

Foundation Vocabulary	Definition
Pitch	How high or low the notes are
Metre	The grouping of beats
Melody	Another name for the tune
Articulation	How smooth or detached the notes are
Attack and decay	How the notes begin, continue and end
Dynamics	How loud or soft the music is
Duration	How long or short the notes are
Tempo	How fast or slow the music is
Texture	The number of instruments/voices and how they are combined
Structure	How the music is put together
Harmony	When two or more notes are sounded at the same time
Instrumentation	The instruments or voices used
Rhythm	Patterns of long and short notes
Timbre	The tone quality of the music
Silence	When there is no music



Name	Semi-breve	Dotted minim	Minim	Dotted crotchet	Crotchet	Quaver	Semi-quaver
Symbol							
Beats	4	3	2	1.5	1	0.5	1/4
Rest							

String Family

String instruments are made from wood and have strings. They are usually played with a bow but can also be plucked. This is called pizzicato.

Brass Family

Brass instruments are made out of metal. The sound vibrations are created by the player's lips.

Orchestral Families						
Strings			Woodwind	Brass	Percussion	
Bowed	Struck	Plucked			Tuned	Untuned
Violin	Grand Piano	Harp	Piccolo	Trumpet	Xylophone	Bass Drum
Viola		Classical Guitar	Flute	French Horn	Marimba	Snare Drum
Cello			Oboe	Trombone	Vibraphone	Cymbals
Double Bass			Clarinet	Tuba	Timpani	Gong
			Bass Clarinet		Glockenspiel	Triangle
			Bassoon		Tubular Bells	Tambourine

Woodwind Family

A selection of instruments divided into two sub families: Flutes and reed instruments. Flutes create a sound by air passing over a small hole, it creates a light breathy tone, reed instruments use a piece of bamboo reed to create a vibration (In turn creating sound).

Percussion Family

Instruments which are hit. These fall into two sub families: tuned (able to play different pitch) and untuned (Drum)