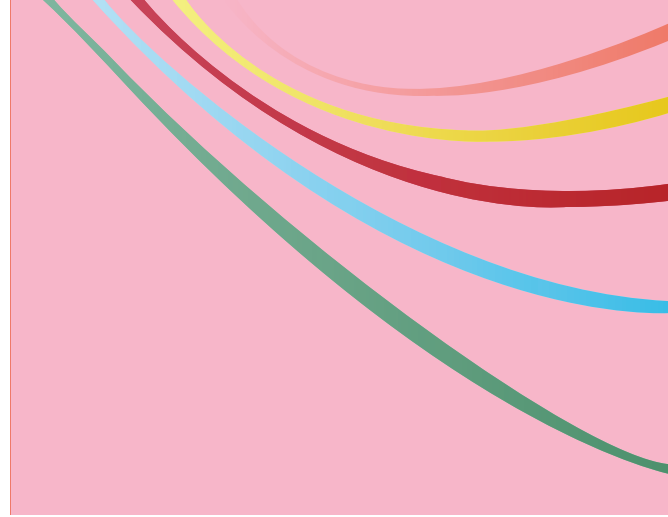


RCM Sparks Springboard Composition Course: Instrument guidance notes for composers

This resource is made up of guidance notes provided for young composers participating in our composition courses. Although it is not fully formed, we hope it may be of some

Range: A1 to E2 (written range)



The trombone operates in a lower register and uses a slide mechanism.

The trombone is a brass instrument that uses a slide mechanism to change pitch. It is typically written in the bass clef and has a range from A1 to E2.

As you descend, the trombone's range becomes more comfortable to play.

A trombone player can play notes as low as A1 and as high as E2.

The trombone is often used in orchestras and bands to provide a rich, mellow sound.

Very fast passages at the bottom of the register are almost impossible to play.

When writing for trombone, it is important to consider the instrument's range and to avoid writing notes that are too high or too low.

Hear it in:

- Bartok's The Miraculous Mandarin
- Berio's Sequenza
- Edgard Varèse's Octandre



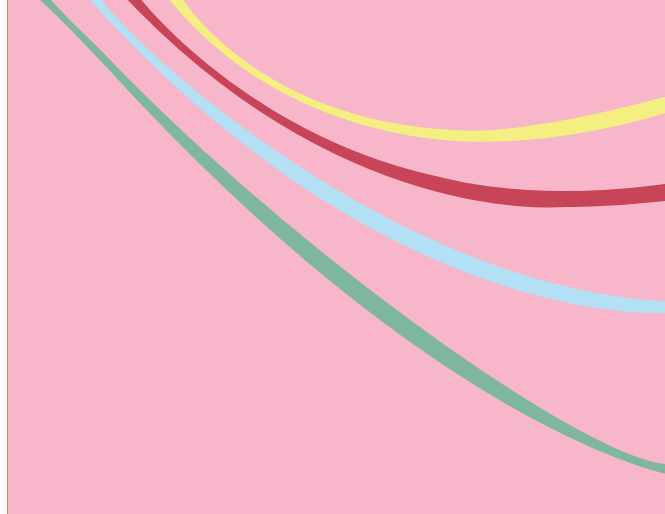
Range: Bb1 to A

the treble clef becomes easier to read.

Higher notes sound increasing unearthly and mysterious.

The bassoon is an agile instrument and traditionally it has taken on the role of playing bass

Oboe:





means to play with the bow

But where can you play?

!Gi ``dcbH`fcb`hY`Vf]X[YLWYU]b[`U`g\Ufdz`UW]Wgci bX

!Gi ``hUgc`fcb`hY` b[YfVcUfXLWYU]b[`U`gcZi`gk YYhgc i bX

– plucking

` `k]h`hY`a i hZ`WYU]b[`U`a i Z YXz`XUf_Yf`gci bXŁ

can be played at once



