

My ORCHESTRA

Instrument Workbook

Name: _____

Class: _____



Scan this QR code to access the music!



Copyright © 2025 Abigail Mettry

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION, INCLUDING ANY AND ALL AUDIO, MAY BE REPRODUCED, DISTRIBUTED, OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHER.

GETTING TO KNOW The Orchestra

What is an Orchestra?

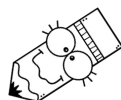
An orchestra is a group of musicians that play music instruments together. A conductor leads the group and must keep everyone playing together! The orchestra has four main groups of instruments. They are strings, woodwinds, brass and percussion.



▶▶ Play track #1 – Mozart Symphony No. 40 in G Minor, K. 550

Licensed from Musopen Kickstarter Project

Write it!

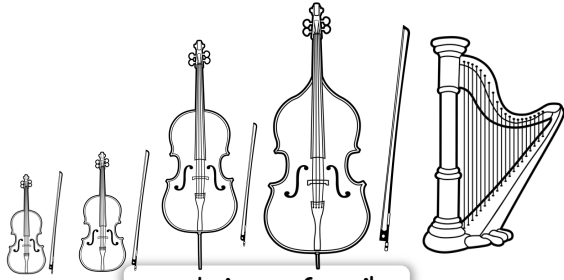


Listen to the orchestra play. Then write a sentence that describes what you heard.

Directions: Unscramble the words and write them on the line, then read the paragraph.

The 4 Instrument Families:

How It Makes Sound:



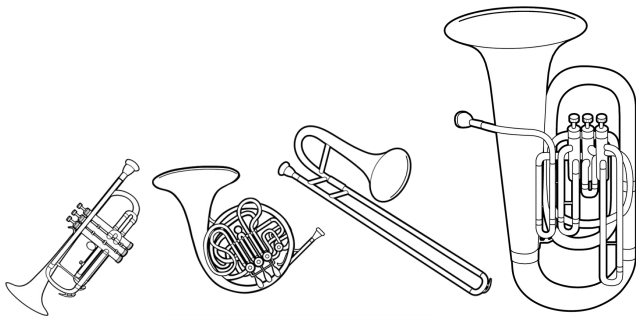
strings family

The strings make sound by being _____
by fingers or played with a _____.
ckpledu
wob



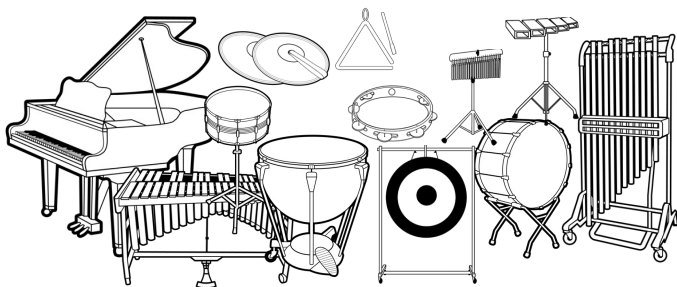
woodwinds family

The woodwinds make sound when the player blows _____ through them. All woodwinds (except for the flute) have a special mouthpiece called a _____. Reeds are a thin piece of material that vibrates when the player blows into the instrument. The player presses buttons called _____ when playing a woodwind instrument. This changes the _____.
ira
aree
seky
chipt



brass family

The brass family instruments are made of _____. They have a mouthpiece shaped like a small cup. Long ago, brass instruments were made of _____, _____, and even animal _____.
lemfa
odow
erbnoz
rohsh



percussion family

The percussion instruments are anything that you _____, _____, or _____ to make sound. You might think the piano is a string instrument, but the strings inside it are hit with small _____. This makes it a percussion instrument!
thi
keahs
aprces
remsmah

ALL ABOUT

≡ Sound ≡

How is Sound Made?

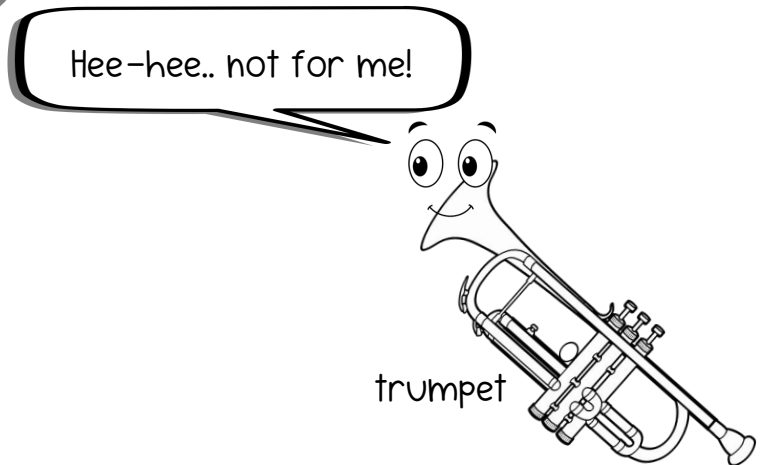
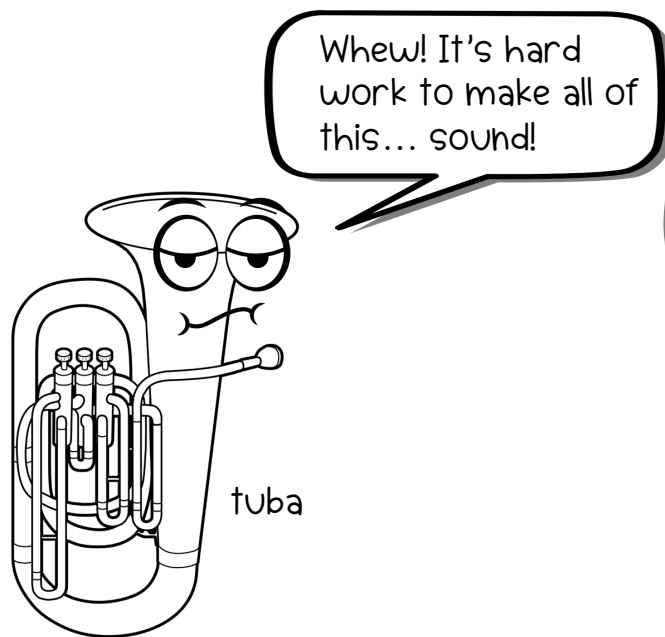
Sound is all about vibrations. When something vibrates, it moves the air around it, creating sound. If it vibrates quickly, it makes a high sound (high pitch). If it vibrates slowly, it makes a low sound (low pitch).

fast vibrations mean = high pitch

slow vibrations mean = low pitch

What makes something vibrate quickly?

The longer something is, the SLOWER it vibrates. It's hard work to make all of those vibrations! The shorter something is, the FASTER it vibrates. It's so much easier!



☆☆ Extra Challenge Question ☆☆

Which instrument has the lower pitch... the tuba or trumpet? Why?

Directions: Color the HIGHEST pitched instrument in each family green. Color the LOWEST pitched instrument blue.

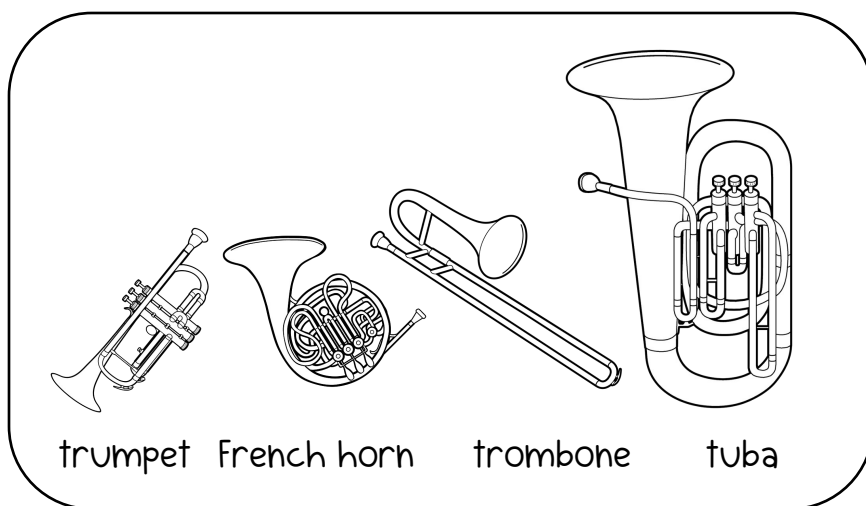
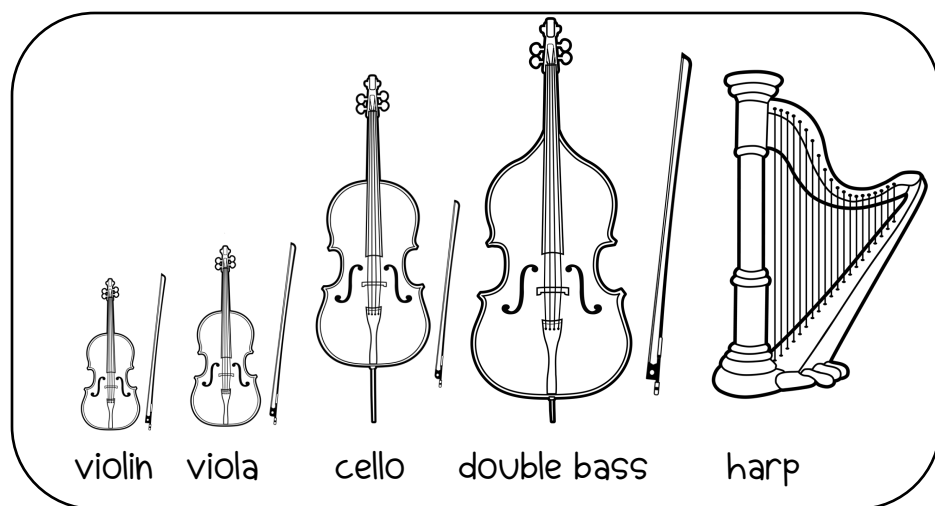
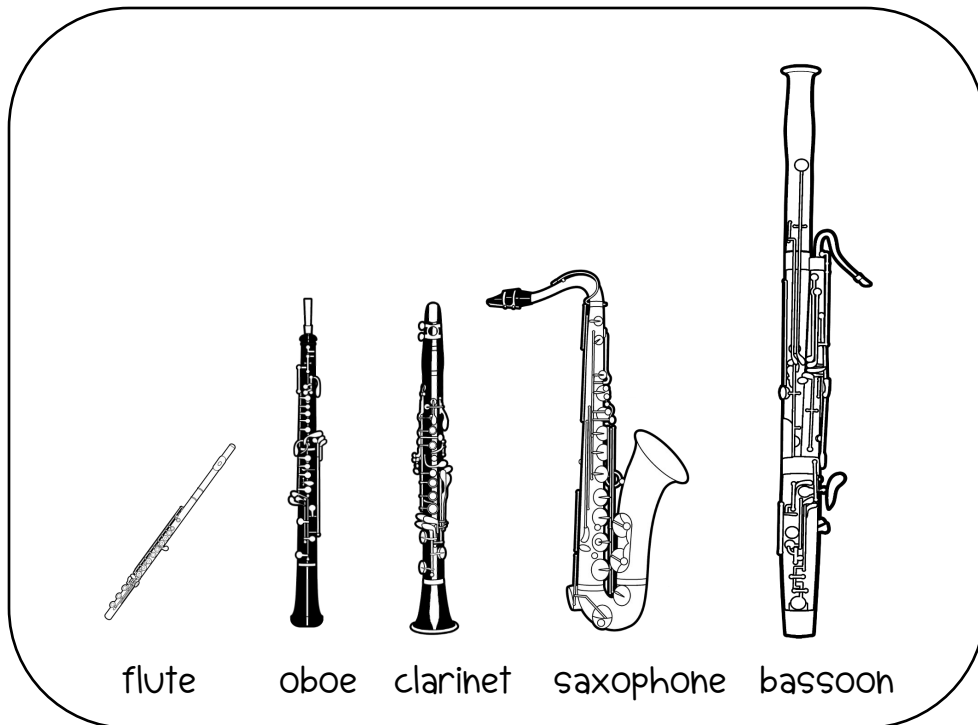


highest pitch: green

lowest pitch: blue

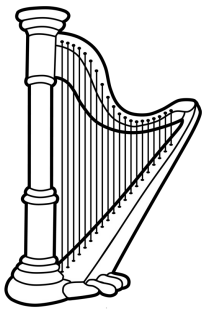
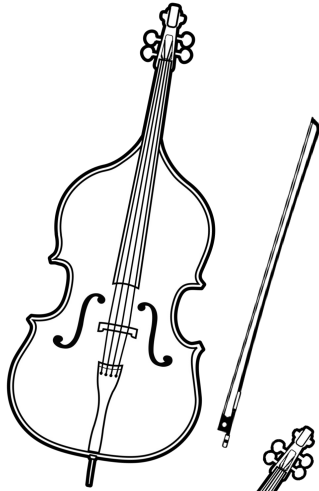
Remember:

- The longer the string or tube, the LOWER the pitch.
- The shorter the string or tube, the HIGHER the pitch.



STRING INSTRUMENTS MATCHING

Draw a line matching each
instrument to its name.



violin

viola

cello

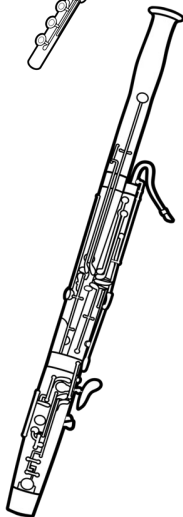
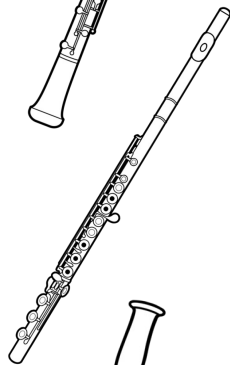
double bass

harp

WOODWIND INSTRUMENTS

MATCHING

Draw a line matching each instrument to its name.



bassoon

flute

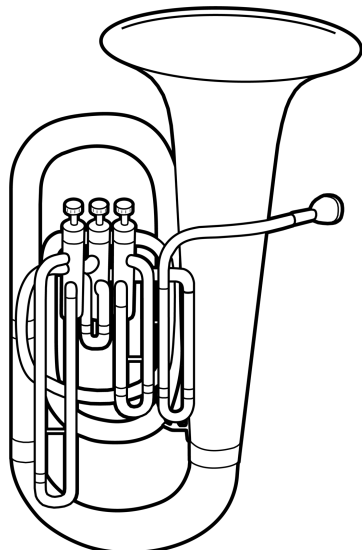
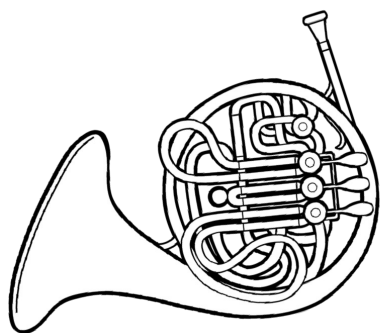
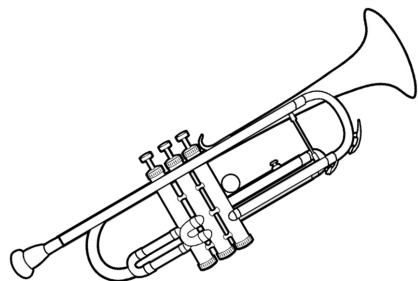
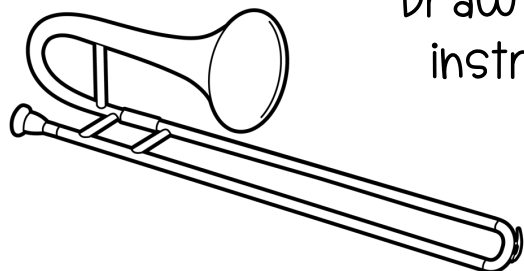
oboe

saxophone

clarinet

BRASS INSTRUMENTS MATCHING

Draw a line matching each instrument to its name.



French
horn

tuba

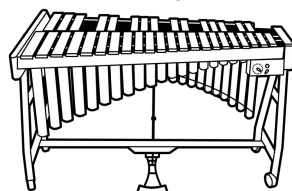
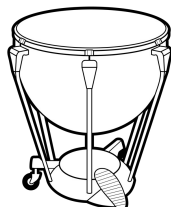
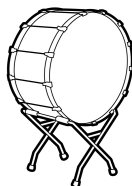
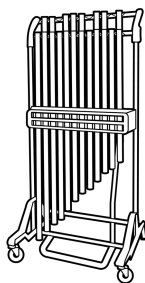
trumpet

trombone

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

MATCHING

Draw a line matching each instrument to its name.



xylophone

piano

snare drum

bass drum

timpani

orchestra chimes
(tubular bells)

cymbals

triangle

Directions: Use this page as reference when completing the following 4 pages.

Adjectives to Describe the Sound of Instruments

- Brassy – bright, bold, metallic
- Smooth – even and flowing
- Scratchy – rough or raspy
- Booming – loud and deep
- Soft – quiet, gentle
- High – played in a high pitch
- Low – played in a low pitch
- Bright – clear, cheerful tone
- Dark – deep, rich, and mellow
- Sharp – piercing or edgy
- Warm – full and comforting sound
- Cold – distant or emotionless
- Nasal – buzzy, like it's being played through the nose
- Clear – easy to hear, not muffled
- Mellow – smooth and relaxing
- Metallic – like metal clanging or ringing
- Percussive – punchy, rhythmic, with strong attacks
- Airy – light, breathy
- Buzzing – vibrating or humming sound
- Crisp – clean and well-defined sound

Directions: Listen to the recording, then circle the adjectives that best describe the instrument family's sound. Then color the instruments. 🎧 Play track #2

The String Family



violin



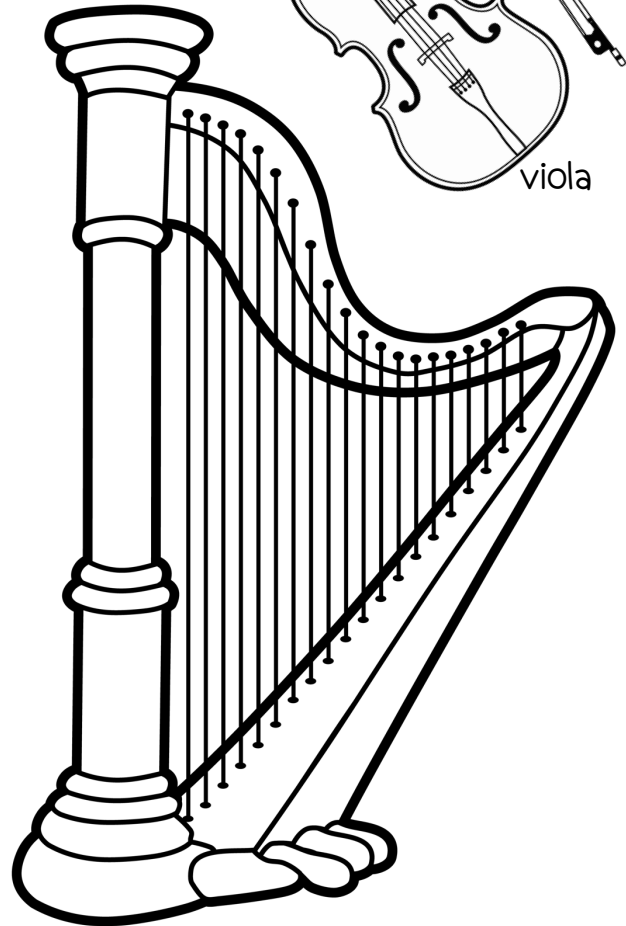
viola



cello



double bass



harp

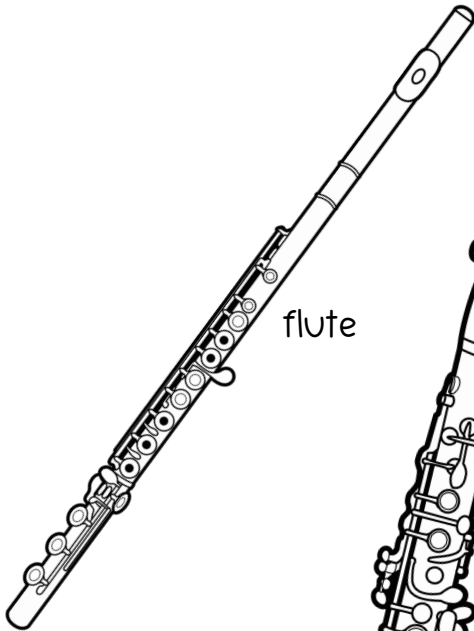
- Brassy
- Smooth
- Scratchy
- Booming
- Soft
- High
- Piercing

- Low
- Bright
- Dark
- Sharp
- Warm
- Cold
- Gritty

- Nasal
- Clear
- Mellow
- Metallic
- Percussive
- Airy
- Buzzing

Directions: Listen to the recording, then circle the adjectives that best describe the instrument family's sound. Then color the instruments. 🎧 Play track #3

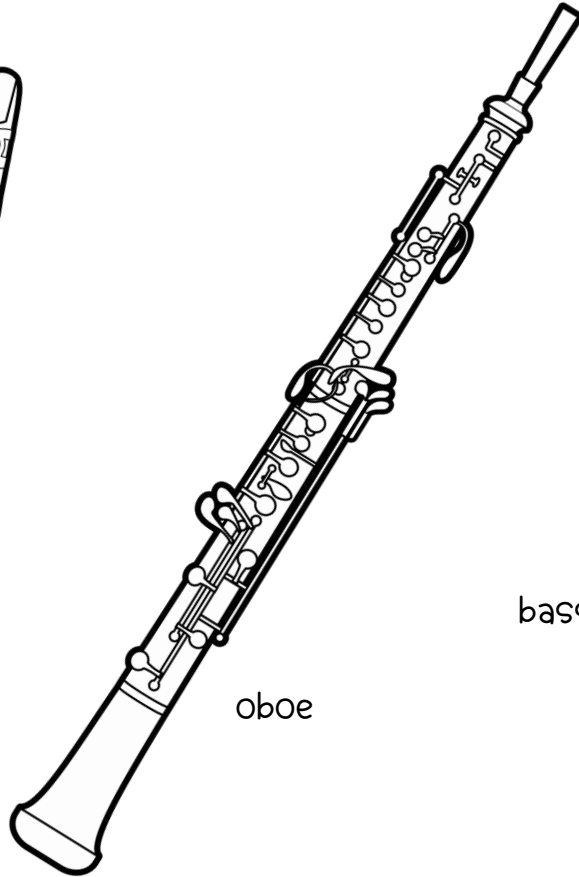
The Woodwind Family



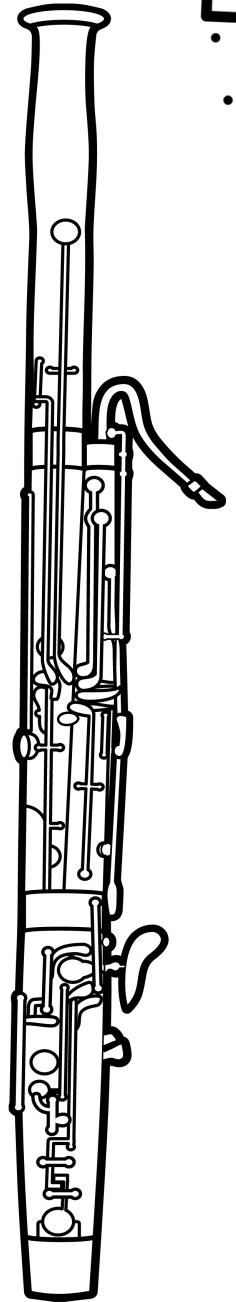
flute



clarinet



oboe



bassoon

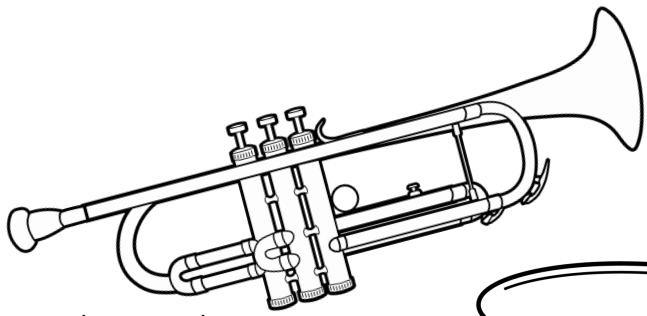
- Brassy
- Smooth
- Scratchy
- Booming
- Soft
- High
- Piercing

- Low
- Bright
- Dark
- Sharp
- Warm
- Cold
- Gritty

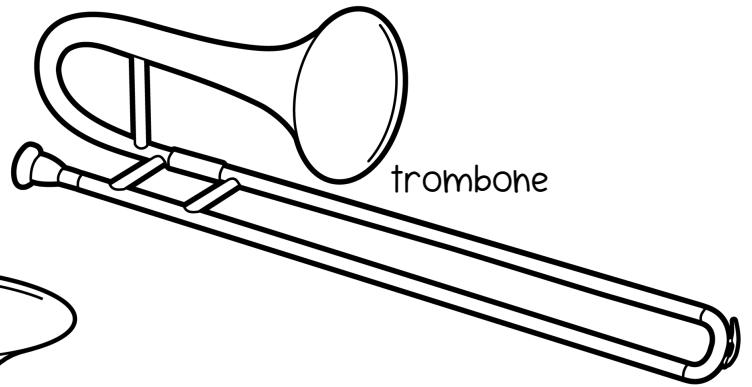
- Nasal
- Clear
- Mellow
- Metallic
- Percussive
- Airy
- Buzzing

Directions: Listen to the recording, then circle the adjectives that best describe the instrument family's sound. Then color the instruments. 🎧 Play track #4

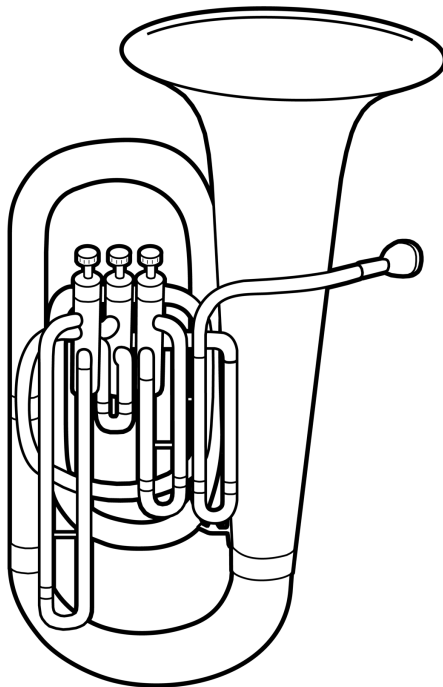
The Brass Family



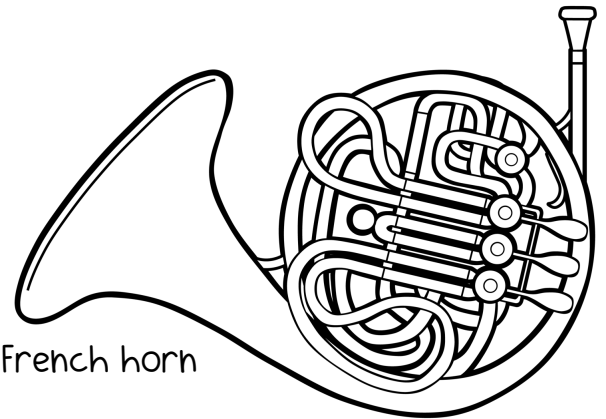
trumpet



trombone



tuba



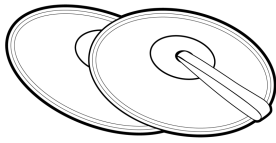
French horn

- Brassy
- Smooth
- Scratchy
- Booming
- Soft
- High
- Piercing

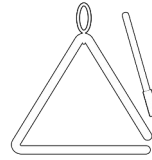
- Low
- Bright
- Dark
- Sharp
- Warm
- Cold
- Gritty

- Nasal
- Clear
- Mellow
- Metallic
- Percussive
- Airy
- Buzzing

Directions: Listen to the recording, then circle the adjectives that best describe the instrument family's sound. Then color the instruments. 🎧 Play track #5

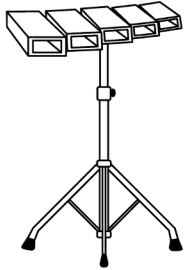


cymbals

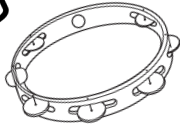


triangle

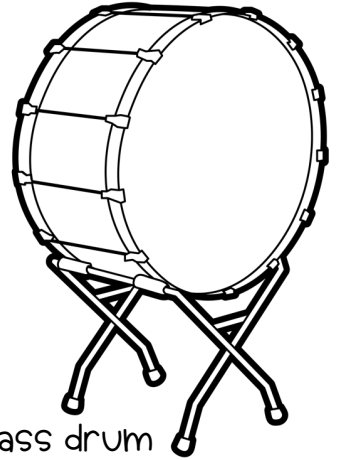
The Percussion Family



woodblock



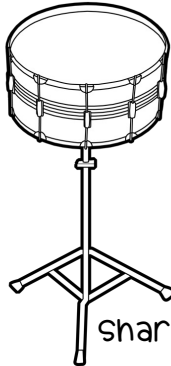
tambourine



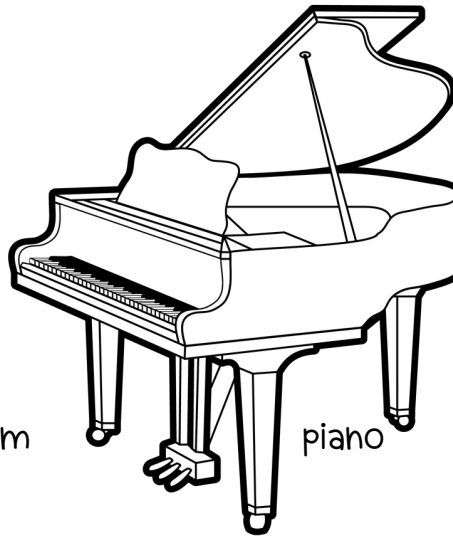
bass drum



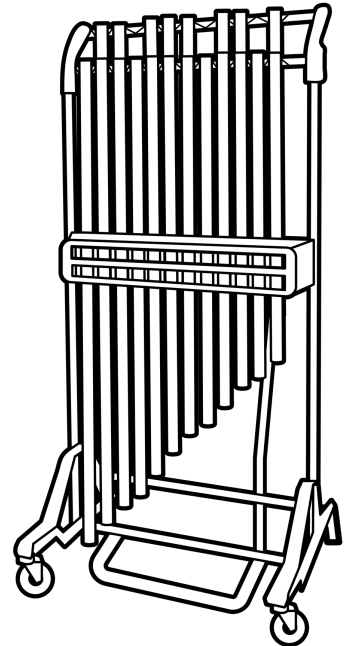
gong



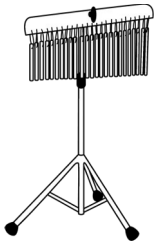
snare drum



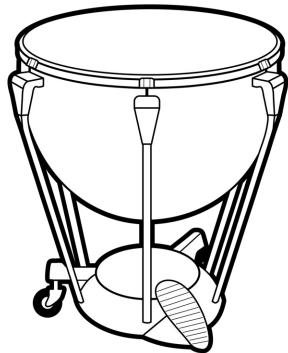
piano



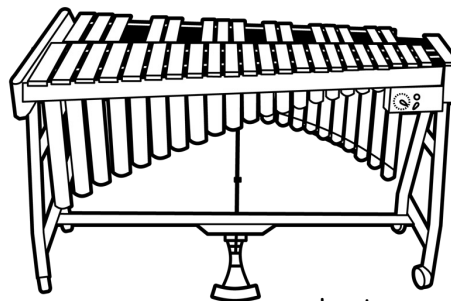
orchestra chimes (tubular bells)



chime tree (mark tree)



timpani



xylophone

- Brassy
- Smooth
- Scratchy
- Booming
- Soft
- High
- Piercing

- Low
- Bright
- Dark
- Sharp
- Warm
- Cold
- Gritty

- Nasal
- Clear
- Mellow
- Metallic
- Percussive
- Airy
- Buzzing

The Science of Pitch

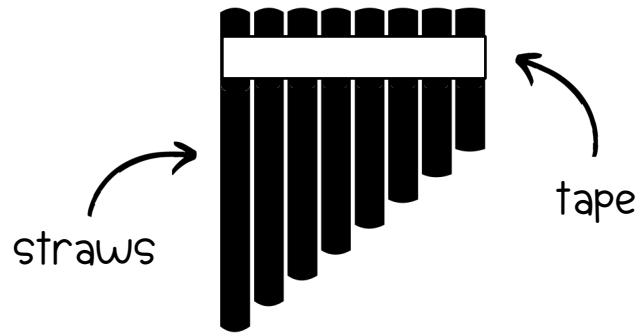
Create Your Own Woodwind Instrument



When sound moves through the air, it creates soundwaves. You can't see soundwaves, but the slower they move, the lower the sound. If sound has to travel through a long tube, it will move more slowly because it has a longer distance to travel. When the straw is longer, the pitch is _____.

1. You Will Need:

- straws (five, six, or more!)
- tape (duct tape is especially good!)
- scissors



2. To Assemble:

- cut the straws to different lengths, and line up in order
- tape together in a row

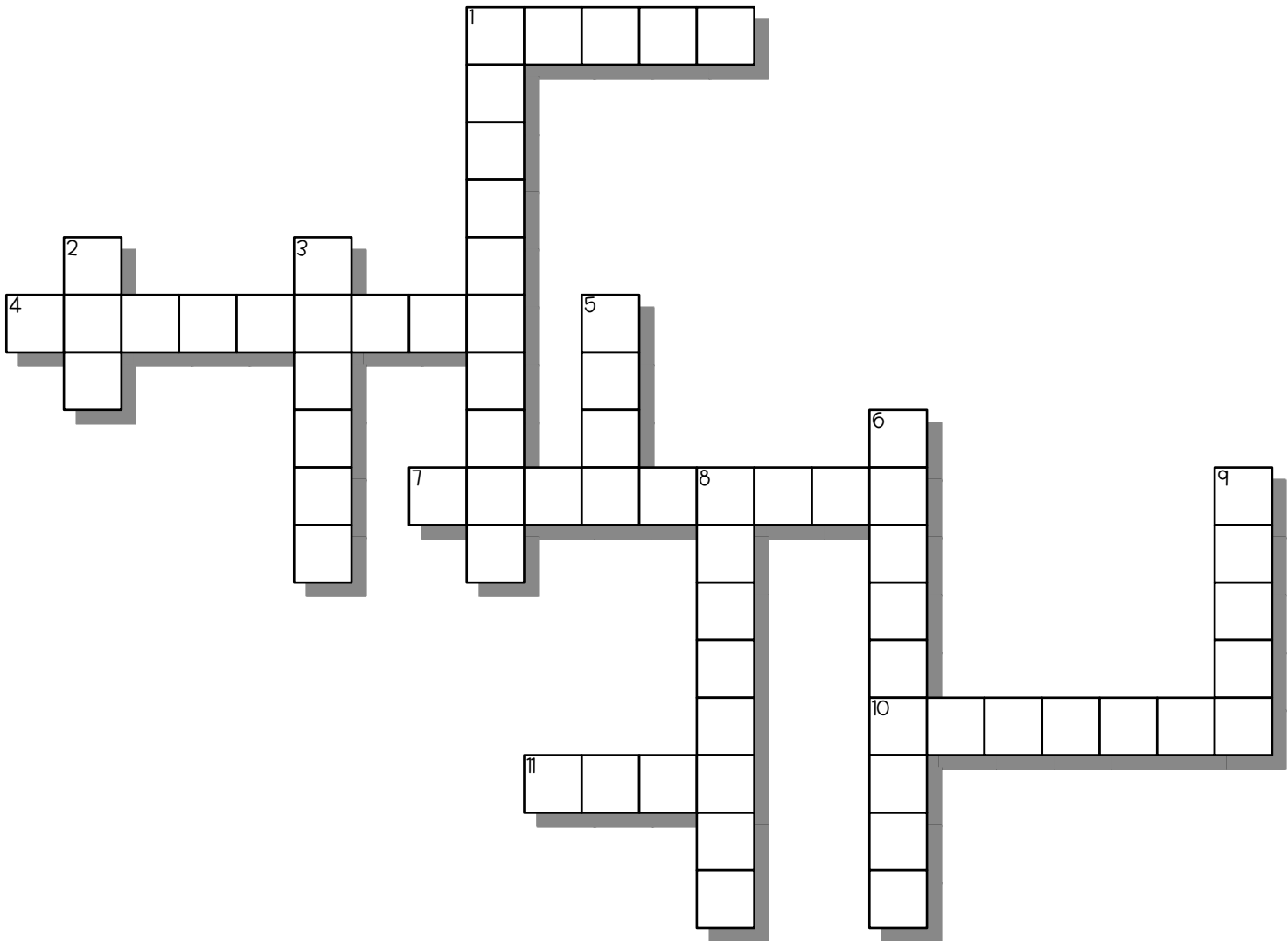
- ### 3. To Play Your Instrument:
- blow through the different tubes, one at a time. Notice what happens to the sound when you blow through the straws!

Write it!



Describe what it sounds like when you blow through the shortest straw. Is the sound high or low? What about the longest straw?

Orchestra Vocabulary Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. how high or low a sound is
4. instruments the player blows air through, usually with a reed
7. the person that leads the orchestra
10. instruments that are plucked or played with a bow
11. the buttons that change pitch in woodwind and brass instruments

Down

1. instruments that are hit, shaken, or scraped to make sound
2. what string players use to make sound - they pull it across the strings
3. the special characteristics that describe the sound of each instrument
5. a thin piece of material that woodwind players blow through to make sound (except for flutes!)
6. a group of musicians led by a conductor
8. a person who writes music
9. instruments that a player buzzes their lips as they blow air through it

Orchestra Vocabulary Word Search

Q N B A W N E K C F
Y R J P O O R W O U
B D O Q B I B O M O
R S G T B S M O P H
A G O C C S I D O C
S N D T I U T W S T
S I K I I C D I E I
T R E E D R R N R P
U T Y N X E D D O B
Q S S Q O P K S T C

conductor

strings

woodwinds

brass

percussion

composer

bow

pitch

reed

keys

timbre

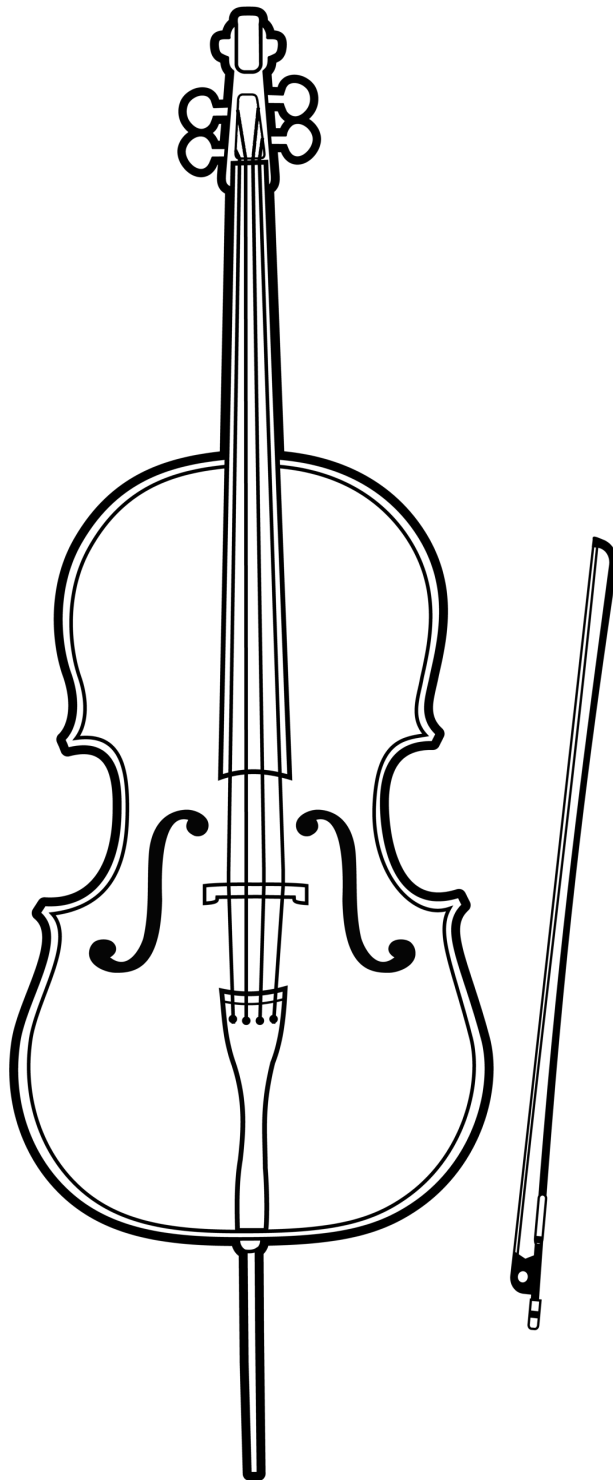
Violin



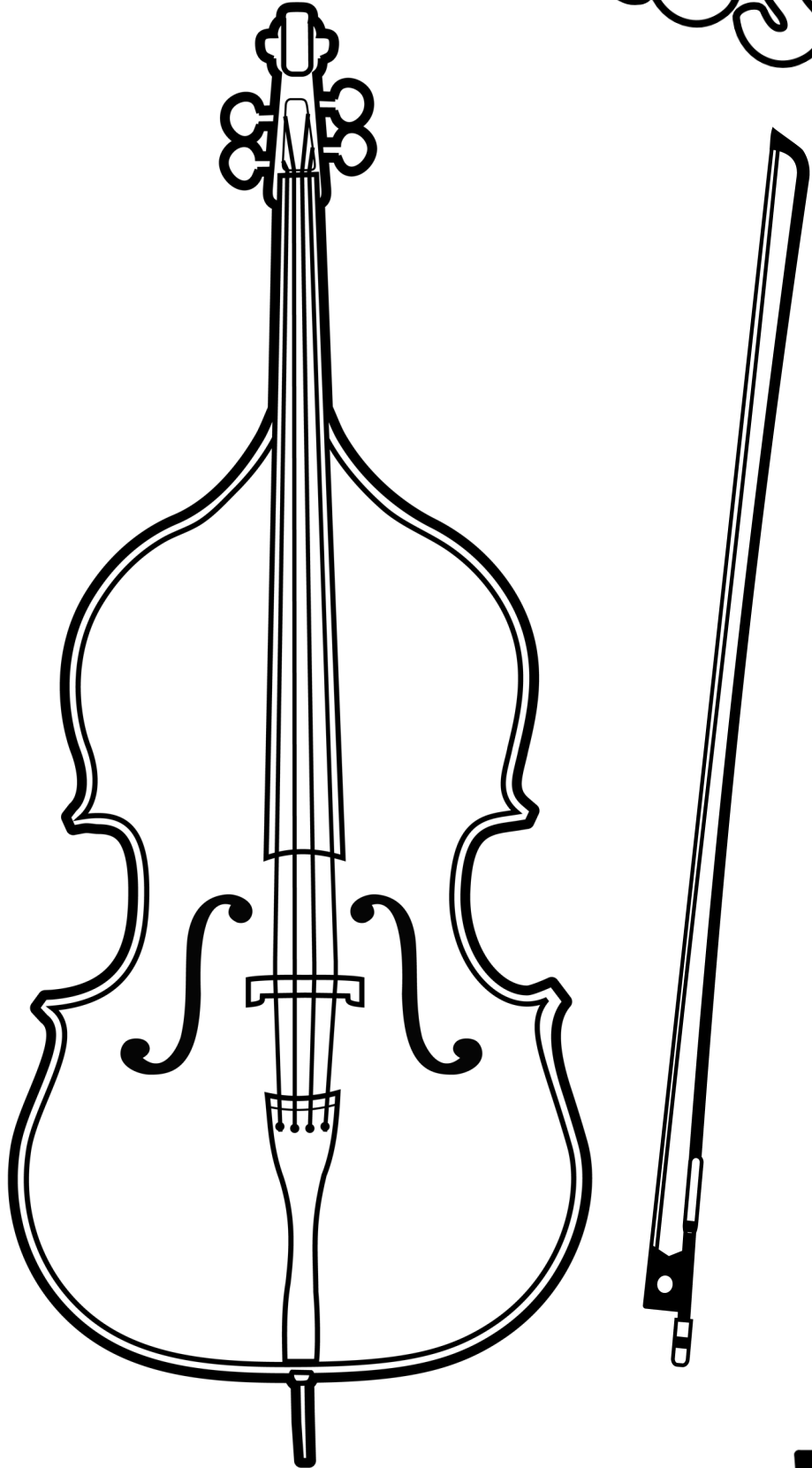
viola



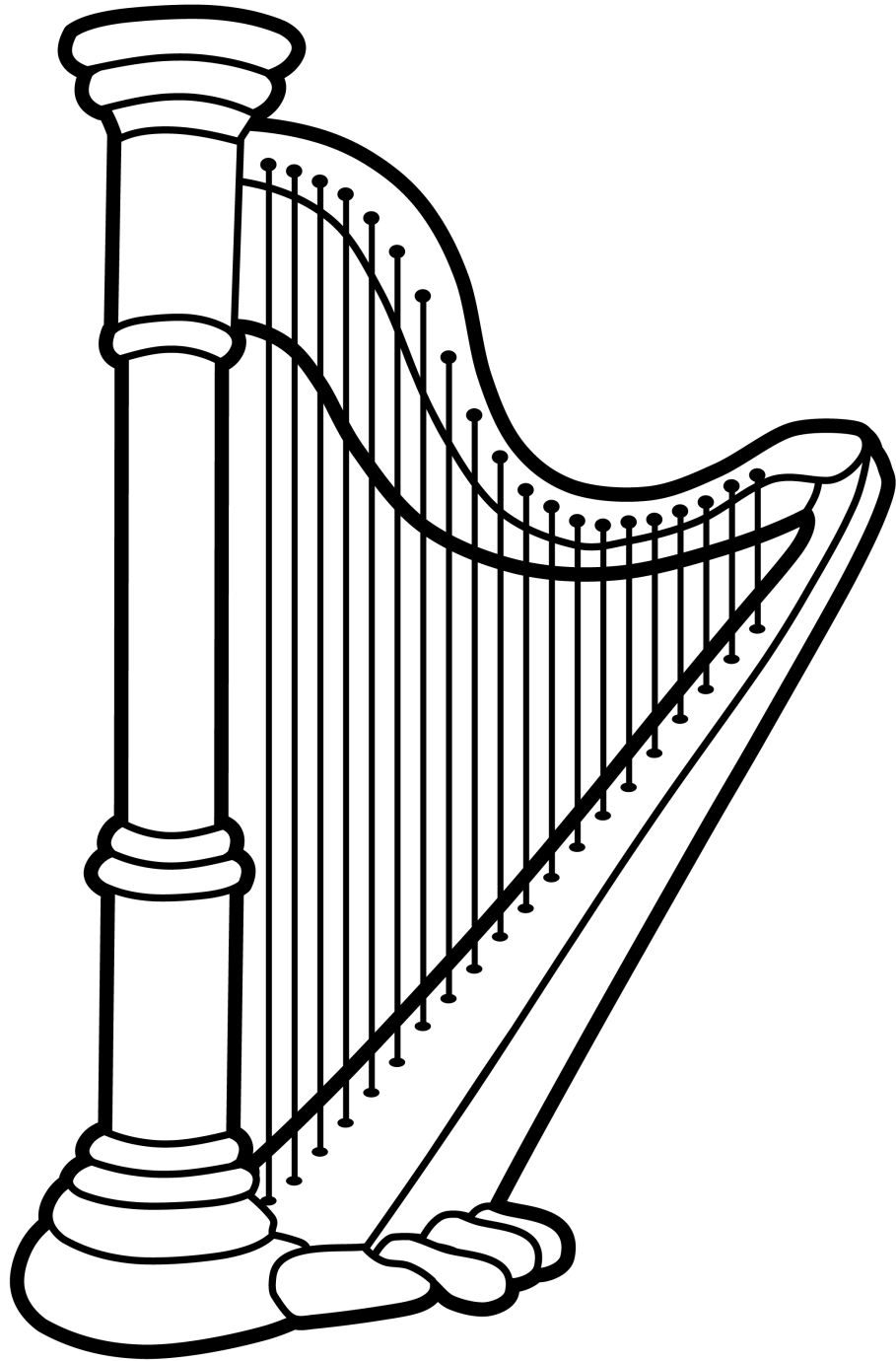
cello



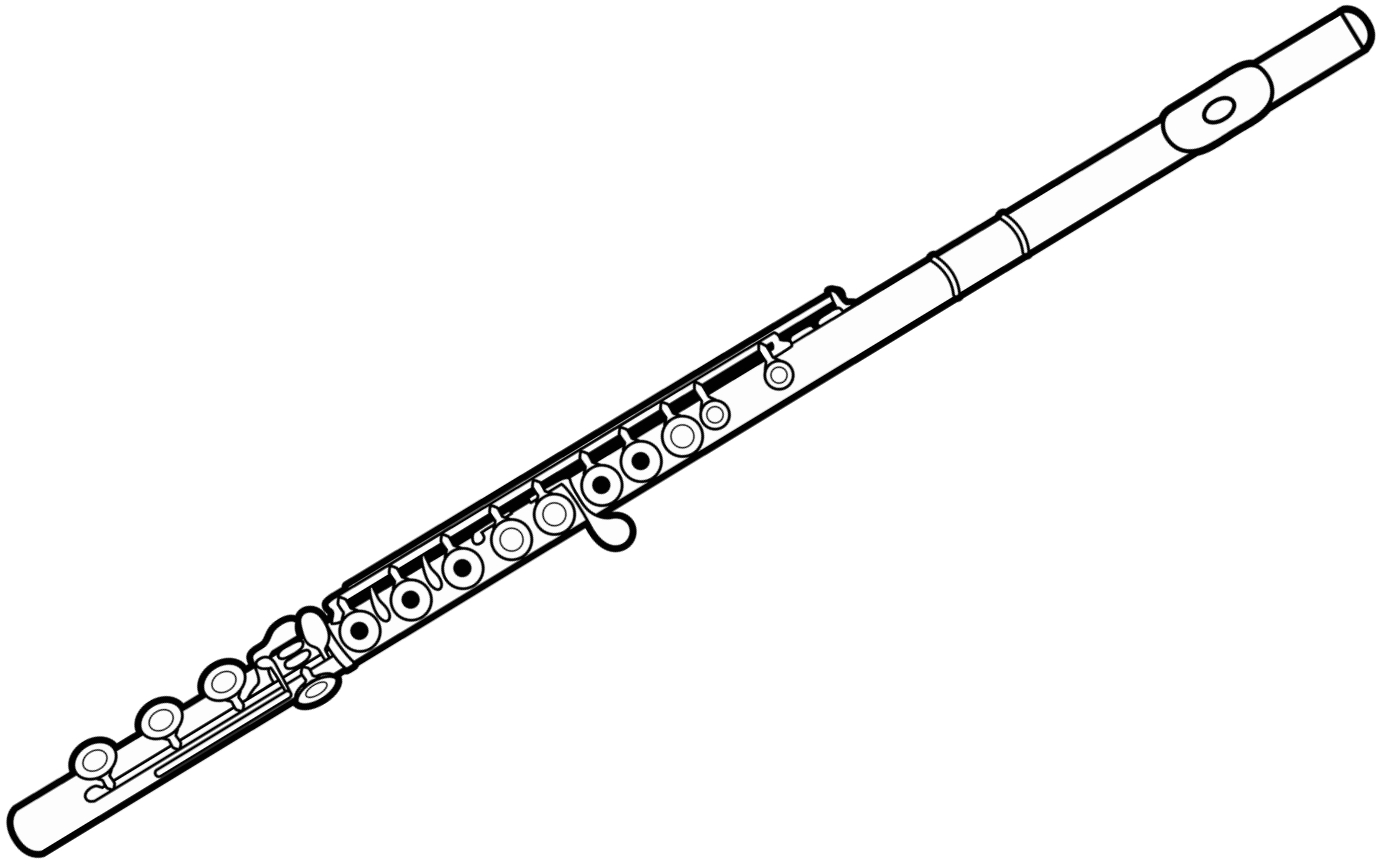
double bass



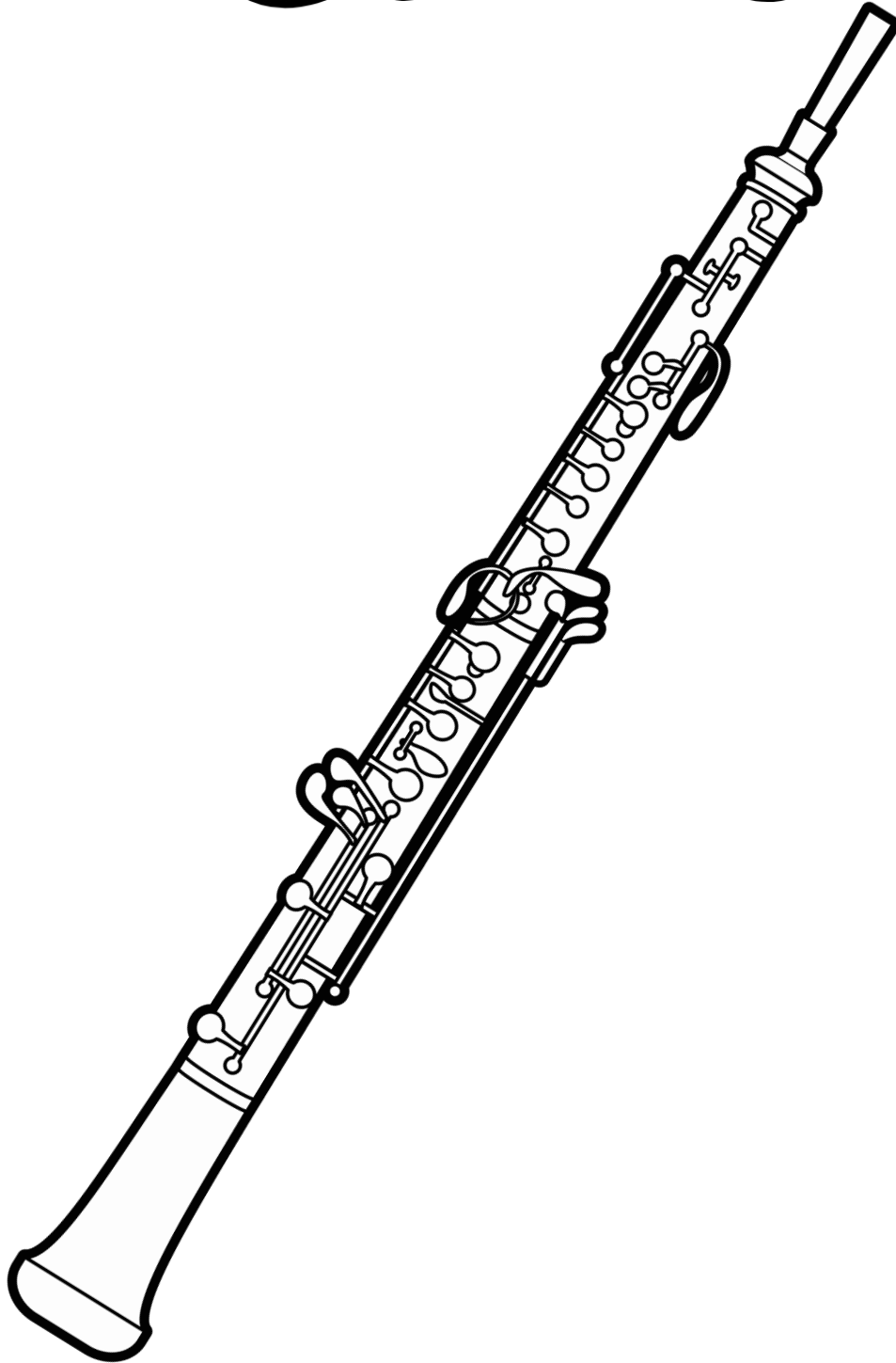
harp



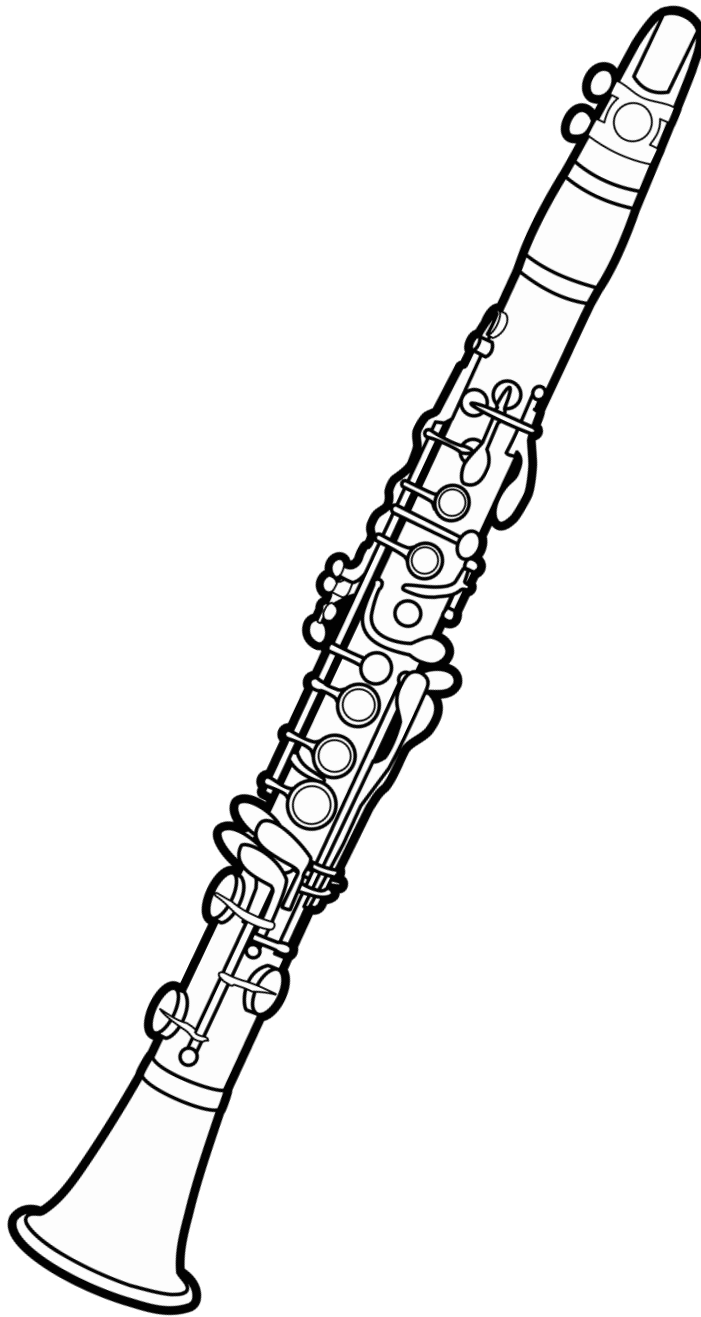
flute



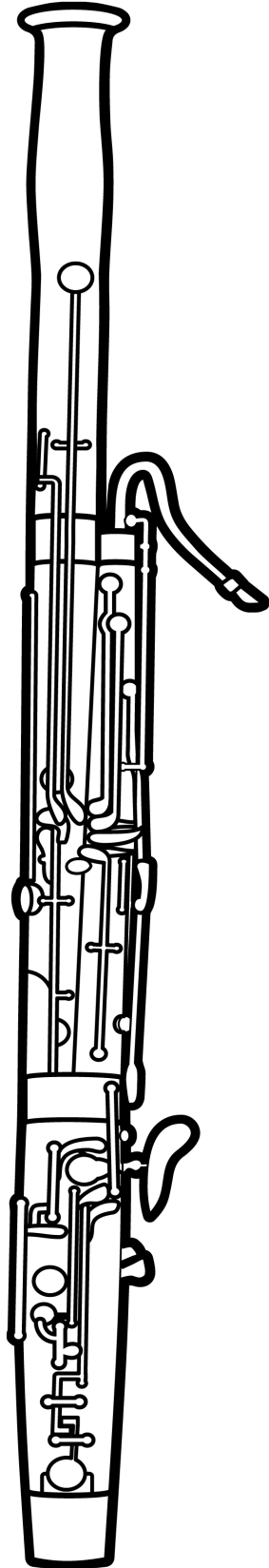
oboe



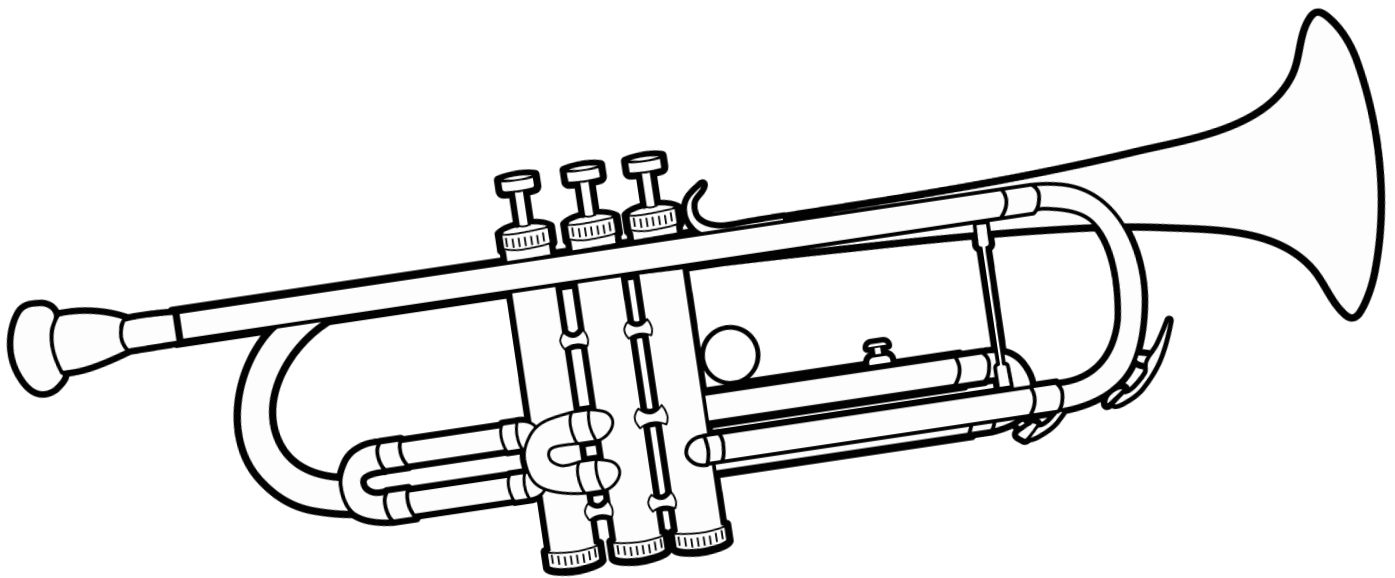
clarinet



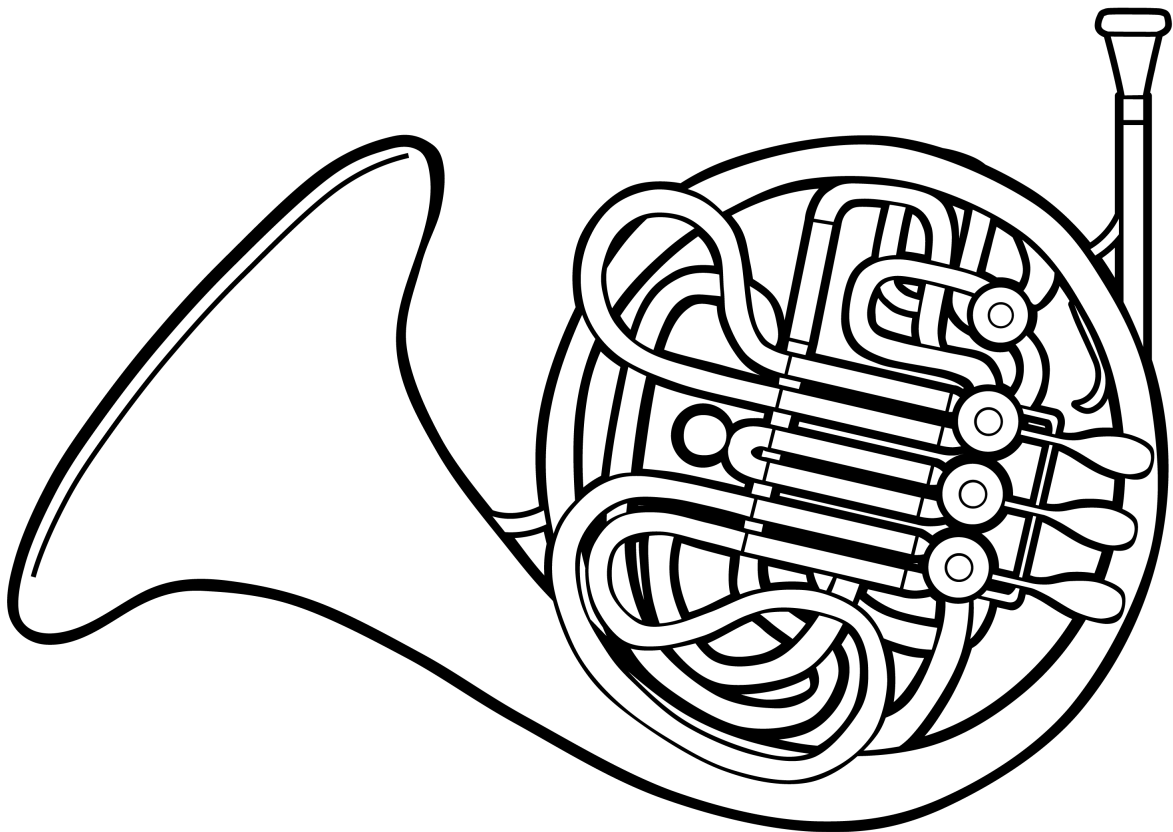
bassoon



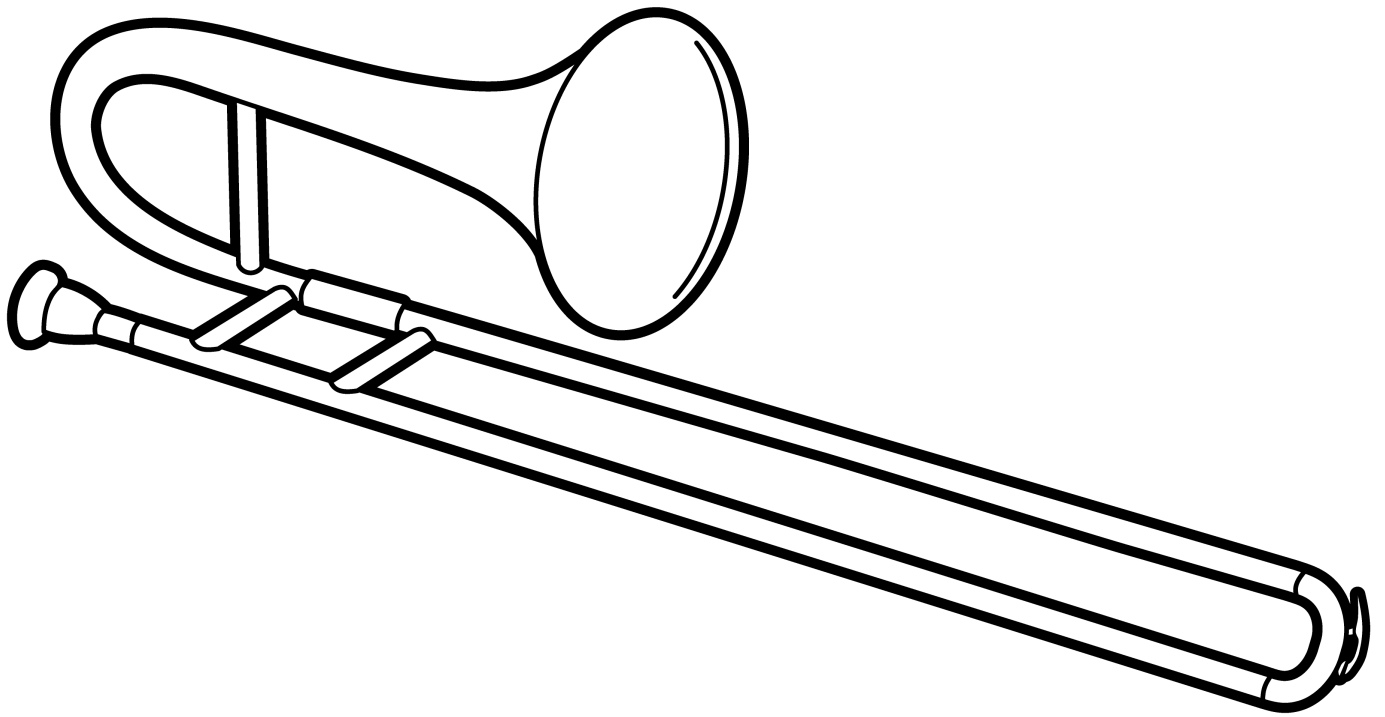
trumpet



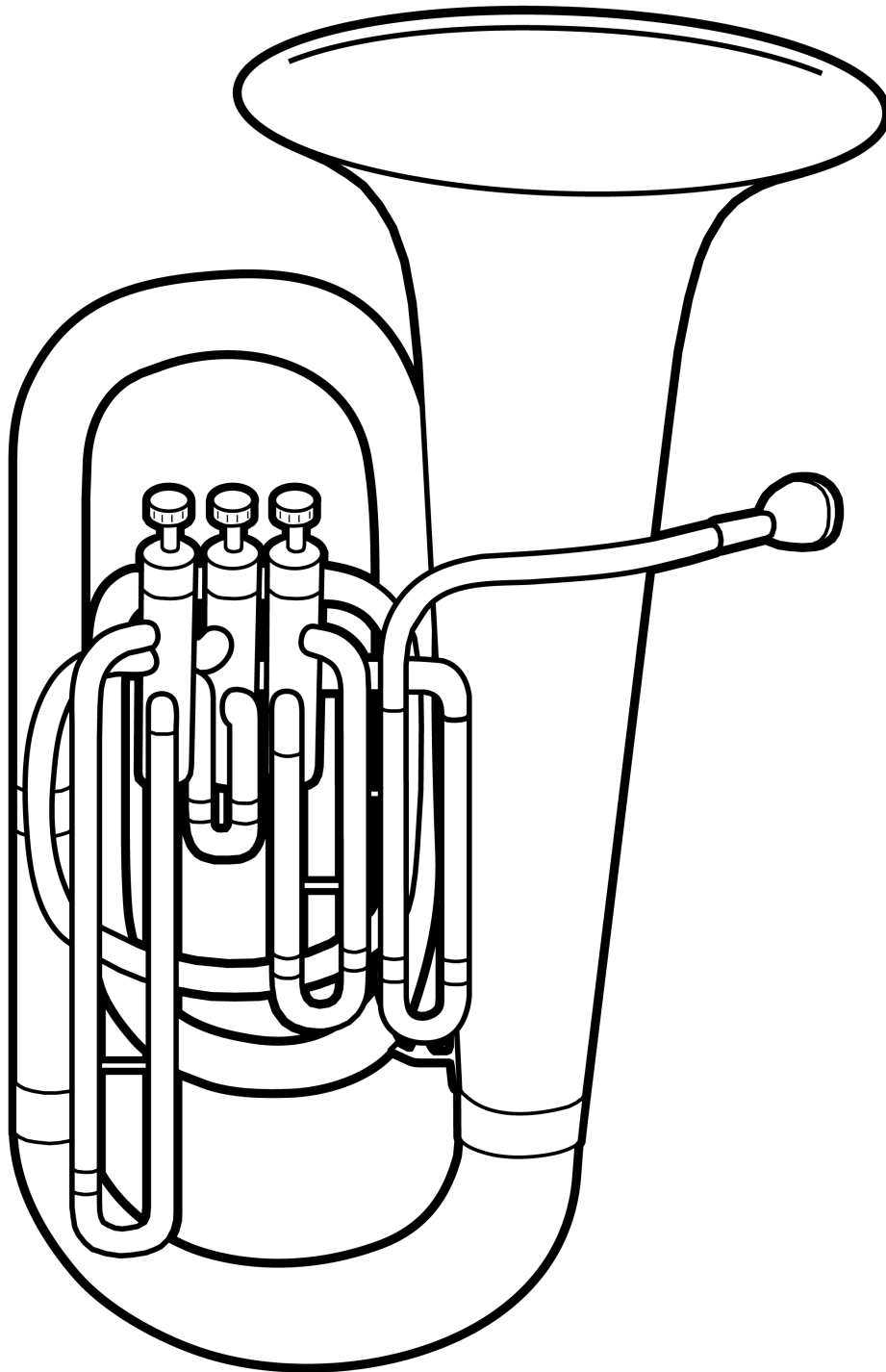
French horn



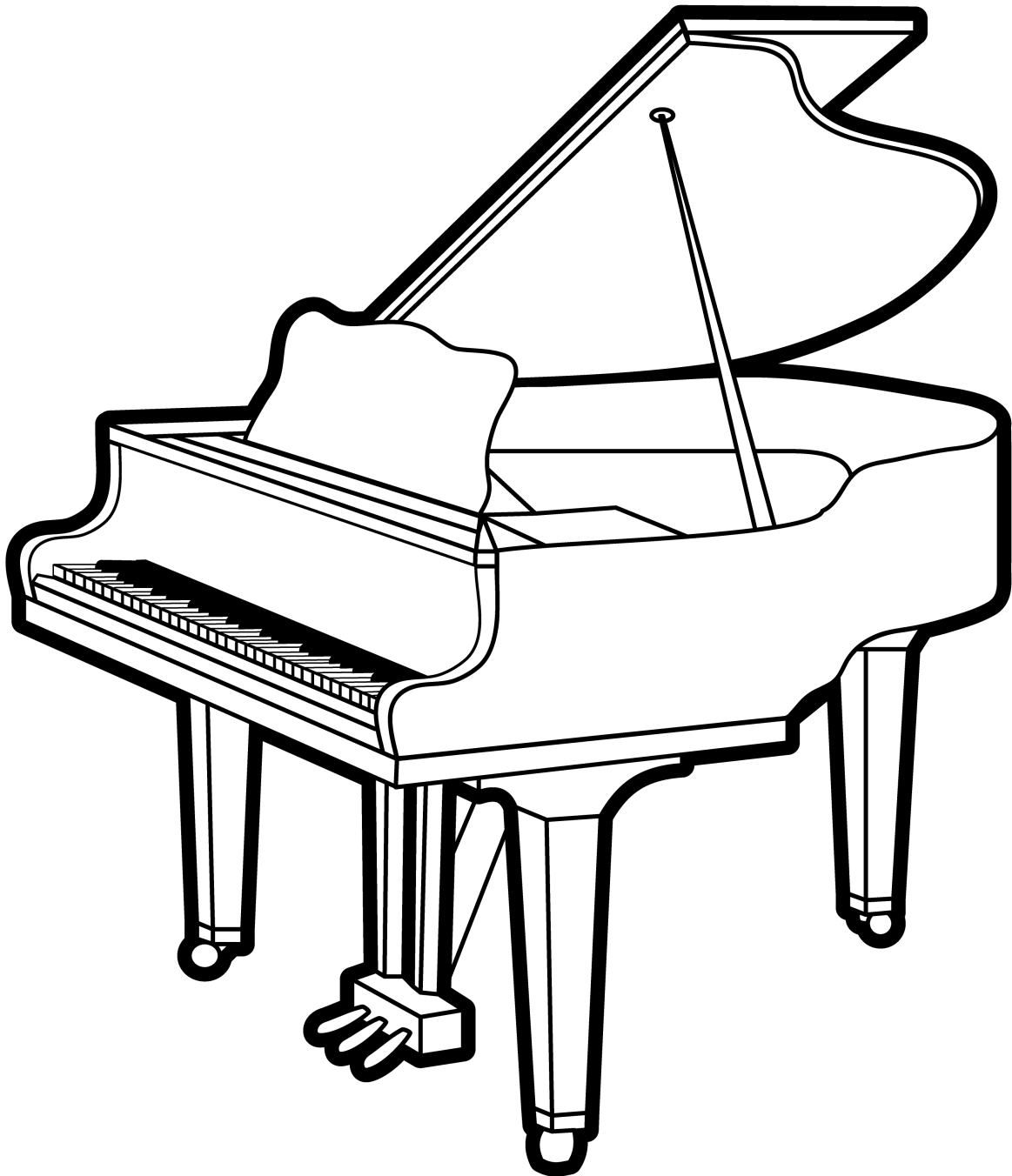
Tromboke



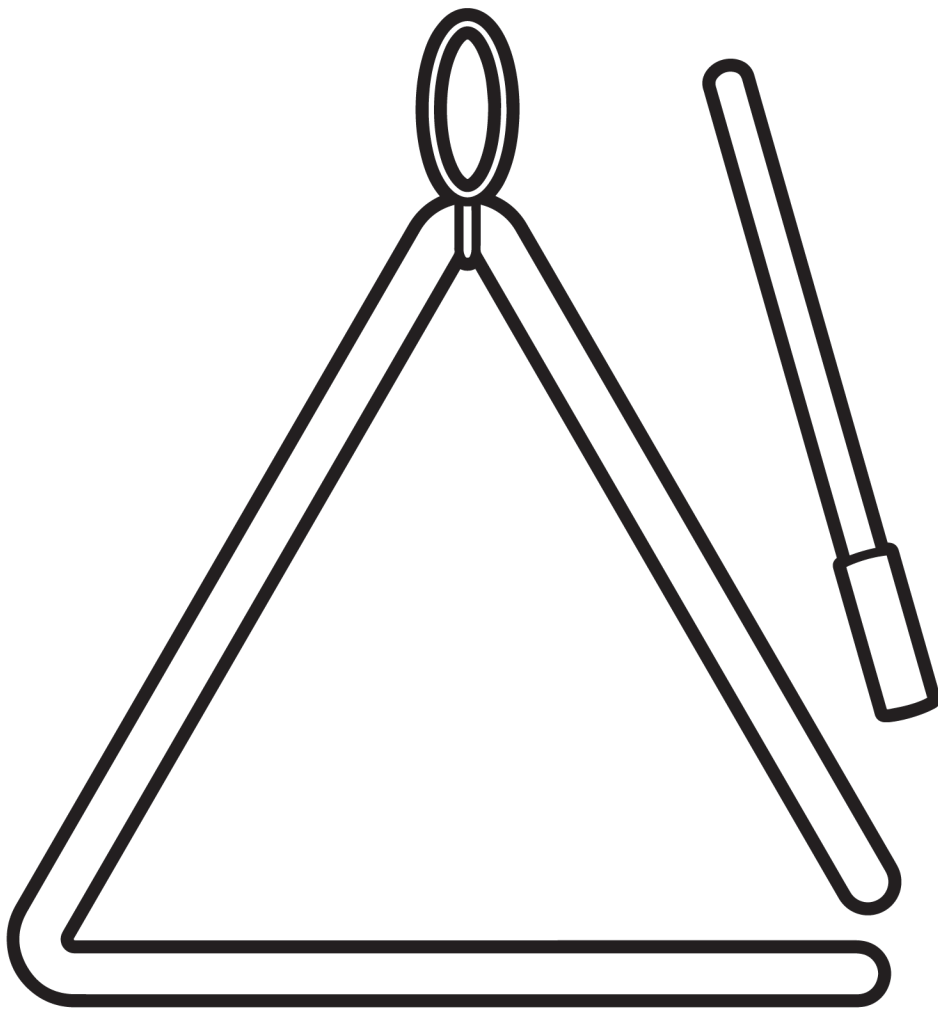
tuba



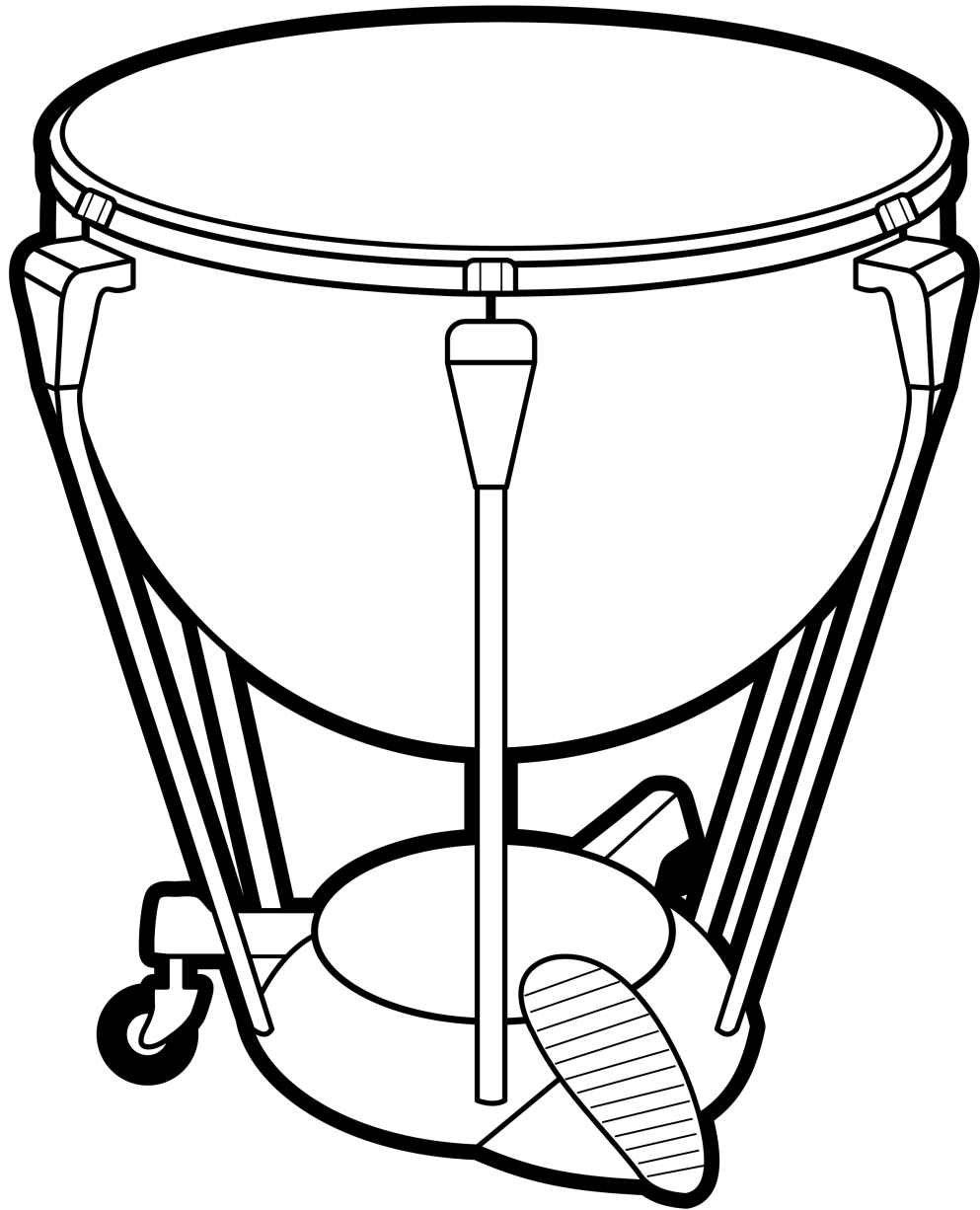
pidho



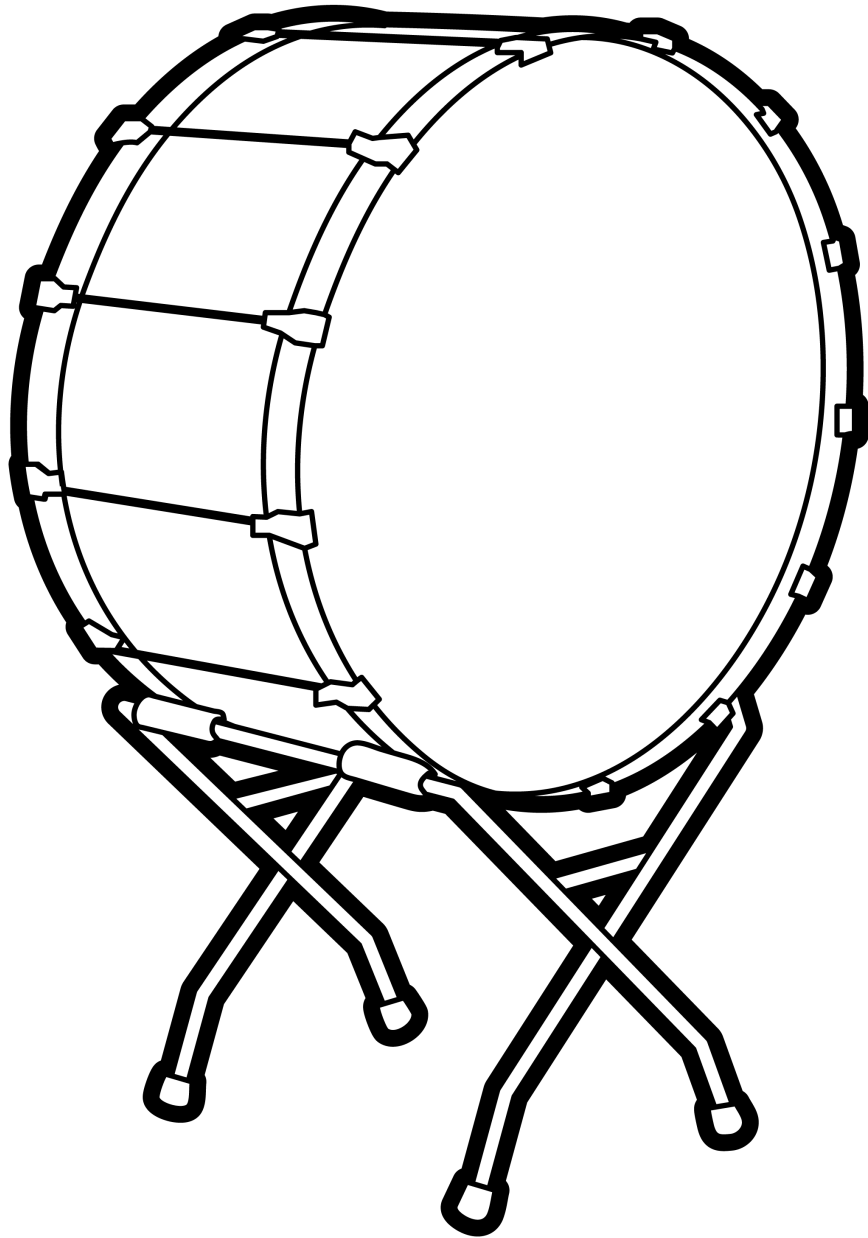
trichngle



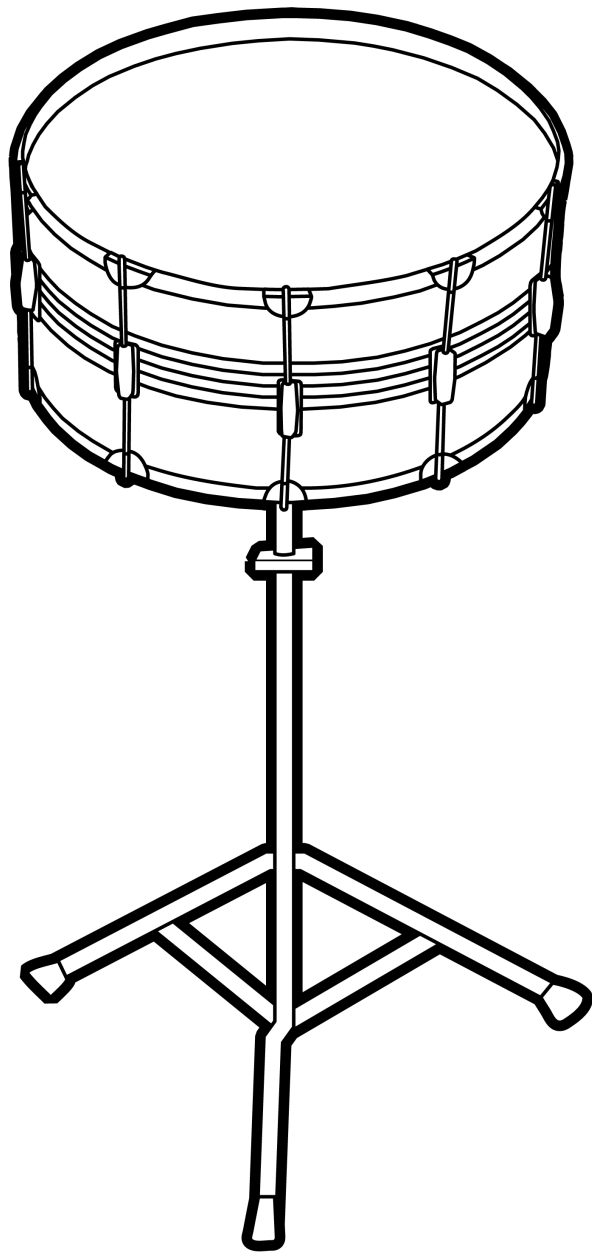
timpahi



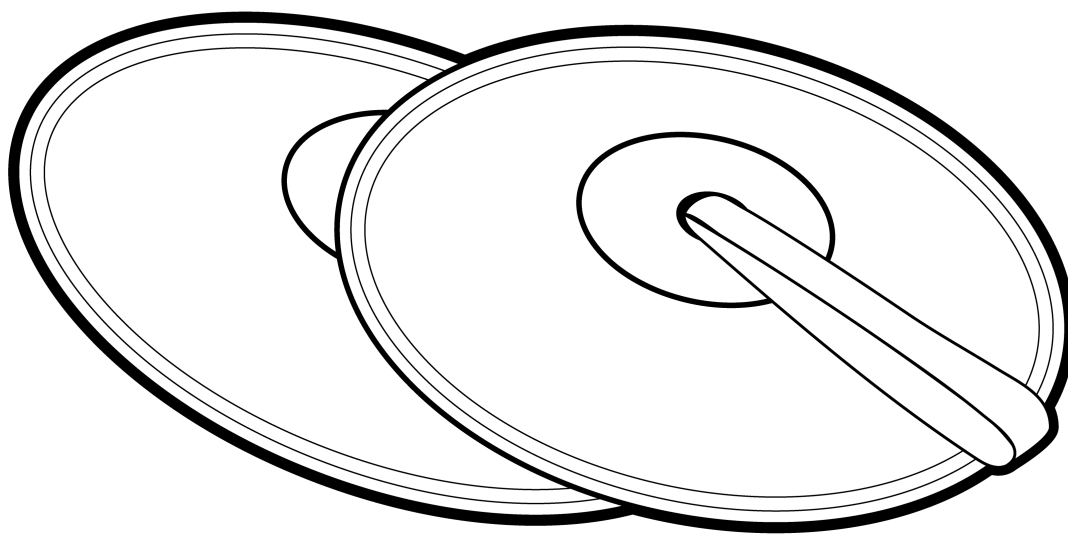
bass drum



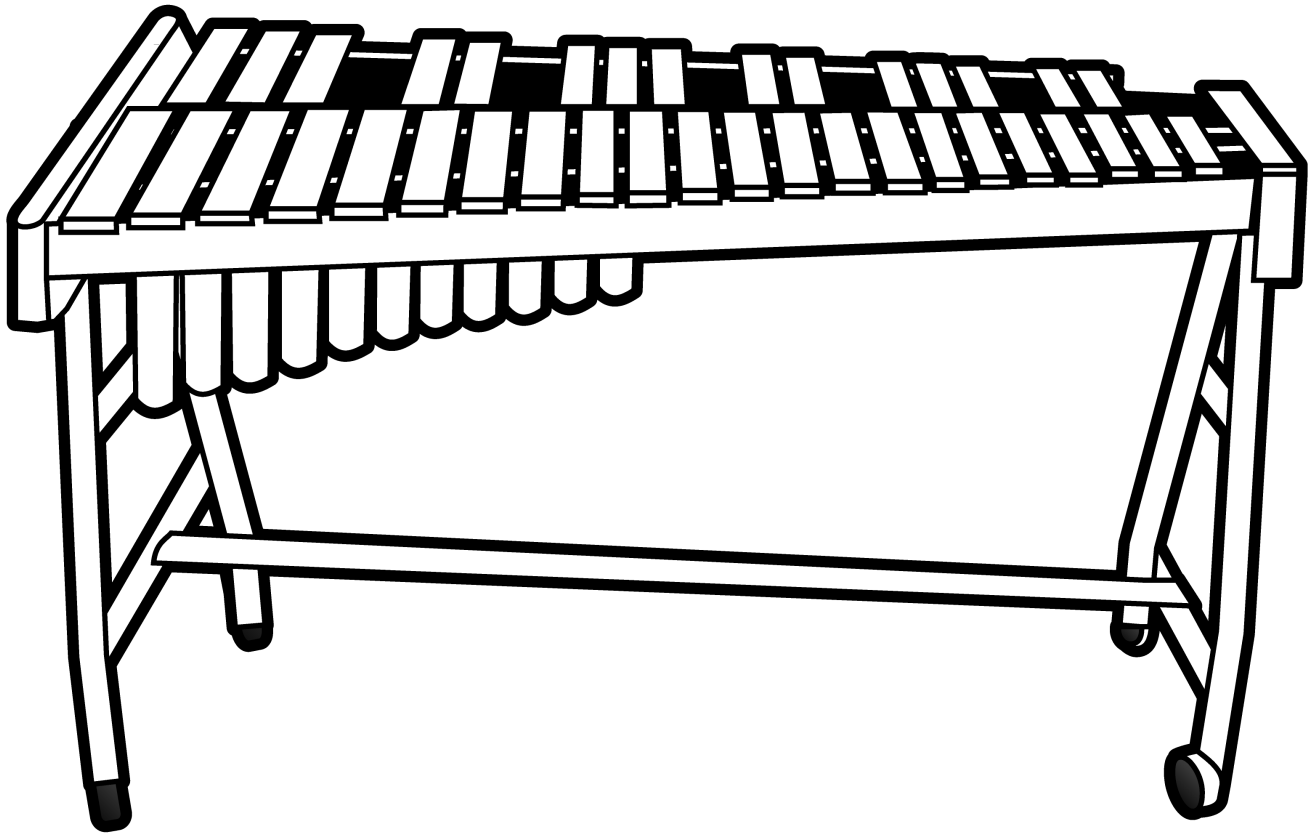
snare drum



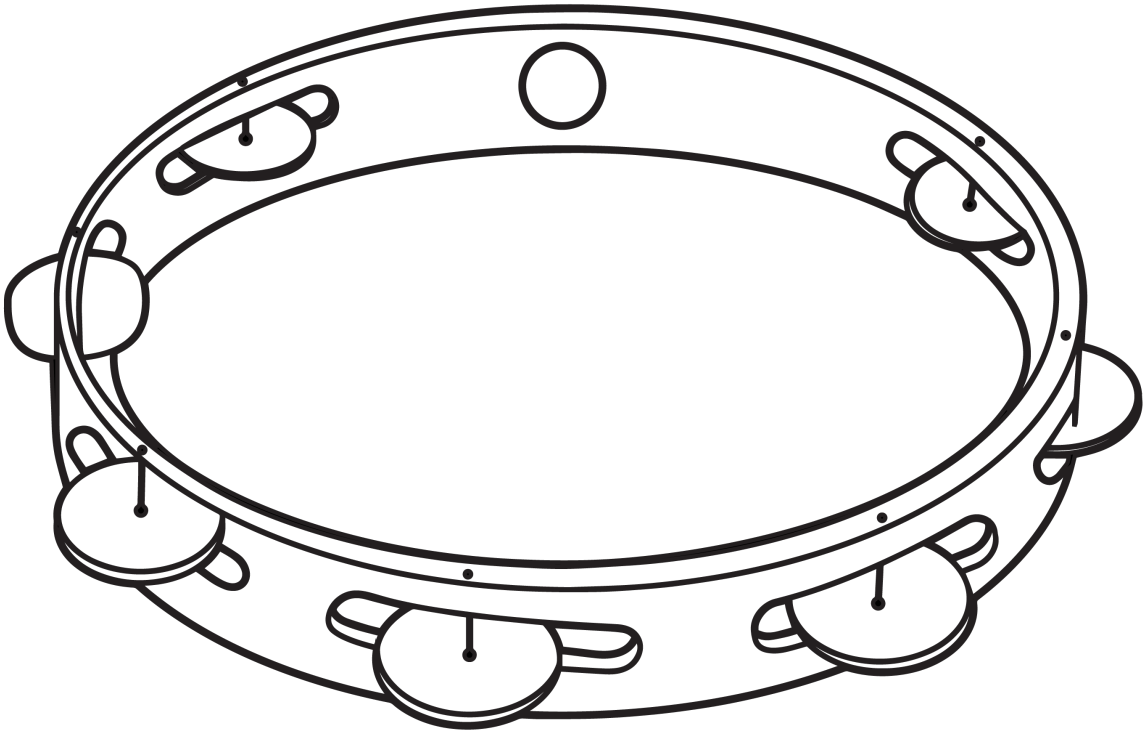
Cymbals



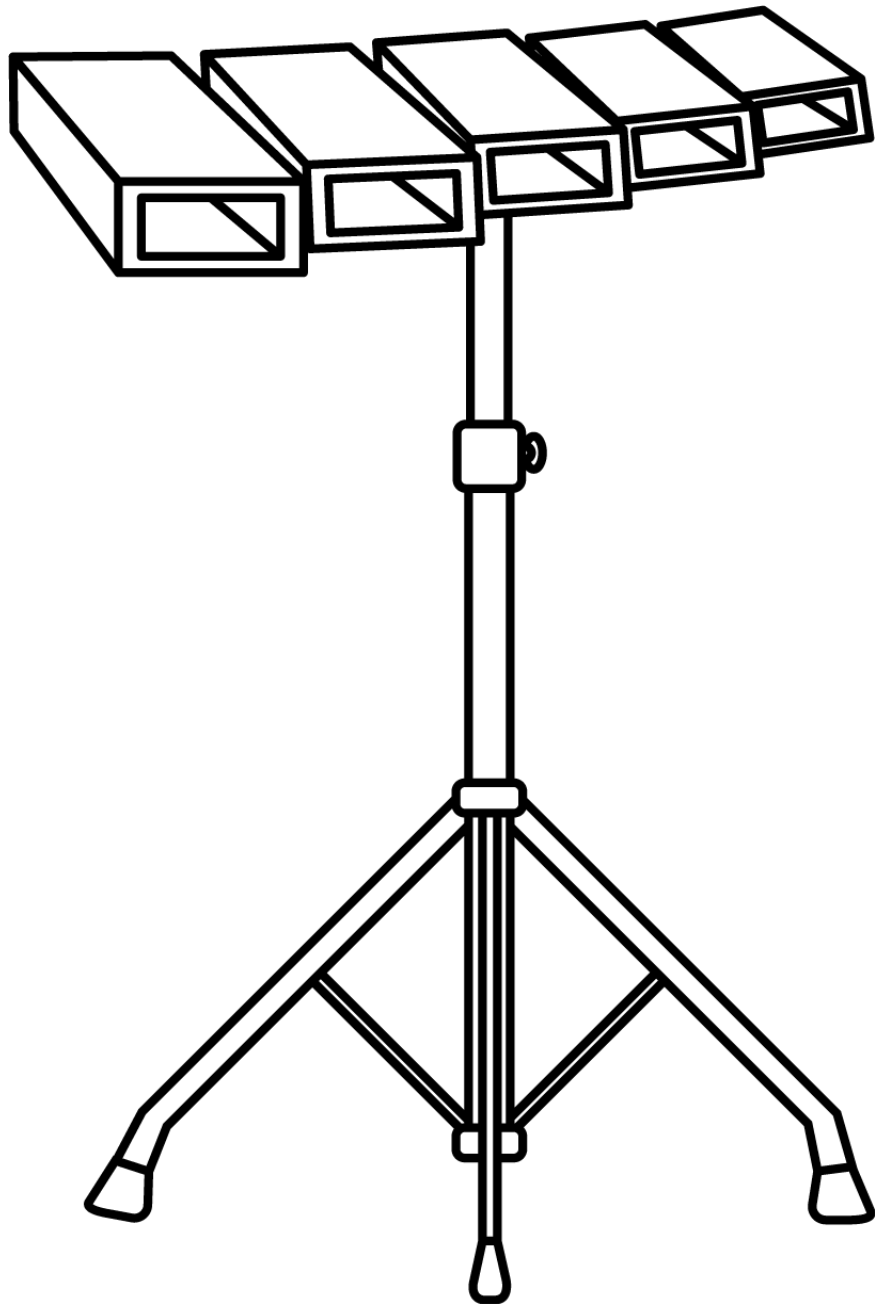
Xylophone



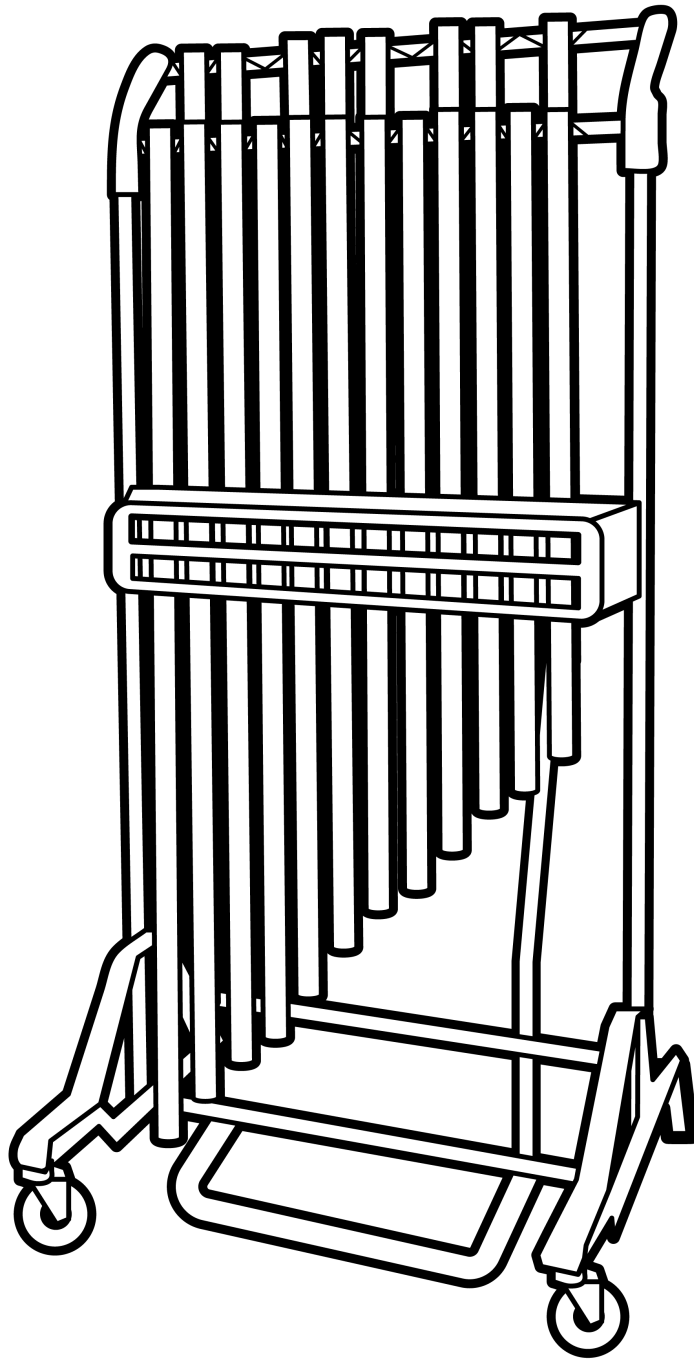
Tambourine



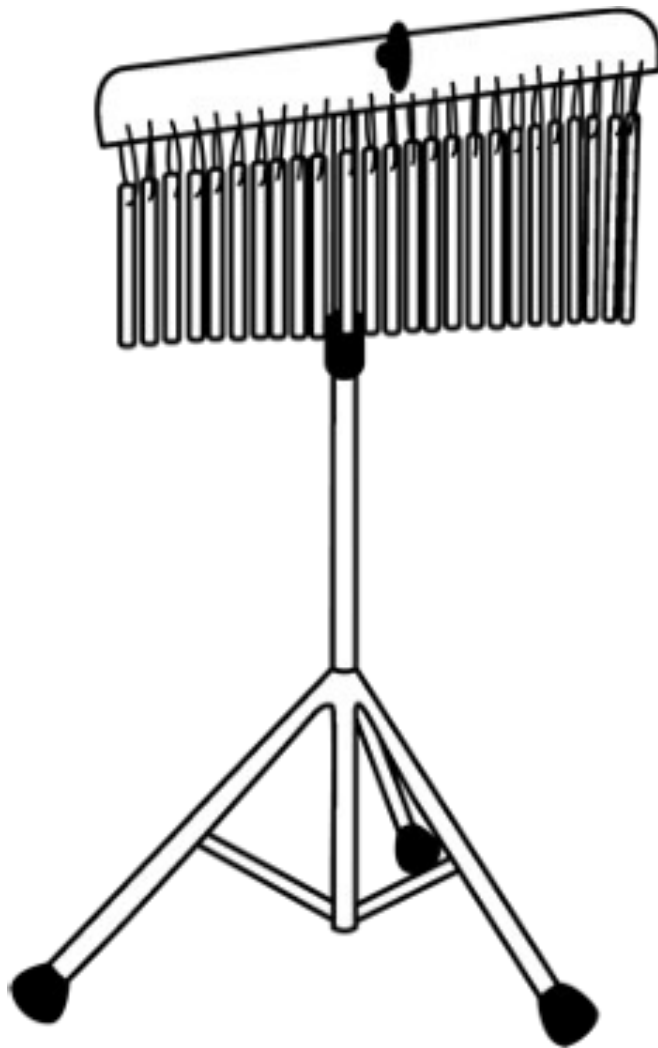
Woodblock



Orchestra Chimes



chime tree



gong

