

# INSTRUMENTATION

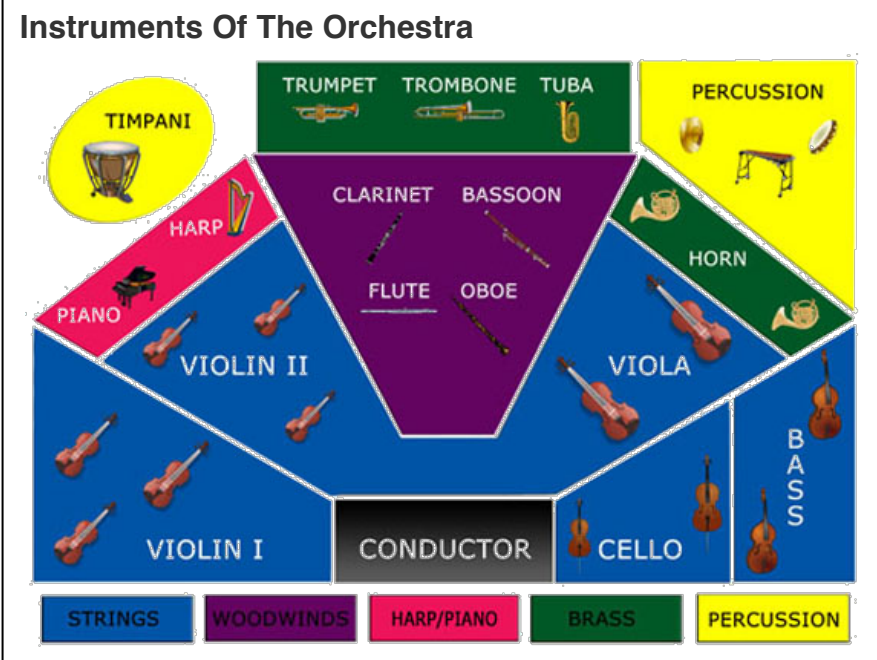
(The instruments you can hear and what they are doing – sometimes called 'orchestration')

**Instrumental Ensembles**  
 Solo - 1 performer  
 Duet - 2 performers  
 Trio - 3 performers  
 Quartet - 4 performers

**Types Of Voices**

Soprano	(Female)	HIGH
Treble	(Boy)	⋮
Alto	(Female)	⋮
Countertenor	(Male Alto)	⋮
Tenor	(Male)	⋮
Bass	(Male)	LOW

*\*SATB Choir: Soprano, Alto, Tenor & Bass*



**Rock & Pop Instruments**

Electric Guitar      Acoustic Guitar      Singers

Bass Guitar      Keyboard / Synthesizer

Drum Kit      Saxophone      Trumpet

*\*Lead instrument = Often an electric guitar ('lead guitar'). Plays*

**Jazz Instruments**

**Rhythm Section**  
*Backup / Accompaniment for the melody. Sometimes still improvise and get solos.*

- \*The Groove: Double Bass
- \*The Beat: Drum Kit
- \*The Chords: Piano (Sometimes Guitar)

**Front Line Instruments**  
*Instruments that play melodies / improvise. Stand in front of the rhythm section.*

- \*Trumpet
- \*Trombone
- \*Saxophone

**Musical Periods**

**Baroque Period (1600-1750)**  
 \*Small orchestra - Mostly Strings + Basso Continuo  
 \*Basso Continuo - The part given to instruments playing the bass line & chords accompanying the melody. (Harpsichord, bass viol, organ, lute...)

**Classical Period (1750-1810)**  
 \*Basso Continuo gradually stopped being used  
 \*Pianoforte introduced & Clarinet invented  
 \*String Quartet very popular (Violin x2, Viola, Cello)

**Romantic Period (1810-1910)**  
 \*Piano music very popular (Instrument further improved)  
 \*Large Orchestra  
 \*Tone / construction of instruments improved

**Instrumental Techniques** - The way you play / use an instrument.

**String Instruments**

- \*Pizzicato (*Pizz.*) - Plucking the strings
- \*Arco / Bowed - Using a bow on the strings
- \*Double Stopping - Playing two strings at the same time

**String & Brass Instruments**

- \*Con Sordino (*Con Sord.*) - Playing with a mute (changes the sound produced)
- \*Tremolo - Quickly repeating the same note ('trembling')

**Voices**

- \*Falsetto - A technique used by men to sing at a much higher pitch

**Voices, Brass, Woodwind and String Instruments**

- \*Vibrato – Make the note waver up and down to add expression

**Other Vocal Terms**

**Acapella**  
 Singing without any accompanying instruments.

**Chorus**  
 Music written for a choir.

**Backing Vocals**  
 Sing harmonies / support the lead singer.

Some Examples