



CONCERT BAND SERIES GUIDELINES



Very Beginning Band GRADE 1½

Key Signatures: B♭, E♭ (plus relative minor keys) **Time Signatures:** $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{4}$

Rhythm: \textcircled{o} , \textcircled{J} , (in $\frac{3}{4}$) \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , $\textcircled{\text{J}}$ (repeated pitch)

Instrumentation: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon, Tuba, Mallet Percussion, Optional Timpani & Percussion.

Special Considerations: Utilizes only the first few notes presented in most beginning band methods (most restrictive for holiday selections); designed for both instruction and performance during the first year. Limited use of repeated-pitch eighth notes as the most complex rhythm combined with solid scoring and extensive cross-cueing permits successful performance with incomplete or unbalanced instrumentation; limited percussion instrumentation constructed without rolls.



Beginning Band GRADE 1½

Key Signatures: B♭, E♭, F (plus relative minor keys)

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{4}$

Rhythm: \textcircled{o} , \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , $\textcircled{\text{J}}$

Instrumentation: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon, Tuba, Mallet Percussion, Optional Timpani & Percussion.

Special Considerations: Awkward skips avoided; ample cross-cueing (especially solos); care taken to write "easy" low brass/low woodwind parts; percussion may be written a grade level above winds level.



Young Band GRADE 2–2½

Key Signatures: B♭, E♭, F (plus relative minor keys)

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{6}{8}$, $\frac{8}{8}$

Rhythm: \textcircled{o} , \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , $\textcircled{\text{J}}$, $\textcircled{\text{J}}$, $\textcircled{\text{J}}$, $\textcircled{\text{J}}$

Instrumentation: Flute; Oboe; Bassoon; 1st & 2nd Clarinet; Bass Clarinet; Alto Saxophone; Tenor Saxophone; Baritone Saxophone; 1st & 2nd Trumpet; Horn; Trombone; Baritone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion, Timpani & Percussion—for popular music; Synthesizer/Keyboard/Piano & Drumset parts, when included, are optional.

Special Considerations: Awkward skips avoided; ample cross-cueing (especially solos); care taken to write "easy" low brass/low woodwind parts; percussion may be written a grade level above winds level.



Concert Band GRADE 3–3½

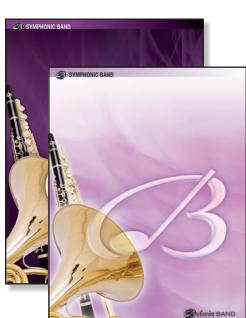
Key Signatures: B♭, E♭, F, A♭, C (plus relative minor keys)

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{6}{8}$, $\frac{8}{8}$, $\frac{2}{2}$

Rhythm: \textcircled{o} , \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , \textcircled{J} , $\textcircled{\text{J}}$, $\textcircled{\text{J}}$, $\textcircled{\text{J}}$, $\textcircled{\text{J}}$
(reasonable rhythms w/no extended syncopation)

Instrumentation: 1st & 2nd Flute; Oboe; Bassoon; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Clarinet; Bass Clarinet; 1st & 2nd Alto Saxophone; Tenor Saxophone; Baritone Saxophone; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Trumpet; 1st & 2nd Horn; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Trombone; Euphonium; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani & Percussion (expanded)—for popular music; Synthesizer/Keyboard/Piano; Drumset & Electric Bass parts, when included, are optional.

Special Considerations: Extensive cross-cueing (particularly for solos for Horn, Bassoon, Oboe, & Bass Clarinet); composers are encouraged to use expanded percussion, particularly mallet and accessory instruments.



Symphonic Band GRADE 4+

Key Signatures: as necessary for musical content

Time Signatures: as necessary for musical content

Rhythm: as necessary for musical content

Instrumentation: C Piccolo; 1st & 2nd Flute; 1st & Opt. 2nd Oboe; 1st & Opt. 2nd Bassoon; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Clarinet; Bass Clarinet; Contrabass Clarinet (opt.); 1st & 2nd Alto Saxophone; Tenor Saxophone; Baritone Saxophone; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Trumpet; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Horn; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Trombone; Euphonium; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani & Percussion (expanded)—for popular music; Synthesizer/Keyboard/Piano; Drumset & Electric Bass parts, when included, are optional.

Special Considerations: as necessary for musical content.

Instrument Ranges

Flute	Clarinet	Trumpet	Horn

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Instrument Ranges

Flute	Clarinet	Trumpet	Horn

Instrument Ranges

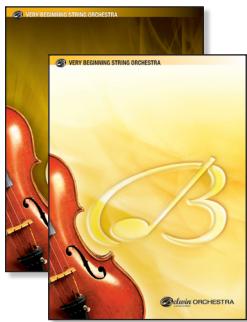
Flute	Clarinet	Trumpet	Horn

Instrument Ranges

Flute	Clarinet	Trumpet	Horn



ORCHESTRA SERIES GUIDELINES



Very Beginning String Orchestra

Grade 1/2

Key Signatures: G, D, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II/Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions; String Bass—1st position

Rhythms: o j j d d. (in $\frac{3}{4}$)

Special Considerations: Limited slurring, fingerings are suggested where appropriate



Beginning String Orchestra

Beginning Full Orchestra

Grade 1-1½

Key Signatures: C, G, D, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

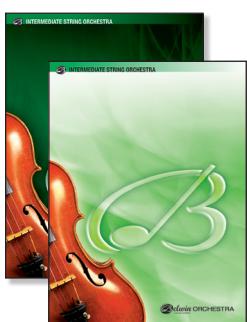
Ranges: Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions (except Violin Lo 1 on the E string); String Bass—1st and 3rd positions (F♯ on E String)

Wind and Percussion Instrumentation: Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B♭ Bass Clarinet; Bassoon;

Opt. E♭ Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2;
Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B♭ Tenor Saxophone and E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Rhythms: o j j d d. j.

Special Considerations: Slurs and ties are included, fingerings and shifting (bass) are suggested where appropriate



Intermediate String Orchestra

Intermediate String/Full Orchestra

Grade 2-2½

Key Signatures: C, G, D, A, F, B♭, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{6}{4}$ $\frac{7}{4}$ $\frac{8}{4}$ $\frac{12}{8}$ $\frac{12}{16}$ $\frac{16}{16}$

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: Violin, Viola, Cello—1st through 3rd positions with all extensions; String Bass—1st through 4th positions with all extensions

Wind and Percussion Instrumentation: Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B♭ Bass Clarinet; Bassoon;

Opt. E♭ Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2;
Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B♭ Tenor Saxophone and E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Rhythms: o j j d d. j. d. d. j. j. j. j.

Special Considerations: Slurred and hooked bowings, double stops, syncopation, fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate; optional divisi for extended range



Concert String Orchestra

Concert Full Orchestra

Grade 3-3½

Key Signatures: C, G, D, A, E, F, B♭, E♭, Ab, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{6}{4}$ $\frac{7}{4}$ $\frac{8}{4}$ $\frac{12}{8}$ $\frac{12}{16}$ $\frac{16}{16}$

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: All strings—1st through 5th positions

Wind and Percussion Instrumentation: Flute 1, 2; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; B♭ Bass Clarinet; Bassoon;

F Horn 1, 2; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone 1, 2; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano;
Supplemental Parts for E♭ Alto Saxophone 1, 2; B♭ Tenor Saxophone; E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Rhythms: All rhythms

Special Considerations: Fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate, optional divisi for extended range



Symphonic String Orchestra

Symphonic Full Orchestra

Grade 4+

Key Signatures: As needed for content

Time Signatures: As needed for content

String Instrumentation: As need for content

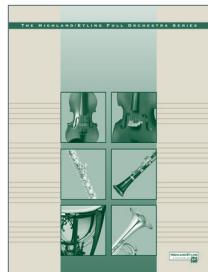
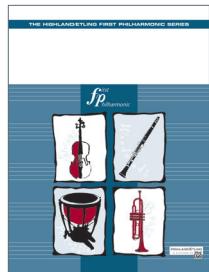
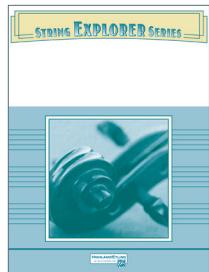
Ranges: As needed for content

Wind Instrumentation: As need for content

Rhythms: As needed for content

*Grade level guidelines are subject to interpretation and based upon the musical context.





SOUND INNOVATIONS

Grades 1–2

Stimulating arrangements that reinforce newly learned notes, bowings, key signatures, rhythmic patterns, and musical terms and symbols. Each selection includes an optional piano accompaniment, Violin III, and a reproducible educational pack.

STRING EXPLORER

Grades 1–2

Correlated with the *String Explorer* method, the pieces in this series fortifies the skills learned by first- and second-year string players. Each selection includes a Violin III part as well as optional piano accompaniment.

STRING ORCHESTRA

Grades 1–4

The grand tradition of Highland/Etling continues in this exciting series of original compositions and arrangements. Written by many of the leading composers of school orchestra music, each selection is carefully graded and edited. Each work is chosen for its musicality, uniqueness, and artistic and educational quality.

FIRST PHILHARMONIC

Grades 1–2

Especially designed with young musicians in mind, this series has everything needed to ensure your students' first full-orchestra experience is both enjoyable and successful. Clear, easy-to-read parts are well bowed, and fingered with all measures numbered.

FULL ORCHESTRA

Grades 2–4

This series provides challenging yet very playable arrangements for the full orchestra. A variety of styles is represented, with the emphasis on giving the students the opportunity to experience first-hand the wonders of the symphony orchestra and its literature.

Grade ½ String Orchestra

Key Signatures: G, D, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II/Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions; String Bass—1st position

Rhythms: o j j m j. (in $\frac{3}{4}$)

Special Considerations: Limited slurring, fingerings are suggested where appropriate

Grade 1–1½ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra

Key Signatures: C, G, D, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: Violin, Viola, Cello—no extensions (except Violin Lo 1 on the E string); String Bass—1st and 3rd positions (F♯ on E String)

Wind and Percussion Instrumentation: Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B♭ Bass Clarinet; Bassoon; Opt. E♭ Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B♭ Tenor Saxophone and E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Rhythms: o j j m j. j.

Special Considerations: Slurs and ties are included, fingerings and shifting (bass) are suggested where appropriate

Grade 2–2½ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra

Key Signatures: C, G, D, A, F, B♭, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{6}{8}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{9}{8}$ $\frac{12}{8}$ ♭

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II, Viola/Violin III, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: Violin, Viola, Cello—1st through 3rd positions with all extensions; String Bass—1st through 4th positions with all extensions

Wind and Percussion Instrumentation: Flute; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; Opt. B♭ Bass Clarinet; Bassoon; Opt. E♭ Alto Saxophone; F Horn; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for B♭ Tenor Saxophone and E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Rhythms: o j j m j. j. m. j. j.

Special Considerations: Slurred and hooked bowings, double stops, syncopation, fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate; optional divisi for extended range

Grade 3–3½ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra

Key Signatures: C, G, D, A, E, F, B♭, E♭, A♭, plus relative minors

Time Signatures: $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{6}{8}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{9}{8}$ $\frac{12}{8}$ ♭

String Instrumentation: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Opt. Piano

Ranges: All strings—1st through 5th positions

Wind and Percussion Instrumentation: Flute 1, 2; Oboe; Clarinet 1, 2; B♭ Bass Clarinet; Bassoon; F Horn 1, 2; Trumpet 1, 2; Trombone 1, 2; Tuba; Mallet Percussion; Timpani; Percussion 1, 2; Opt. Piano; Supplemental Parts for E♭ Alto Saxophone 1, 2; B♭ Tenor Saxophone; E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Rhythms: All rhythms

Special Considerations: Fingerings and shifting are suggested where appropriate, optional divisi for extended range

Grade 4+ String Orchestra/Full Orchestra

Key Signatures: As needed for content

Time Signatures: As needed for content

String Instrumentation: As need for content

Ranges: As needed for content

Wind Instrumentation: As need for content

Rhythms: As needed for content

*Grade level guidelines are subject to interpretation and based upon the musical context.

