Musical Instruments

by Beatrice Wilder

Contents

Worksheet 1  Families  Draw a line between the instrument and its name and family
Worksheet 2  String Family  Becoming familiar with the string family
Worksheet 3  Multiple Choice Quiz  Tick the correct family
Worksheet 4  Woodwind Family  Becoming familiar with the woodwinds
Worksheet 5  Word Search  Instruments and their families
Worksheet 6  Brass Family  Becoming familiar with the brass family
Worksheet 7  Crossword  All names of orchestral instruments
Worksheet 8  Percussion Family  Becoming familiar with the percussion family
Worksheet 9  The Orchestra  Colour in sections showing the layout of an orchestra
Worksheet 10  Facts about the Orchestra  Finding out a bit more about the orchestra
Worksheet 11  Odd One Out  Circle the instrument that does not belong to the same family
Worksheet 12  Aerophones  Learning about and identifying aerophones
Worksheet 13  Scrambled Letters  Unscramble names of orchestral instruments
Worksheet 14  Reed Instruments  Learning about and identifying reed instruments
Worksheet 15  Instrument Details  Names and details of four orchestral instruments
Worksheet 16  Membranophones  Learning about and identifying instruments with vibrating membranes
Worksheet 17  Quick Quiz  Details of  instruments
Worksheet 18  Choose an Owner  Placing instruments with suitable owners
Worksheet 19  What Instrument Am I?  Identify instruments from clues given.
Worksheet 20  Name the Instrument  Draw lines to identify instruments
Worksheet 21  Percussion Instruments  Information and names of various percussion instruments
Worksheet 22  Word Search  Identifying instruments from descriptions given
Worksheet 23  Tick the Correct Answers  Multiple choice quiz.
Worksheet 24  List of Musical Instruments

Answers to these worksheets, if needed, can be found on www.musicfun.net.au
Families

1) Draw a line between each instrument and its name.

2) Draw a line between each instrument and its orchestral family.

String Family
- Violin

Brass Family
- Trumpet

Percussion Family
- Timpani

Woodwind Family
- Clarinet

3. Write the name of another instrument in the STRING FAMILY ..........................................

4. Write the name of another instrument in the BRASS FAMILY ...........................................

5. Write the name of another instrument in the PERCUSSION FAMILY ................................

6. Write the name of another instrument in the WOODWIND FAMILY ..................................

7. To which family does the XYLOPHONE belong? ...............................................................
String Family

Instruments whose sounds are produced by stretched strings belong to the string family.

Which of the following instruments are not string instruments. Cross them out.

- Viola
- Timpani
- Harp
- Double bass
- Electric bass
- Harmonica
- Shekeree
- Violin
- Cello
- Banjo
- Piano
- Zither
- Guitar
- Mandolin
- Kit

Make your own list of string instruments. Do some research to see if you can find some which are not on the above list.

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Which string instruments would you usually find in a symphony orchestra?

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...................................................................................................................................................
# Musical Instruments

Worksheet 3

## Multiple Choice
(Tick the correct family)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>String</th>
<th>Brass</th>
<th>Woodwind</th>
<th>Percussion</th>
<th>Doubles</th>
<th>Bass drum</th>
<th>String</th>
<th>Brass</th>
<th>Woodwind</th>
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Woodwind Family

Instruments which are blown into (wind) and which were often originally made of wood. Woodwinds can then be divided into two sub-families: flutes, where air is blown across a mouthpiece and reed instruments where air causes the reeds in a mouthpiece to vibrate.

Which of the following instruments are not woodwind instruments. Cross them out.

Recorder                                 Flute                                        Oboe
Guiro                                      Bassoon                                   Sansa
Cor anglais                             Bagpipes                                  Piccolo
Saxophone                              Lute                                         Harmonica
Krummhorn                            Jew’s harp                                  Clarinet

Make your own list of woodwind instruments. Do some research to see if you can find some which are not on the above list.

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Which woodwinds would you usually find in a symphony orchestra?

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Word Search

Find musical instruments reading across or down and draw circles around them.

In the list below tick the box next to each name as you find it then write the family to which it belongs.

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| flute | [ ] | trumpet | [ ] | drum | [ ] | viola | [ ] | trombone | [ ] | french horn | [ ] | cymbal | [ ] | clarinet | [ ] | piccolo | [ ] | cello | [ ] | tuba | [ ] | castanet | [ ] | saxophone | [ ] | oboe | [ ] | violin | [ ] | timpani | [ ] | cor anglais | [ ] | bassoon | [ ] | double bass | [ ] | gong | [ ] |
Brass Family

Brass instruments are usually made of brass but are sometimes made of other metals. Some instruments are made of brass or other metals but belong to the woodwind family.

Which of the following instruments do not belong to the family of brass instruments. Cross them out.

- French horn                           - Trumpet                             - Cornet
- Saxophone                            - Metallophone                         - Tuba
- English horn                         - Trombone                             - Euphonium
- Bugle                                - Guitar                               - Sousaphone
- Oboe                                 - Hunting horn                         - Cymbals

Make your own list of brass instruments.
Do some research to see if you can find some which are not on the above list.

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Which brass instruments would you usually find in a symphony orchestra?
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Crossword

The answers to the clues in this crossword puzzle are all names of musical instruments.

ACROSS
1. Percussion with stretched skin.
3. High pitched woodwind.
5. Brass instrument without valves.
8. Low pitched double reed woodwind.
9. Woodwind without reed, usually made of metal.
12. Mid-range double reed woodwind.
13. Common name for harmonica.
15. Brass instrument with valves, its tubing in circular coils.
16. Large deep percussion with stretched skin.

DOWN
1. Largest in the string family.
2. Single reed instrument made of brass.
4. Double reed woodwind instrument.
5. Brass instrument with valves.
7. Stringed instrument which rests on the floor whilst being played.
10. Single reed woodwind.
11. Highest pitched in the string family.
12. Percussion instrument clashed together in pairs.
14. Instrument with many strings which is not played with a bow.
Percussion Family

Instruments which need to be hit or shaken to make a sound are called percussion instruments.

Which of the following instruments are not percussion instruments. Cross them out.

Woodblocks                           Marimba                                  Triangle
Guiro                                      Bassoon                                   Bells
Tambourine                            Gong                                       Xylophone
Castanets                                Timpani                                   Piano
Tuba                                       Bongo drums                           Whip

Make your own list of percussion instruments. Do some research to see if you can find some which are not on the above list.

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Which percussion instruments would you usually find in a symphony orchestra?

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The Orchestra

This is the typical layout of a symphony orchestra.

Fill in the blocks of instruments according to the family to which each belongs.

Use a different colour for each family as follows...

Blue for **Percussion**  
Yellow for **Brass**  
Green for **Woodwind**  
Red for **Strings**

**Instruments of the orchestra**

- 1st violins
- 2nd violins
- Violas
- Cellos
- Double basses
- Bassoons
- Oboes
- Flutes
- Clarinets
- Harp
- Assorted percussion
- Timpani
- Trombones
- Tuba
- Trumpets
- Horns
- Conductor
Facts about the Orchestra

Use the terms in the column on the right to complete the details. Cross out the answers as you use them. Use each answer only once. You may need to use your dictionary.

1. The art of arranging music for an orchestra is called ........................................


2. An instrumental ensemble - or a number of instruments playing together - is called a ........................................


3. A small orchestra is called a ........................................


4. The person controlling the musical performance of the orchestra is called the ........................................


5. The collection, or ensemble, of instruments chosen to play a particular composition is called the ........................................


6. Voices played together, providing melodies, rhythms and musical texture supporting each other is called ........................................


Research: Find the names of six famous orchestras.

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# Musical Instruments

## Worksheet 11

### Odd One Out

Circle the instrument name which does not belong to the same family as the others

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Trumpet</strong></td>
<td><strong>French horn</strong></td>
<td><strong>Piccolo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuba</strong></td>
<td><strong>Timpani</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Double bass</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Oboe</strong></td>
<td><strong>Castanets</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bassoon</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Snare drum</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cor anglais</strong></td>
<td><strong>Triangle</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Bass drum</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bass clarinet</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Claves</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Viola</strong></td>
<td><strong>Timpani</strong></td>
<td><strong>Oboe</strong></td>
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AEROPHONES

Any instrument, if the sound is produced by means of moving air, is an aerophone. There are lots of different kinds of aerophones including all wind instruments. However, the term aerophone is not limited to wind instruments. A whip produces sound by means of moving air. It is an aerophone but not a wind instrument. A siren is also an aerophone but not a wind instrument.

Here is a collection of aerophones. We have scrambled the letters. See if you can unscramble them and identify the instruments. The instruments used are included in those listed on the bottom of this page.

Groan .........................................................
Lufte .........................................................
Swithel .........................................................
Mirohuman .........................................................
Phiw .........................................................
Corondiac .........................................................
Baru-roller .........................................................
Shuponnaes .........................................................
Maranochi .........................................................
Trincale .........................................................
Poxashone .........................................................
Morchurn .........................................................

Ocarina  Tuba  Clarinet  Recorder  Alpine horn  Bagpipes  Pop-gun  Saxophone
Rackett  Siren  Bassoon  Panpipe  Bull-roarer  Organ  Crumhorn  Serpent
Whistle  Whip  Trombone  Ophicleide  Harmonium  Flute  French horn  Posthorn
Cornet  Bugle  Piccolo  Sousaphone  Harmonica  Trumpet  Shawm  Accordion
Scrambled Letters

Unscramble the letters of these musical instruments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scrambled Letters</th>
<th>Unscrambled Letters</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>RERUMSAND</td>
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<td>LOCEL</td>
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<td>PHAR</td>
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<td>LAIVO</td>
<td>FRONTIOPAE</td>
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</table>
Many wind instruments depend on a thin, flexible sheet called a reed to produce a musical sound. Reeds used to be always made of cane. These days they can also be made of other materials such as plastic, metal and wood. Instruments can single-reed, double-reed or free-reed. Air flow causes the reed to vibrate. The reed in a single-reed instrument vibrates against another surface. The reeds in a double-reed instrument vibrate against each other. A free reed vibrates within its own space. Use your library to determine whether the following instruments are reed instruments and whether they are single-reed, double-reed or free-reed instruments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>yes / no</th>
<th>single / double / free reed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bagpipes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bassoon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cor anglais</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piccolo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crumhorn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oboe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxophone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarinet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmonica</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accordion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which reed instruments would you usually expect to find in a symphony orchestra?

...................................................................................................................................................
...................................................................................................................................................
...................................................................................................................................................
Instrument Details

1) Name this instrument.

2) To which orchestral family does it belong?

3) How is a musical sound produced on it?

4) Label some of its parts (as indicated).
Membranophones

Any instrument, if the sound is produced by means of a vibrating membrane, or skin, is a membranophone.

Most drums are membranophones - and there are lots of different types of drums.

We have listed some of the properties of various types of membranophones.

See if you can label them correctly from the following group of instruments:

Friction drum     Timpani              Bass drum          Conga drum          Tambourine
Kazoo                Bongo drums      Tambour             Kettle drum           Snare drum

..........................................               The membrane of this drum is rubbed with wet fingers or a stick. The Dutch Rommelpot is one of these.

..........................................               Also called a Side Drum
Has strings of metal stretched across the lower head. Produces a ‘rattling’ sound.

..........................................               Held in one hand, played with the other. Shallow drum of a small size Has loose pairs of metal disks at the side.

..........................................               Known by two of the above names. Can be tuned and is used in the orchestra. Usually played in pairs or sets of two to four.

..........................................               They come from Cuba. Are played in pairs. The players use their hands and fingers to play.

..........................................               An open tube with a hole covered by a membrane. Changes the sound of a person’s voice. Not a drum.
Quick Quiz

Name three instruments in the string family
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Name three instruments in the woodwind family
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Name three instruments in the brass family
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Name three instruments in the percussion family
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

How is a musical sound made on a flute?
________________________________________________________________________

How is a musical sound made on a tuba?
________________________________________________________________________

How is the pitch changed on a clarinet?
________________________________________________________________________

How is a musical sound made on a trombone?
________________________________________________________________________

How is the pitch changed on a trombone?
________________________________________________________________________

Name two ways by which musical sounds can be made on a violin
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Name two ways by which the pitch is changed on a trumpet
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Which is lower in pitch, the viola or the cello?
________________________________________________________________________

Name one part that the timpani and the snare drum have in common
________________________________________________________________________

Name one family of instruments usually found at the back of the orchestra
________________________________________________________________________

Name the highest pitched woodwind instrument
________________________________________________________________________

To which family does the cor anglais belong?
________________________________________________________________________

Name a woodwind instrument that is made of metal
________________________________________________________________________

Name one family of instruments usually found at the front of the orchestra
________________________________________________________________________

Name the lowest pitched brass instrument
________________________________________________________________________
Choose an Owner

Where would these instruments be used? Who would use them?
Draw lines to match up the musical instrument to its appropriate user.
There could be several correct answers, but each instrument must match up to an owner.

Rock n Roll group
- Shaker

Dixieland Jazz Band
- Castanets

African musician
- Pan pipes

Latin-American group
- Koto

Spanish musician
- Banjo

Japanese music
- Electric guitar

Church choir
- Synthesizer

Space movie music
- Washboard

Opera singer
- Organ

Skiffle Band
- Fiddle

Symphony orchestra
- Soprano voice

Irish band
- Saxophone

Country music
- Lute

Dance band
- Cello

Turkish players
- Harmonica
### What Instrument Am I?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I belong to the string family.</th>
<th>I am a woodwind instrument.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am held between the knees.</td>
<td>I am held crosswise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My lowest tone is one octave lower than the viola's lowest tone.</td>
<td>My sound is produced by blowing against the edge of a hole near one end of me.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I belong to the brass family.</th>
<th>I am a woodwind instrument.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I have a mouthpiece and bell but no valves.</td>
<td>I play bright, lively melodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am twice as long as a trumpet and can slide from tone to tone.</td>
<td>I look like a flute but am only half the size and I sound an octave higher.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We belong to the percussion family.</th>
<th>I am a double-reed woodwind instrument.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We can be tuned and produce musical tones.</td>
<td>I have the highest voice of the reed instruments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We are always referred to in the plural; there are always at least two of us used.</td>
<td>I can be made from wood, plastic or metal and have three main sections apart from my reed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am a percussion and a stringed instrument.</th>
<th>I am a brass instrument.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I have a range of more than seven octaves.</td>
<td>I have a mouthpiece, valves, crooks and a bell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My sound is made by small hammers hitting my strings.</td>
<td>I have the highest voice of all the instruments in the brass family.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am a bass, pitched brass instrument.</th>
<th>I am a double-reed woodwind instrument.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I do not have a slide.</td>
<td>My reed is joined to me by a long metal tube.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have the longest tube, deepest voice and widest bell of all the brass instruments.</td>
<td>I usually play the bass parts in my family, but can also play beautiful melodies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Name the Instrument

Draw lines joining the instruments to their names.

Metallophone
Triangle
Harmonica
Oboe
Vibraphone
Tambourine
Bassoon
French horn
Bugle
Flute
Banjo
Panpipes
Ukulele
Percussion Instruments

Percussion instruments are instruments which make a sound when they are hit or shaken. They can be divided into two categories. Those that can be tuned are said to have **definite pitch** and those that cannot be tuned have **indefinite pitch**.

See if you can place these instruments into their proper categories.

- xylophone
- cowbells
- triangle
- guiro
- bass drum
- tubular bells
- vibraphone
- whip
- timpani
- castanets
- marimba
- metallophone
- maracas
- claves
- tambourine
- glockenspiel
- cymbals
- wood block
- gong
- snare drum

**Tuned Percussion**

**Untuned Percussion**
Wordsearch
This is a little tricky!
Hidden in this word search are the names of instruments fitting the descriptions given below.

6 strings, long slender neck ____________________________
Deeper voice than a viola ____________________________
Played with a bow, has 4 strings ________________________
Russian lute ____________________________
Geometric shape, percussion _________________________
Very deep sounding horn ____________________________
Double reed, deep voice ____________________________
Also called a mouth organ ____________________________
Single reed, used in jazz ____________________________
String instrument, plucked ____________________________
Has black keys and white keys ________________________
Small flute ____________________________
Woodwind, often made of silver ________________________
Hindu lute ____________________________
Has valves and lots of tubing _________________________
Brass instrument with slide ____________________________
Also called kettle drums ____________________________
Scottish aerophones ____________________________
Metal concussion instruments ________________________
Small drum with metal discs ____________________________
**Tick the correct answers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Piccolo is really:</th>
<th>A tuba has:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ a type of recorder</td>
<td>□ valves, bell, crooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a half size flute</td>
<td>□ slide, bell, mouthpiece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ used to play a guitar</td>
<td>□ reed, bell, keys</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cor anglais is:</th>
<th>Timpani are:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ the English horn</td>
<td>□ the smallest woodwinds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ the conductor's baton</td>
<td>□ little bells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a string instrument</td>
<td>□ percussion instruments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violins have:</th>
<th>The trombone is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ six strings</td>
<td>□ a percussion instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ three strings</td>
<td>□ a brass instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ four strings</td>
<td>□ usually made of wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A flute is a:</th>
<th>A xylophone is a:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ woodwind instrument</td>
<td>□ tuned percussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ brass instrument</td>
<td>□ untuned percussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ type of drumstick</td>
<td>□ keyboard instrument</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The oboe is:</th>
<th>A trumpet has a:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ used for playing drums</td>
<td>□ higher voice than a tuba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ a double-reed instrument</td>
<td>□ lower voice than a tuba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ part of a trombone</td>
<td>□ keyboard instrument</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The French horn:</th>
<th>A bassoon is a:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ is a large English horn</td>
<td>□ low sounding violin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ is a low voice woodwind</td>
<td>□ double-reed woodwind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ is brass and has valves</td>
<td>□ type of cymbal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The cello is:</th>
<th>The clarinet has:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ held under the chin</td>
<td>□ a mouthpiece, bell, keys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ made of brass</td>
<td>□ slide, bell, crooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ held between the knees</td>
<td>□ valves, pistons, bell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A bass drum is:</th>
<th>Cymbals are:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ untuned percussion</td>
<td>□ made of silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ tuned percussion</td>
<td>□ made of brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ not percussion</td>
<td>□ made of steel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The viola is:</th>
<th>Snare drums are:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ held under the chin</td>
<td>□ small timpani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ played standing up</td>
<td>□ part of a xylophone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ held between the knees</td>
<td>□ metallic sounding drums</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Musical Instruments**

**Worksheet 24**

**Wind Instruments**

Note: **Woodwind** instruments are not always made of wood. The term covers instruments which belong to the families of the bassoon, clarinet, flute and oboe. The flute, which is not made of wood, is termed a woodwind. The saxophone, when it is used in the orchestra, is also called a woodwind.

- Bass clarinet
- Bagpipes
- Baritone
- Bassoon
- Bugle
- Clarinet
- Contrabassoon
- Cor anglais (English horn)
- Cornet
- Crumhorn
- Didgeridoo
- Euphonium
- Flageolet
- Flugel horn
- Flute
- French horn
- Harmonica
- Hornpipe
- Oboe
- Ocarina
- Ophicleide
- Panpipes
- Piccolo
- Rackett
- Recorder
- Reedpipe
- Sarusophone
- Saxophone
- Serpent
- Soprano saxophone
- Sousaphone
- Shawm
- Tarogato
- Trombone
- Trumpet
- Tuba
- Whistle

**Stringed Instruments**

- Balalaika
- Banjo
- Cello
- Chitarrone
- Cittern
- Double bass
- Dulcimer
- Electric guitar
- Guitar
- Harp
- Hawaiian Guitar
- Hurdy-gurdy
- Kit
- Lute
- Lyre
- Mandolin
- Sitar
- Theorbo
- Ukulele
- Vina
- Violin
- Viola
- Zither

**Keyboard Instruments**

- Piano
- Harpsichord
- Celesta
- Clavichord
- Pipe Organ
- Theatre organ
- Synthesizer

**Percussion Instruments**

(also Concussion Instr)

- Anvil
- Bamboo chimes
- Bass drum
- Bell chimes
- Bongo drums
- Castanets
- Chains
- Chimes
- Claves
- Conga drum
- Cowbells
- Cymbals
- Glass chimes
- Glockenspiel
- Gong
- Guiro
- Hand bells
- High hat
- Maracas
- Marimba
- Metallophone
- Rattle
- Shekere
- Sleigh bells
- Slit drum
- Snare drum
- Steel drum
- Tambour
- Tambourine
- Temple blocks
- Timbales
- Timpani
- Tom tom
- Triangle
- Tubular bells
- Vibraphone
- Washboard
- Whip
- Woodblock
- Xylophone

**Other Instruments**

- Accordion
- Bull roarer
- Cimbalon
- Concertina
- Dulcimer
- Jews Harp
- Rommelpot
- Sansa
- Zambomba