

A Guide to Buying Band Instruments

Reliable Brands for Woodwinds, Brass, & Percussion

Crowdsourced by the Band Director Group 2019

Just like any product, there are good musical instruments and others that might not be worth the investment. If you are in the market for a new or used instrument, please consult this list. Email your band director if you find an instrument that is not on this list, as there may be other quality instruments out there. With any instrument, you get what you pay for. Unlike the grocery store, “generic” and “off-brand” musical instruments very seldom measure up to the name brand equivalent for many reasons:

1. Instruments made by the companies listed below have a history of producing quality instruments. Generally speaking, they are designed and built by expert craftsmen.
2. Instruments from these companies use quality materials. The instruments are more reliable, have a longer lifespan, and parts are easily repaired and replaced if a problem develops.
3. Because they are crafted by experts and designed with quality materials, students can produce a quality sound more easily.
4. Repair technicians keep parts in stock for these instruments. These companies use standardized parts and materials that a repair technician can fix. Low-quality instruments use parts that aren't compatible - don't buy an instrument that cannot be repaired! Also, low-quality instruments are often made of sub-standard metals that are either very soft or extremely brittle; repair techs often won't work on them for this reason.
5. Just because an instrument is shiny, it doesn't mean it will work well. Also, just because an instrument is cheap, it doesn't necessarily mean you're “getting a deal.” You're better off saving your money and investing in a better instrument down the road or talking to a director to find a quality used instrument.
6. **ALWAYS CONTACT YOUR BAND DIRECTOR BEFORE BUYING - THEY'RE HAPPY TO HELP, NO MATTER WHAT YOUR BUDGET!**

WOODWINDS

<u>FLUTE</u>	<u>OBOE</u>	<u>BASSOON</u>	<u>CLARINET</u>	<u>SAXOPHONE</u>
Altus	A. Laubin	Adler	Artley	Andreas Eastman
Armstrong	Buffet	Amati	Backun	Antigua Winds
Artley	Bulgheroni	Fox	Buffet	Buescher
Azumi	Cabart	Kohlert	Bundy	Buffet
Brio	Fox	Moennig	Cannonball	Bundy
Burkart	Fossati	Moosmann	Giardinelli	Cannonball
Bundy	Howarth	Puchner	Jupiter	Chateau
Gemeinhardt	Jupiter	Renard	Leblanc/Bliss	Conn
Haynes	Marigaux	Schreiber	Martin Freres	Jupiter
Emerson	MCW	Walter	Noblet	Keilwerth
Jupiter	Loree	Wolf	Normandy	Kessler
Miyazawa	Patricola	Yamaha	Patricola	King
Muramatsu	Renard		Ridenour	Olds
Pearl	Selmer		Rossi	Phil Barone
Powell	Yamaha		Selmer	P. Mauriat
Quantz			Vito	Sax Dakota
Sankyo			Yamaha	Selmer
Sonare				TM
Trevor James				Trevor James
Yamaha				Vito
Vito				Yamaha
				Yanagisawa

BRASS

<u>TRUMPET</u>	<u>FRENCH HORN</u>	<u>TROMBONE</u>	<u>EUPHONIUM & TUBA</u>	<u>GUITAR & ELECTRIC BASS</u>
Adams Atkinson B & S BAC Bach Benge Blessing Bundy Cannonball Conn Dynasty Eastman Fides Getzen Holton John Packer Jupiter Kanstul King Monette Olds Reynolds Schilke Shires Smith Watkins Sonare Stomvi XO Yamaha York	Alexander Bach Brasswind Cervený Conn Dieter Otto Eastman E. Schmidt Finke Hans Hoyer Holton Jupiter Kanstul King Lawson Mack Brass Paxman Reynolds Vento Yamaha York	Antoine Courtois B & S BAC Bach Benge Besson Bundy Conn Eastman Edwards Emerson Fides Getzen Holton John Packer Jupiter Kanstul King Mack Brass Olds Rath Reynolds Schilke Shires XO Yamaha	Adams B & S Bach Besson Cervený Conn Eastman Hirsbrunner Holton John Packer Jupiter Kanstul King Mack Brass Meinl Weston Miraphone/Mirafone Olds Perantucci Rudolph Meinl St. Petersburg TubaExchange Wessex Willson XO Yamaha	Archer Epiphone ESP Fender Gibson Ibanez Jackson Martin PDP Schechter Taylor Warwick Yamaha

PERCUSSION

<u>KEYBOARD PERCUSSION</u>	<u>AUXILIARY PERCUSSION</u>	<u>CONCERT SNARE DRUMS</u>	<u>MARCHING SNARE DRUMS</u>	<u>DRUM SETS</u>
Adams Bergerault Coe DeMorrow Malletch Majestic Marimba One Musser Yamaha	Alan Abel Black Swamp Grover LP Meinl Ron Vaughn Treeworks	Black Swamp George Way Grover Ludwig Majestic Pearl Yamaha	Dynasty Ludwig Mapex Pearl System Blue Tama Yamaha	Adams DW Gretsch Ludwig Mapex PDP (Pacific) Pearl Premier Slingerland Sonor Tama Yamaha

Remember... ask your band director before you buy! Happy Shopping!