may include any of the following:)

snare drum / caisse, caisse claire, tambour / cassa, tamboro / Trommel, kleine Trommel  
bass drum / grosse caisse / gran cassa / grosse Trommel  
timpani, kettledrums / timpani, timbales / timpano (singular); timpani (plural) / Pauken  
cymbals / cymbales, cambales / piatti / Becken  
chimes, bells / carillon / campanile, campanello / Glocken  
tambourine / tambour de basque / tamburello / Tamburin, Handtrommel  
castanets / castagnettes / nacchere, castagnettes / Kastagnette  
triangle / triangle / triangolo / Triangel

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### 4. keyboard and miscellaneous:

harp / harpe / arpa / Harfe

piano, pianoforte / piano / piano, pianoforte / Klavier

organ / orgue / organo / Organ

harpsichord / clavecin / cembalo / Cembalo

celesta (same in all these languages)

harmonium (same in all these languages)

any featured solo instrument(s), voice(s), etc. (i.e., the piano part in a concerto for piano and orchestra)

### 5. strings / cordes / corde / Saite, Streicher, Streichinstrumente

violin / violon / violino / Violine

viola / alto / viola / Bratsche

cello, violoncello / violoncelle / violoncello / Violoncell

bass, contrabass, string bass, double bass / contrebasse / contrabasso / Kontrabass

## B. Band or wind ensemble

### 1. winds

flute (flute II/piccolo)

oboe (oboe II/English horn)

bassoon (bassoon II/contrabassoon)

clarinet

[score order for clarinets is: E-flat; B-flat (or A); E-flat alto; B-flat bass; E-flat contrabass; BB-flat contrabass clarinet]

saxophone

[score order for saxophones is: B-flat soprano; E-flat alto; B-flat tenor; E-flat baritone; B-flat bass saxophone]

### 2. brass

cornet / cornet, cornet à pistons / cornetta / Piston

[solo cornet precedes numbered cornet parts]

trumpet

flugelhorn / bugle, petit bugle / flicorno / Flugelhorn

bugle (rarely used)

horn

trombone (trombone III/bass trombone)

baritone / baryton / flicorno tenore / Tenor horn, Bariton

euphonium / basse, basse premier (premier) / flicorno baritone, bombardino / Bariton tuba, bass tuba

Performance practices regarding the use of brass instruments vary widely from country to country, which can easily lead to confusion in the identification of music written for these instruments. It is advisable to consult a reliable source if such questions arise.

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### 3. other

strings [other than the string bass, strings are rarely used in bands]

harp

any other featured solo instrument(s), voice(s), etc.

### 4. percussion

bass drum, cymbals

small (snare) drum, side drum, field drum

timpani, bells

other percussion [sometimes referred to as "utility"]

### C. jazz band, stage band, dance band, theater orchestra, etc.

Such scores follow the same basic order as described in the previous examples. However, their generally smaller instrumental forces may require compressed parts: wind players are usually assigned multiple instruments and their parts are usually designated by the generic term "reeds" because saxophones are almost always included. The "Reed I" book may contain parts for alto saxophone I and flute; "Reed II," parts for alto saxophone II and clarinet; "Reed III," parts for tenor saxophone, oboe, and bassoon. Scores for such ensembles often appear as short scores or condensed scores.