

Introduction to the Orchestra - Information Sheet

A Symphony Orchestra, like the **West Australian Symphony Orchestra**, is a large group of musicians who play different instruments together.

The instruments in an orchestra all belong to different **families**. The instruments in each different family all have things in common like how they make sound, the materials they are made from, how you play them and what they sound like when you listen to them.

There are four different instrument families in the orchestra.

Do you remember the names of these instrument families?

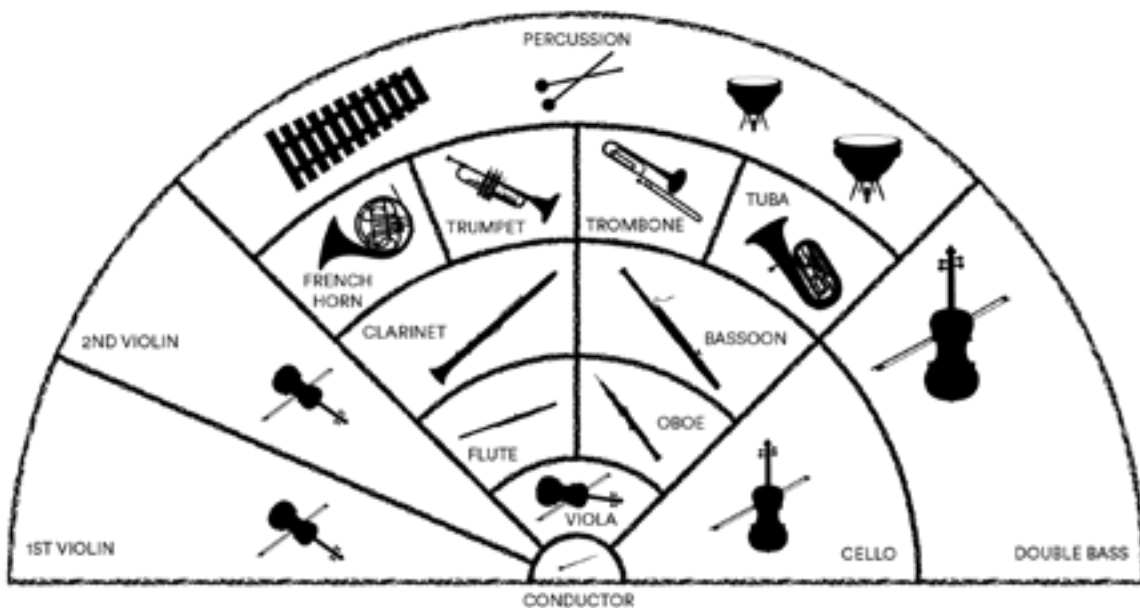
STRINGS

WOODWIND

BRASS

PERCUSSION

Now let's see where these families ordinarily sit when a symphony orchestra plays together:



Find the instruments in the family that are made of wood that you play with a bow, colour these in **Blue**. These instruments sit at the front of the orchestra.

Find the instruments that you blow to make sound and are made of wood or metal. These instruments sit behind the Strings section, colour the instruments of this family in **Green**.

Find the instruments that sit at the back of the orchestra, that are made of metal and you blow into to make sound. Colour the instruments of this family in **Purple**.

Finally, find the instruments that you have to hit, shake or scrape to make a sound. They sit at the very back of the orchestra. Colour the instruments of this family in **Orange**.

Strings Worksheet

The four instruments in the Strings family are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

The special instrument in the Strings family is the _____

My favourite instrument in this section is the _____

Describe the sound of this instrument using three describing words (adjectives)

Describe the sound when all of the Strings play together using three describing words (adjectives)

The sound of the Strings makes me think of

Woodwind Worksheet

The four instruments in the Woodwind family are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

The highest instrument in the Woodwind family is the _____

The lowest instrument in the Woodwind family is the _____

My favourite instrument in this section is the _____

Describe the sound of this instrument using three describing words (adjectives)

Describe the sound when all of the Woodwinds play together using three describing words (adjectives)

The sound of the Woodwinds makes me think of

Brass Worksheet

The four instruments in the Brass family are:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

The highest instrument in the Brass family is the _____

The lowest instrument in the Brass family is the _____

My favourite instrument in this section is the _____

Describe the sound of this instrument using three describing words (adjectives)

Describe the sound when all of the Brass play together using three describing words (adjectives)

The sound of the Brass makes me think of

Percussion Worksheet

The four instruments in the Percussion family are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

My favourite instrument in this section is the _____

Describe the sound of this instrument using three describing words (adjectives)

Describe the sound when all of the Percussion play together using three describing words (adjectives)

The sound of the Percussion makes me think of
