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The process of buying an instrument like a trombone for yourself or your child can be an arduous task if you, like most parents or new musicians, don't know what to look for and what to avoid below. When you first start searching for trombones
online you're likely to see a lot of cheap options. These are trombones from China and you should almost always avoid solely due to the fact that you will end up with a bad case of buyer's remorse. In my time playing and teaching in a school band setting, I've seen all the problems trombone players run into when purchasing one of these instruments. I
recommend buying a quality trombone the first time. I'll start this article, by reviewing the best trombones at different price points and experience levels, but if you want to learn more about them before reading reviews, check out our trombone the first time. I'll start this article, by reviewing the best trombones at different price points and experience levels, but if you want to learn more about them before reading reviews, check out our trombone the first time. I'll start this article, by reviewing the best trombones at different price points and experience levels, but if you want to learn more about them before reading reviews, check out our trombone the first time. I'll start this article, by reviewing the best trombones at different price points and experience levels, but if you want to learn more about them before reading reviews, check out our trombone the first time. I'll start this article, by reviewing the best trombones at different price points and experience levels, but if you want to learn more about them before reading reviews, check out our trombone the first time. I'll start this article, by reviewing the best trombones at different price points and experience levels, but if you want to learn more about them before reading reviews, check out our trombone the first time.
Beginners) Shop on Sweetwater Shop Musicians Friend Estimated Price $1400 Key Bb Bore Size 0.500" Bell Diameter 8" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass 
world 'round for many different things, motorcycles, pianos, guitars, but did you also know they make trombones and other brass instruments? On top of that, they are excellent trombones, which is not much of a surprise from Yamaha's other products' quality. The YSL-354 is the go-to for beginning bands all across the globe for one reason. They were
designed for beginning students to sound good as soon as possible. The YSL-354 was made with similar specifications to Yamaha's pro line of trombones. I have found that it has the same tone quality as a much pricier horn but is amazingly comfortable for beginning players to use with this horn. Much like the other two on this list, you will have a
clear lacquer finish on this horn. An exceptionally durable bell and the crook on the back of the horn making this a right choice for players who will be traveling a lot, riding the bus to school with their horn, or for those of us who may be slightly clumsier than the rest, to put parents at ease on this investment. When you play this horn, you will notice
that like most other beginning models have a small bore size coming in at .500," making it easy for beginning players to play well and build endurance without feeling much strain or discomfort. This trombone is made
with superb craftsmanship that you would come to expect from Yamaha that will last for generations. Considering price and performance, I would say this is the best beginner trombone out there. 2. Selmer Prelude TB711 (Budget Pick) Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $600 Key Bb Bore Size 0.500" Bell Diameter 8" Bell Material Yellow Brass
Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Chrome Plated Nickel Silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece Bach 12C Case Soft Side Recommended for Beginners My Review: The Prelude TB711 trombone by Conn-Selmer features a balanced design that enables a comfortable instrument position for the younger player. The .509" medium
bore is designed for ease of tone production while allowing for proper embouchure development. While playing this horn, I have found that this slide's action is buttery smooth and comfortable making fast passages feel incredibly pleased without any catching or sticking. The clear lacquer finish provides a subtle warmth to the overall sound while
offering outstanding durability. The TB711 is Ideal for beginners players of all ages. This model also includes the Bach 12C mouthpiece giving an all-around comfortable experience for new players. A plus that comes with this trombone is that if you ever decide to step up to an intermediate or even professional model down the line, this horn can
become your horn for marching band and travel performances with exceptional durability, this horn will last quite a while. The TB711 offers an excellent experience for new players at a very affordable price making this trombone a win no matter which you look at it. I would say this is the best trombone for beginners under 1000 dollars. 3. Bach
TB301 Shop on Sweetwater Check Amazon Price $1400 Key Bb Bore Size 0.500" Bell Diameter 8" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Yel
Tb301 is an excellent horn for young players from a great manufacturer. Bach is one of the leading manufacturers of trumpets and trombones and great quality horns. This horn offers excellent sound production and has a smaller bore size making it remarkably easy for younger children and beginning adults to play with ease. The 8" bell is
exceptionally responsive, giving players excellent projection and control. The inner slide offers a smooth and quick hand slide action, making it effortless to play with precise movement. The TB301 has a clear and resonant sound, and the bell is exceptionally durable and versatile, making this trombone great for any new player. The TB301 includes the
Bach 12C mouthpiece, which has a definite dark tone with excellent flexibility and volume. The alone. This mouth works well for just about any situation and offers a brilliant crispness to your tone. The only downside that comes with the Bach TB301 is the fact that it is cumbersome.
This trombone comes in at a hefty 16 pounds and can make playing a little more difficult for smaller players. All in all, it works very well for all but the smallest of players and has a beautiful tone to boot. 4. Bach TB701 Standard Prelude Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $560 Key Bb Bore Size 0.509" Bell Diameter 8" Bell Material Yellow Brass
Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Nickel Silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece Bach 12C Case Prelude" as Bach is a subsidiary of the Conn-Selmer "Prelude" as Bach is a subsidiary of the Conn-Selmer corporation, and if you have any knowledge of
either of these names, you know they mean quality through and through. The TB-701 is a medium bore trombone which offers easy tone production making, giving players a more relaxing time playing clearly and allowing them to have the volume behind the notes. This trombone has a durable lacquer finish that will still look shiny and new for years
to come, so long as the player takes good care of the horn. Not only is the lacquer for looks, but it also gives the TB701 a too focused sound that fits well in any ensemble. The TB701, much like the previous TB301, Includes a Bach 12C mouthpiece, which again, gives the player a solid, dark tone and is excellent for new players because it offers
flexibility and comfort to ease them in without causing any fatigue. While this may be a different model to the previous entry on this list, it still has the same shortcomings. The TB701 has is a little heftier than some of the other models on this
list, it offers excellent tone and flexibility for new players. It is exceptionally comfortable to hold and play. 5. Selmer King 606 Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $1400 Key Bb Bore Size 0.500" Bell Diameter 8" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Nickel Silver Inner Slide Material Nickel Silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece King 12C
Case 7523C Molded Case Recommended for Beginners My Review: Compliments are due to Conn-Selmer and their Eastlake plant for producing some genuinely nice student model trombones. The King 606 is a beautiful trombone that is exceptionally comfortable to play your younger players, along with its smaller bore, lets students build their
embouchure without feeling too much strain or discomfort. The slide action is incredibly useful on this horn as well. The assembly is clean and perfectly aligned, lacquer also looks excellent on this horn you barely notice any smudging from fingerprints, and whatever you do see are easily cleaned. The tuning slide area of the instrument tends to be
narrower in this design. It helps center the weight closer to the hand braces, aiding a new player not yet used to holding a trombone's weight. The King 606 offers players a King 12C, which is almost identical to the Bach 12C with small unnoticeable differences. Most beginner trombones provide a similar style of the mouthpiece to allow for proper
embouchure development. These are trombones you can be proud to own and should last for years to come. Coming in at a fraction of the cost of some other horns of this quality and that price Estimated
Price $2100 Key Bb Bore Size 0.500"-0.525"; Dual Bore Side Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Yellow
trombones since it has a trigger that typically builds an instrument's range. The 350C is known as a compact trombone, which allows younger players to play comfortably, making sure they can hit specific notes without extending the slide beyond their reach. The Trigger allows for the 6th and 7th position on the slide, which is quite a stretch, to be
played in a higher position. This gives smaller players a smaller slide, but still gives them the full range of a standard-sized trombone. The 350C offers a dual-bore system that allows for comfort for younger players to guickly and effectively build their embouchure. Much like the rest, this trombone provides a slide lock to help players keep their slides
in place, so it does not slide off and get damaged while not playing. If, however, you are unlucky and your slide does fall off, the 350c is shipped with a Yamaha SL-48 mouthpiece, a remarkably comfortable mouthpiece that offers precise intonation
and greater blowing control. The Yamaha 350C is the perfect trombone for students who do not quite have the reach. With the trigger, attachment added, these students will still have a full range without the strain making a comfortable experience until they are possibly able to grow into a full-sized trombone. What is an Intermediate Trombone?
These instruments add more features from the professional models, but with the student models' limited options and volume manufacturing. The simplicity of trim and details help keep costs down. Designs are tailored towards more experienced players. Many intermediate models include the F attachment, larger bore tubing, lighter weight bells, and
they respond better for a player who blows a fair amount of air and can fill up a larger instrument with a more resonant tone. 7. Bach TB711f-Intermediate (Best Value Intermediate) Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $1100 Key F/Bb Bore Size 0.547" Bell Diameter 8½" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Nickel Silver Inner Slide
Material Chrome-Plated Nickel Silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece Standard Wrap F-Attachment with Standard Rotors Case Bach softshell case Recommended for Intermediate / Beginner Players My Review: The TB711F is another model from Conn-Selmer's budget-friendly "prelude" line of instruments. It is engineered down from professional
quality instruments and possesses many attributes and specifications that closely resemble the pros' instruments. Bach and Conn-Selmer did a fantastic job creating a genuinely nice model to introduce players to a trombone's F-attachment. With its large .547" bore, it does take quite a bit of airflow to get this horn going, but once you get the air going
behind it, it sings while giving clean and stable attacks. The TB711F has a slightly large bell at 8½" it has a little more push to the sound giving it a bit more volume and brightness to the sound. The slide action is no joke, either. It feels incredibly smooth and makes fast passages feel easier to hit cleanly. This is somewhere between a beginner and an
intermediate horn. It includes a Bach 12C mouthpiece like you will see shipped with beginner Bach's. The 12C might be great for beginners a long time, and it fits well in any setting from concert wind band to orchestra. It will handle whatever you throw it. The F-attachment is a
traditional closed wrap, and the tubing wraps into the main tuning slide giving it a superior subtle, compact design. This horn is perfect for students who want to build their range but might not have the financial capabilities to purchase a more expensive trombone. If you are looking for a great F-attachment trombone that does not cost an arm and a
leg that is a treat to play, definitely give the TB711F by Conn-Selmer and Bach a try. Overall, I would say this is the best intermediate trombone for the money. 8. Bach TB200B (Best Orchestral Trombone) Shop on Sweetwater Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $2300 Key F/Bb Bore Size 0.525" Bell Diameter Yellow Brass Bell Material Yellow Brass
Outer Slide Material Chrome-plated nickel silver Inner Slide Material Clear Lacquer Finish Standard Wrap F Attachment with Standard Rotor Mouthpiece Bach 6 1/2 AL Case 4863 wood shell case Recommended for Intermediate Players My Review: The Bach TB200B is an excellent step-up horn for players who have learned the basics of trombone and
want to take the next step in their musical careers. The TB200B is a clear lacquer yellow brass body that has a nice look to it, and the lacquer is simple to keep free of fingerprints and grime. The TB200B has a two-piece hammered bell made of yellow brass, meaning the bell is
soldered on from two separate brass pieces. This gives the horn an extremely responsive with a delightfully colorful and broad sound. This horn has a medium/large bore, which provides it with a much louder sound than you might hear out of a beginner horn, but with that come to some issues with players that do not quite have the air capacity as
they take a substantial amount of air to play compared to the beginner models or models with smaller bore sizes. The most significant addition you will see added to this trombone is that an F-attachment is added to it. The F-attachment addition you will see added to this trombone is that an F-attachment addition you will see added to it.
attachment is a traditional wrap, which means that the tubing for the f-attachment is curved and fits in the main tuning slide and gives the player clean attacks and stability in their notes. As this is an intermediate trombone, it provides the player with a little bit of a step on their mouthpiece, as it ships with a Bach 6½ AL mouthpiece. The 6½AL is a
mouthpiece that can last players a lifetime due to the sheer versatility you have with it. With its medium-deep cup, it offers players a very balanced tone that fits any playing situation. 9. C.G. Conn 52H Shop on Sweetwater Check Amazon Price $2150 Key F/Bb Bore Size 0.525"/0.547" dual bore Bell Diameter 8-5/8" Bell Material Rose
Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Chrome-Plated nickel silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece C.G. Conn 6½ AL small shank mouthpiece C.G. Conn 6½ AL small shank mouthpiece C.G. Conn 6½ another step-up model from a beginner or student model that
delivers a beautiful bright, unique tone, with its rose-colored brass bell that measures in at 8 5/8" giving slightly more volume and power. This model works great for any setting, from concert band to jazz to the orchestra. The tonal quality that
you would expect from a company with their instruments used in band and orchestra all across the globe. The rose brass bell is unique to C.G. Conn trombone with a yellow brass bell. This trombone also uses a traditional closed wrap design on its slides
for the F-attachment rotor that wrap inside the main tuning slide for a sleek design. This model also comes in a silver-plated variant that offers an even mellower sound than the rose brass that works well for orchestral situations, not to mention that silver plating always looks nice. While looks are excellent, the material your instrument is made with is
ultimately up to personal preference in the kind of sound you are looking for. The real downside of this step-up model is that the price is almost double that of a beginner model. This model is more of an investment if you plan to move forward into a career in music. 10. C.G. Conn 88HO (Best Intermediate Trombone Overall) Shop on Sweetwater Check
Amazon Price Estimated Price $2900 Key F/Bb Bore Size 0.547" primary bore; 0.562" bore through F-attachment Bell Diameter 8½" Bell Material Rose brass Outer Slide Material Rose brass Outer S
Players My Review: The C.G. Conn 88HO is recognized in the trombone family for having a unique tone and specifically designed for orchestral performances. Features rose brass for the entire body of the trombone. The rose brass offers a nice mellow sound that fits great in symphonic performances or jazz solos along with the large .562" bore,
giving the 88HO outstanding clarity and an open feel to its projection. Like the previous entry, the 52H, the 88HO, also offers a silver-plated option to give you more expensive than the student or beginner line of models. While these instruments
are great, they are investments for musicians who plan to move into a career involving music. I would say this is the best intermediate trombone overall. 11. Yamaha YSL-448G Shop on Sweetwater Estimated Price $2070 Key F/Bb Bore Size 0.547" Bell Diameter 8½" Bell Material Gold Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material
Chrome-Plated nickel silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece Yamaha L48 Case Yamaha Molded Case Recommended for Intermediate Players My Review: The YSL-448G is from Yamaha's intermediate offerings that feel well built and comfortable in hand and is pretty light for an f-attachment trombone. What I come to love about this horn is the fact
that they used a closed wrap design for the f-attachment tubing. This closed wrap design not only hides in the primary tubing for a sleek design, it offers excellent resistance for new players that have not had a lot of time to develop and work on their skills and allows them to hit the lower register much more accessible, making it not only comfortable
to hold but comfortable to play as well. The YSL-448G has a medium width hand slide that fits most hands comfortably. The 448G uses a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string linkage has a string linkage has a string linkage on the which can cause a few drawbacks. A string linkage has a string 
cautious while playing as the string is delicate and can break fairly easily and can need adjustments over time. The 448G also has a rose brass bell, which sounds a little brighter on this horn, making an excellent symphonic and jazz horn. While it does have a high price point, if you are looking for a quality horn to move forward to your music career,
you can never really go wrong with a Yamaha. 12. Yamaha YSL-445G Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $1550 Key Bb Bore Size 0.525" Bell Diameter 8½" Bell Diameter 8½" Bell Diameter 8½" Bell Diameter 8½ Bell Diameter Bellow Brass Inner Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Mate
Recommended for Intermediate Players My Review: The Yamaha YSL-445G is the next step up from the standard student YSL-345. This trombone features a medium-large bore horn and offers incredible versatility. The tone is rich and balanced with a bore and bell size that is the same as professional models. The response time is quick and accurate,
with a smooth sliding function that provides consistent playability in nearly all registers. The YSL-445G durability is a significant advantage making this a great travel horn or even something you could use for marching band if you were inclined to do so. The inner slide is proven to hold up with use and maintain a sensitive response making a longtime
player and a horn that can last a long time with its versatility. It fits will a jazz solo horn or a classical solo instrument. Although this horn provides in the range that it has makes it well worth the sacrifice of a lower range. What Is A Professional Trombone Only the finest craftsmanship and
materials are used to craft a professional horn. For a guaranteed rich tone, they're usually made of sterling silver or rose brass. Lighter than intermediate horns, professional trombone is also brighter than an
instrument of regular weight. 13. Yamaha YSL-891Z (Best For Jazz) Shop on Sweetwater Check Amazon Price $2400 Key Bb Bore Size .508" Bell Diameter 8" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Outer Drawn Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Outer Drawn Nickel Silver Finish Lacquer Mouthpiece Yamaha 45C2 Case SLC-
891Z wood case Recommended for Intermediate Players My Review: If you're looking for the best trombone to feel comfortable no matter which mouthpiece they choose to use. Designed by both Wycliffe Gordon and Andy Martin, The YSL-
891Z offers two interchangeable leadpipes, The NY leadpipe is longer and was developed by Wycliffe Gordon and the LA leadpipe that was designed by Andy Martin is shorter. You might be asking yourself "well that does that have to do with my playing?" Well, let's start with what is your leadpipe? The leadpipe is the first point of contact with the
player after the mouthpiece. It plays an important role in the overall sound and feel of the instrument. The Long NY leadpipe gives you a more centered sound and feel, the short LA leadpipe gives you a more open sound and feel. This allows the player to have a more comfortable fit for their mouthpiece and makes using multiple mouthpieces easier to
switch between. This makes the YSL-891Z perfect for jazz whether it be larger ensembles or small combo band work the horn fits perfectly due to its overall tonal flexibility. 14. Bach LT16M Stradivarius Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $2900 Key Bb Bore Size .495"/.509" dual bore Bell Diameter 7½" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide
Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide Material Nickel Chrome Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece Bach 7C Case C1867SA wood shell case Recommended for Intermediate Players My Review: The Bach LT16M model has the largest bore out of all of the small-bore trombones made by Bach, with its .509" bore it has the bore size as some of its competitors
large-bore horn but wish you had a comfortable small bore horn the LT16M might be perfect for you. 15. Bach 42BO Stradivarius (Best Professional Trombone) Shop on Sweetwater Check Amazon Price $3299 Key Bb/F Bore Size .547" Bell Diameter 8.5" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass Inner Slide
 Material Nickel Silver Finish Clear Lacquer Mouthpiece Open-Wrap Ball Bearing Rotor Linkage Case Bach 6.5A Recommended for Professionals My Review: The Bach 42BO Stradivarius Series F-Attachment Trombone is a best seller and the ideal instrument for advanced students and professional trombonists. An open wrap design results in fewer
Yamaha trombones do not sufficiently distinguish themselves tonally, caught in the center spectrum between the Conn 88H's richness and the Bach 42's clear boldness. Luckily, the Xeno 882O has a very open tone due to its larger bell and brightness of its sound. While it does not stand out quite as much compared to its competitors, it is a very open tone due to its larger bell and brightness of its sound.
reliable and well-playing trombone perfect for advanced and professional players alike. 17. Jupiter XO 1236L-O Check Amazon Price Estimated Price $3000 Key Bb/F Bore Size .547"/.563' Dual Bore Bell Diameter 8.5" Bell Material Yellow Brass Outer Slide Material Yellow Brass outer Slide Material Yellow Brass with Nickel Crook Inner Slide Material Nickel Silver Finish Clear
Lacquer Mouthpiece 6½ AL Case KC-46XC Recommended for Professionals My Review: Jupiter has been surprising me lately with not only tone quality but build quality as well. The XO 1236L-O is a very impressive and well playing horn that has an open wrap f-attachment rotor that makes this feeling extremely comfortable and smooth. Much like the
Yamaha 891Z mentioned prior in this section, the 1236L-O offers three separate, interchangeable lead pipes, two that are yellow brass and one that is sterling silver allowing players to have the comfort they need and lets them adjust their sound to give them what they are looking for. This is a really well-centered trombone that has a great weight to
its sound that can fit any situation you might find yourself in as a professional musician. Choosing a Trombone (Buying Guide) While this list can seem daunting to understand, I would like to add a few quick points to make this a little easier to understand for parents who might be buying for their children who may know very little about brass
instruments or even music in general, or even for the adult who might be starting their musical career later in life. Whene to Start: When buying a Trombone, there are many places to start is with the band director. When joining the
beginning band, most schools will usually have a night set aside for your student to try many different instruments to decide what would be the best fit for them and rental or financing options to find what best fits your family's financial needs. While this is great for some families, it does not work for everyone with Amazon and other music shops
online, offering lower prices. Go to your director and sit down with them and ask them what they would recommend for your child going into beginning band, what might be too much for them right now and what might be too cheap that will not work for the program. Now, if you are not a student, then where you should start? Also, a remarkably
simple solution, go to your local music shop and ask what they recommend. If you are just starting as a beginner, I would recommend taking lessons for a while to learn the basics correctly and not get to a point where you imbed bad habits. What to Avoid: When Buying a new trombone for a beginning student, there are many things you should avoid
to make sure they are getting a quality experience while learning a new skill. The first I can recommend is that you try to stay away from cheap mass-produced out of china. While they might look like a good horn and have an excellent price tag, they will often cause more headaches than they are worth. Most of these horns have a poor tone quality
and have very shoddy craftsmanship. Although these horns are not great for players, if it is the only way your family can afford an instrument, it is understandable to go that route. I would recommend that you do your research and check out every available option before making that purchase, such as rent to own programs that most music stores
have for beginning band students to alleviate the burden of buying it outright. Best Trombone Brands While there may be hundreds of playing a nightmare? Well, I have a go-to list of all the reputable brands I choose when I pick
out brass instruments. C.G. Conn: One of the oldest instrument brands on the market today. C.G. Conn has been in the instrument business since 1873 and has been all over the market, moving to the motorcycle business during world
war one, and then finally moving to brass and wind instruments in the 1970s. Yamaha instruments are of the highest quality. Bach: A Subsidiary of Conn, Vincent Bach is mostly known for their Stradivarius line of trumpets and trombones. Bach is one of the world leaders for their brass instruments in quality and sound. King: Like Bach, King is
another subsidiary of Conn, so you know you are getting quality out of your horn. Founded by Thomas King and Henderson White in 1894, these horns were an overnight success, and the company has kept its quality standards the same today. Jupiter: Jupiter was founded in 1979, making it one of the newest brands around. Jupiter remains dedicated
to the enrichment of lives through music performance and education by providing the highest quality of musical instrument was included on this list, most schools use Jupiter as their go-to brand because they are a wonderful quality student horn and have an outstanding line of intermediate and pro-
level trombones as well. Types of Trombones: When dealing with beginning players, they will mostly deal with tenor trombones as they go to intermediate models. Tenor Trombones with F-attachments or even bass trombones as they go to intermediate models.
it has the main slide and one tuning slide and, in the key, of Bb. differ F-Attachment Trombone: An F-attachment adds complexity and extends the trombone's capabilities. Most importantly, it adds notes to the horn's low range. It also provides alternative ways of playing specific passages, making them easier to perform. There are two basic types
 F-attachments. A traditional or standard wrap has more bends in it, making it more compact and increasing resistance. The open wrap type has fewer bends for a freer-blowing trombone. Again, resistance can be a matter of personal preference. The same mechanical ease that may be great for beginners might not appeal to more advanced musicians
seeking a specific sound. Bass Trombone: A bass trombone is a trombone with the same fundamental pitch as the tenor, typically has two valves, a wider bore, and a more massive bell. This helps a fuller, weightier sound and help play better in the lower register. This adds two triggers that change the key. These triggers can be dependent or
independent of one another. What Is Embouchure: The position of the lips and mouth when playing a wind instrument. The mouthpiece of a wind instrument, and the position of muscles, lips, jaws, and teeth necessary to hold that position. In French, this also means the mouthpiece itself
Parts of a Trombone Understanding Mouthpieces: All brass mouthpieces have different parts that make up the whole mouthpiece, and the rombone mouthpiece, and throat. The most important of these pieces are the rim and cup, but the
backbore and throat also play a massive part in your overall sound and tonality. Rim: The rim is the part of the mouthpiece that touches your mouth. Because the rim is the point of contact between the instrument, it is essential to describe how it affects the way you will play. Brass mouthpieces have either a flat or rounded contour. Flat contours
provide a good air seal but are not very flexible. In contrast, rounded contours give your lips flexibility and give more free movement to provide a greater variety of tone; the downside is that you need powerful lip muscles to play these well. Cup: Inside the rim, there is a cup. The cup is the area the player blows into. The larger and deeper the cup can
give players a darker tone with greater volume. A shallow cup offers player a much brighter tone, improves control, and does not require much effort to play through. The choice in cup size depends on player preference. Another vital thing to consider is that the cup's larger diameter will tire a player easier but offers more flexibility. While flexibility
is great, you want to look for a mouthpiece with a large diameter but still comfortable playing. Throat is often designed to
complement the cup, and the backbore design to achieve the right balance of tone and projection. Understanding Parts of The Trombone: The trombone is made up of many parts that might be hard to keep track of when discussing them in the article above. I will go over the central components to have a decent understanding when learning about
your instrument. The Bell: Since the bell is the largest part of the instrument and even the sound is produced, this is where sound waves emerge from the trombone, which is where sound waves emerge from the trombone, which is where sound is produced, this is where the sound is produced, this is where sound waves emerge from the trombone, which is where sound is produced, this is where sound is produced, this is where sound is produced. The Bumper: While the bumper contributes nothing in sound is produced.
or tonality, it does offer the player something in the way of protection. The bumper is a small rubber stopper that prevents the slide from hitting other things as it is being used. While the trombone's likelihood of coming into contact is still high, the bumper's sole purpose is to reduce the collision's impact due to the instrument's length. While the
bumper is there to help protect your trombone, the best defense is handling it with care and using common sense. The Counterweight is there to help trombonists balance the instrument while it is being played. While some
trombonists feel a counterweight should not be used, it does offer support for smaller children or those who are new to the instrument. Due to the extra mass, a counterweight should not be used, it does offer support for smaller children or those who are new to the instrument. Due to the extra mass, a counterweight should not be used, it does offer support for smaller children or those who are new to the instrument. Due to the extra mass, a counterweight tends to add a darker sound to the trombone.
These tuning slides can be moved with extraordinarily little pressure to make adjustments to tuning as needed. These should be lubricated from time to time with slide grease. The Main Slides are used to make micro-adjustments to tuning all used to make micro-adjustments to tuning all used to make micro-adjustments. The main tuning
slide is how the trombone changes pitch by moving the slide up and down, increasing and decreasing the tubing's length, and changing the pitch. The main tuning slide is made up of two separate pieces. The inner slide is what is used
to change the pitch. Much like the tuning slides, the main slide needs to be lubricated, but instead of slide grease, you will need to use a slide oil which is much thinner and will keep your slide from sticking. And while we have mentioned this a few times, keeping the main slide from damage is crucial. The biggest concern comes from the inner slide
you want to keep from dropping your trombone or smacking it into a wall, bending the inner slide is a time consuming and a costly repair. The Water Key: While it may be gross the think about, the water key, also lovingly referred to as the "Spit Valve," is used to release water built up in the instrument. While playing any brass instrument, it is not
uncommon for spit and condensation to build up within the main tuning slide, which has to be released. Otherwise, you will have a wet popping sound coming from your trombone you try to play. On the trombone, the water in with a key that lifts
the disc to release the water. Ensure that you keep the disc clean and it is keeping a good seal. If it does not, it will result in an air leak and poor tonal quality. Understanding Bore Sizes The diameter of a tube is referred to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to play, and the instrument which's resistance also affects thereof to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to play, and the instrument which's resistance also affects thereof to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the amount of breath required to as its "bore." The bore size changes the bore.
timbre. Trombone bores generally come in three sizes: small bore, medium bore, and large bore. Small-bore trombones produce a much brighter sound and great for playing delicately in the upper register. They are better suited for solo performances. Medium Bore: The medium bore trombone is relatively new and sits somewhere
between a large and small-bore. They fit much better for wind music that requires a full sound. Large Bore: Large bore trombones are much louder than small and medium bore and have a timbre that is well suited for harmonizing in an ensemble situation. They work well for players that play in large orchestras or wind ensembles. Needed
Accessories: When you get your trombone, there quite a number of accessories to keep your trombone working. Slide oil and Slide oil and seep in the main slide to keep it and seep it and 
moving, so it does not get stuck while you play. Slide grease is used the same way except that instead of using it on your main tuning slide, you will use it on the tuning slides on the back of the horn, keeping those from getting stuck. Brass Cleaning Cloth: A brass cleaning cloth is handy for cleaning off fingerprints and keep your trombone looking
shiny and new. Tuner: A tuner is necessary for all musicians; this handy little device is great for making sure you are playing in tune and is great to use while practicing. Metronome: A metronome, much like the tuner, is an essential tool for any musician. This handy little is used to help musicians practice playing at the correct tempo. While practicing
with a metronome, I would recommend starting slow and move the tempo up little by little. My go-to motto is, "don't practice until you get it right, practice until you get it right.
piece of advice I can give is to do as much research as possible for your trombone, especially if you are looking into buying a step-up model. Take the time to figure out what kinds of music you plan your play with the horn, watch reviews and listen to professionals play the trombone to give you an idea of what type of tone you can expect to have with
the trombone. If you are starting the beginning band, use your band director as a guide, it is what they are there to do, guide you in the right direction for a beginning trombone to start on. When you are ready to take that next step to an intermediate horn, they will be there for you as they are the best resource you have when starting your music
career. If you do happen to need any help with understanding any of the musical terminologies in this article, I have included a buyer's guide down below so that you can go into the buying process with confidence. Hopefully, you know what you are looking for and can make the right choice on your instrument. With that, I bid you good luck and happy
playing! My name is Chris and I've had a passion for music and guitars for as long as I can remember. I started this website with some of my friends who are musicians, music teachers, gear heads, and music enthusiasts so we could provide high-quality guitar since I was 13 years old and am an avid
A true passion of mine, I've designed, built, and repaired a wide range of guitar amps and electronics. Here at the Guitar Lobby, our aim is to share our passion for Music and gear with the rest of the music community. Did you know the trombone's story goes back more than 500 years? It started with the sackbut, a brass instrument in the 15th
century. Since then, the trombone has found its way into all kinds of music, from choirs to jazz. The trombone has a long and storied
history, dating back to its origins as the sackbut in the Renaissance era. The trombone's design and playing techniques have undergone significant advancements over the centuries, allowing it to become a versatile and indispensable instrument. The trombone has played a pivotal role in a wide range of musical traditions, from sacred and orchestra
works to jazz, rock, and beyond. Influential composers and musicians have played a crucial role in shaping the trombone's evolution and its place in the musical landscape. The trombone's enduring legacy is a testament to its adaptability and the instrument's ability to captivate and inspire audiences across generations. Origins of the Trombone: The
Sackbut The trombone starts from the sackbut, a special brass horn in the 15th century. Its name comes from French words meaning "to pull" and "to push". These words fit because the sackbut lets you slide to change notes. This made it unique back then. Etymology: The French Roots of "Sackbut" The sackbut lets you slide to change notes. This made it unique back then. Etymology: The French Roots of "Sackbut" The sackbut lets you slide to change notes. This made it unique back then.
special it is because you could pull and push it to make different notes. This special sliding helped make the trombone's special sound and ways to play. Renaissance Prominence: 15th to 17th Centuries From the 15th to the 17th centuries, the sackbut was really popular. It was key in church and other music. People loved its strong, flexible sound. It
was often used in choirs, bands, and even by armies. Composers used it a lot, too. Design and Construction of Early Sackbuts The sackbut was unique because of its slide. The sound helped shape the modern trombone. The Transition to the Modern
Trombone Over many centuries, the sackbut became the modern trombone. Key changes included the standardization of the slide, better tuning and pitch, and new bore and bell designs. These changes helped make the trombone what it is today, versatile and reliable. Standardization of Slide Positions The standard slide positions were a big step
forward for the trombone. Musicians and makers worked hard to set the slide's positions in a clear way. This made the trombones also got better at tuning and adjusting pitch. With new slide designs and valves, players could control pitch more
accurately. This allowed for better music expression and more complicated playing styles. Advancements in Bore and Bell Design Advances in bore and bell design were critical too. Makers tried different materials and shapes to improve sound and projection. Together with other improvements, the trombone was ready to shine in various music
genres, from classical to jazz. The history of the trombone in Sacred Music The trombone has been a big part of sacred music since the Renaissance. It helped support the tenor voices in church choirs. Back then, its rich tone blended well with other musical sounds, making hymns and other pieces more powerful. Trombone's Role in Choirs and
Ensembles In old churches, the trombone was key in groups called cori spezzati. These "divided choirs" mixed sounds of brass, woodwinds, and strings. This created beautiful, full sounds that filled the church. The trombone, with its ability to hold long notes, played a big part in these musical pieces. Earliest Notated Works Featuring Trombones From
the 15th to the 16th centuries, composers like Giovanni Gabrieli started using the trombone in sacred music. They found creative uses for the instrument in their pieces. The trombone has kept its place in sacred
music. Today, it's still a crucial part of ceremonies. Its use shows how much it's loved and respected in religious music over the years. Secular and Chamber Music with Trombones The trombone has been used in both sacred and secular music. It offered a special sound for dances and festivals. These were important in the Renaissance and Baroque
times. Courtly Dances and Town Festivities At aristocratic gatherings, trombone players were very important. They played for dances like the pavanes and galliards. The trombone brought joy to processions and parades. Its powerful sound joined others in bringing communities together. This
was part of life in the Renaissance and Baroque ages. Solo and Chamber Pieces for Trombone is not only for big events. It also shines in chamber music with smaller groups. Composers have written beautiful solos and ensemble pieces for it. These works let the trombone show off its special qualities. It could play with other brass, like
trumpets, or with strings. This showed its flexibility beyond just military use. The Trombone's Revival in the 19th century, the trombone composers. They showed the world what the trombone could do,
making it stand out in music groups. This led to a big interest in playing and listening to the trombone. One main person behind this change was the famous composer from Germany, Richard Wagner. His works, like "Der Ring des Nibelungen," made the trombone added deep feelings and a heroic touch to the music. Thanks to
Wagner, people saw the trombone in a new light. Another key player in the trombone's story was the celebrated composer from Italy, Giuseppe Verdi. In Verdi's operas, like "Aida," the trombone was a star. It brought out strong emotions and highlighted key moments in the stories. Verdi's works helped make the trombone more important in music
The love for the trombone grew stronger in the 19th century. And this love stayed strong, leading the trombone in the Modern Orchestra The journey of the trombone in today's orchestra started with key composers. These included
Beethoven in the 19th century. He popularized the trombone with its strong and emotional sound. This helped establish its key role. Beethoven's music, like the Ninth Symphony, showed the trombone with its strong and emotional sound. This helped establish its key role. Beethoven's music, like the Ninth Symphony, showed the trombone with its strong and emotional sound. This helped establish its key role.
composers to push its limits. Transition to Tenor and Bass Trombone was replaced by the tenor and bass versions. They offered a bigger, more varied sound that suited orchestras well. This change let trombone orchestras mix better with other brass
instruments, making the ensemble stronger. The Trombone in Military and Marching Bands The trombone is not only in orchestras, but it's also key in military and the military music love the trombone since ancient times. It perfectly
marches along with other brass instruments in bands. The bold notes of the trombone stand out in every parade or ceremony. Think of the stirring songs played by trombones in parades. These tunes lift the spirits of everyone around. The trombone truly shapes the powerful spirit of military and marching bands. The Rise of the Trombone in Jazz The
trombone is a key part of jazz music, standing out among brass instruments. It started in New Orleans bands and became famous for its solos. The trombone was vital in jazz's early days, offering a deep sound. It blended well with the
energetic trumpets and the band's rhythm. Its sliding feature helped create the smooth, soulful notes that set jazz apart. Notable Jazz Trombone Soloists Many great players have made the trombone shine in jazz history. Jack Teagarden, J.J. Johnson, Curtis Fuller, and Slide Hampton are just a few. They mixed bebop, modal jazz, and other styles to
expand the trombone's use. The Trombone in Modern Genres The trombone is not just for traditional music anymore. It stands out in rock, pop, and ska. This shows its power and influence across different genres. Rock and Pop Music In rock, pop, and ska. This shows its power and influence across different genres. Rock and Pop Music In rock and Pop Music
in pop hits. Artists like Bon Iver and Panic! at the Disco use it to make their music diverse and regae unforgettable tunes. Conclusion The
trombone has come far, from its start as the sackbut in the Renaissance to its key role in today's music. It shows how versatile and meaningful this instrument is, through the years. It has always been a big part of many musical styles, from sacred music to exciting jazz, rock, and more. The trombone began in the Renaissance, playing a major part in
choirs and ensembles. It rose again in the 19th century, helping shape the modern orchestra. It can switch easily between music types, showing its flexibility. This is due to the talents of trombone's impact is impressive. It's a symbol of innovation,
artistic expression, and the universal power of music. This journey continues to interest and motivate people in the music world. They have continued to evolve since their creation in the 15th century. When you think of a
trombone, you generally picture marching bands or the brass section of a large orchestra. However, this instrument is far more versatile and actually includes several different types. Some of these types are rarer than others, and many are special adaptations to improve range or fit specific functions. Here are 13 different types of trombones to watch
out for the next time you attend a performance. See Also: 14 Types of Saxophone models also include a Bb or D valve,
allowing for a decent tonal range. The alto trombone is smaller and lighter, resulting in a faster slide speed than the standard tenor trombone at first, since it's very similar to a straight
tenor. However, these trombones have a larger bell and bore, and weigh a heftier 20 to 22 pounds. It's sometimes referred to as a tenor-bass and is tuned to the key of Bb with valves that allow it to switch to D, E, of F keys. This trombone is popular in both symphonies and jazz bands, but is far more expensive than many other types, running $4,000 or
more for a proper two-valve model. A much cheaper single valve model is available for a quarter of the price, but with a greatly reduced range. 3. Cimbasso Trombone has a bent bell measuring 11-12 inches across, which tends to rest above the player's head like a tuba. This valve trombone has
three to six valves and is usually tuned to F, but may also be found in C and Eb. It's faster to play than the contrabass trombone without losing its counterpart's rich tones. This instrument was originally popular in opera compositions but is gaining a following among the jazz community. However, it has one of the highest price tags, ranging from
$5,000 to $10,000.4. Contrabass Trombone is big, deep, and rich-sounding. The bell itself measures a respectable 10-11 inches and was originally bent similarly to a tuba. They're sometimes able to match a tuba in tone and are mostly tuned to F, with some models being tuned to Bb or
C.Available in both single and double valve, some contrabass trombones may run between $2,500 and $5,000, although it's often possible to rent one. Read Also: Contrabass Clarinet (and 12 Other Types)5. FlugelboneSimilar in appearance to the flugelhorn, a
flugelbone (also known as a marching trombone) has a compact design that makes it easier to play on the go. They're usually tuned to Bb one full octave lower than a trumpet and uses a three-valve design instead of a slide. It's often used as a secondary instrument for trumpet players, much like the standard valve trombone but sounds a lot closer to a
standard tenor trombone. At $300 to $1,500, they're one of the cheapest types of trombone available. Piccolo Trombone available to the key of Bb and is one full octave above the alto trombone (or two full octaves above a straight tenor and 1/4 the
size). Used mostly for jazz, it's usually difficult for a trombone player to use and is more often played by a trumpeter. While cheap, this is a specialty instrument and very difficult to find outside of an online store or manufacturer's site. See Also: 19 Types of Flutes7. Plastic Trombone player to use and is more often played by a trumpeter. While cheap, this is a specialty instrument and very difficult to find outside of an online store or manufacturer's site.
is almost always a slide trombone tuned to Bb. They're incredibly cheap at $80 to $200, and are perfect for students who can't afford a straight tenor. The material also means it weight also makes it easier to train aspiring trombone players at a much younger
age than the heavier brass version would allow.8. Sackbut Every instrument has a forerunner, and the trombone's is a relic that first appeared in 1551 called a sackbut. This instrument was popular in choral or religious compositions, although it also gained some popularity in opera by 1800. It was very similar to a modern standard tenor trombone,
only it had a bell that was often four inches or less and included a telescoping slide. It's usually tuned to Bb, but has a far more limited range than modern trombones. The instrument is extremely rare today and is usually either special ordered directly from the manufacturer or jerry rigged from parts of other instruments. Modern sightings of this
instrument are almost exclusively found in live performances of baroque and medieval chamber music.9. Soprano Trombone as a slide coronet and is among the smallbell and bore, the soprano trombone family. Despite being largely replaced by the coronet, it remains a popular
instrument in both jazz and swing. It's usually tuned to Bb one full octave above the straight tenor trombone and was originally used to compliment sopranos in opera performances. They also tend to use a trumpet mouthpiece. While
inexpensive, the soprano trombone can be hard to find and may need to be special ordered. 10. Straight Tenor Trombone when you think of a trombone, this type only weights around 15 to 20 pounds and is used in a wide range of music
genres from jazz to rock and even reggae. There are seven different positions on the slide, each one decreasing the pitch by one semitone. It has a surprising upper range despite this fact, although only experienced players can bring out the instrument's full potential. The price ranges from $300 to $2,500 or more, making it also one of the more
affordable types for beginners.11. Superbone was invented for Maynard Fergusen in the 1970s and is mainly found in jazz circles. This trombone features a unique combination of slide and valves which allows it to be played as a slide, valve, or combination. It's one of the most difficult
trombones to master, but has a massive tonal range and is most often keyed to Bb. Due to their complexity, they must be purchased as a specialty item, but are surprisingly cheap, ranging from $900 to $2,000.12. Tenor Trombone with F AttachmentSometimes referred to as the Bb/F trombone, this variant of the straight tenor trombone has a special F
attachment (also called an F-rotor). This attachment adds up to an additional three feet, as well as a few extra pounds of weight. This mechanism drops the trombone is used in a wide range of music, including pop and opera. It's increased lower range makes it a great choice for those
graduating from the straight tenor. Depending on whether you choose a traditional wrap or open wrap design, the Bb/F tenor trombone will range between $500 and $3,000. See Also: Different Types of Bagpipes 13. Valve Trombone will range between $500 and $3,000. See Also: Different Types of the more unusual types of trombone will range between $500 and $3,000. See Also: Different Types of Bagpipes 13. Valve Trombone will range between $500 and $3,000. See Also: Different Types of Bagpipes 13. Valve Trombone will range between $500 and $3,000. See Also: Different Types of Bagpipes 13. Valve Trombone will range between $500 and $3,000. See Also: Different Types of Bagpipes 13. Valve Trombone will range between $500 and $500 an
tuned to a number of different keys, with Bb being the most popular. While they may come with anywhere from one to seven valves, the three-valve version is sometimes used as a secondary instrument for trumpet players in school bands. Used mainly in jazz and salsa, the valve trombone provides a much
higher playing speed at the cost of tonal richness. One will usually cost between $500 and $2,500. The trombones—along with trumpets, horns, and tubas—make up the main groups of the brass instrument family. The name "trombone" means large trumpet, and that is how they were conceived. The individual trombones that make up the group
include the slide trombones — soprano trombone, the alto, tenor, bass, and contrabass trombone are used in the contemporary orchestra, with the tenor being the most often used in jazz. Some slide trombones feature a valves or trigger
that lowers the pitch and add to the range. This is a different situation than the valve trombone, which has no slide. The tenor trombone may have both an F and an E or D valve. Trombones have either six or seven playing positions, specific
placements of the slide, at each of which several pitches are available. In sixth or seventh position, depending on the instrument, the slide is completely out. In addition, a number of pitches can be created at multiple positions, while some can be played only at one position. A passage in which a player moves mainly between adjacent positions will be
easier to play than one in which the player has to move between extreme positions. The trombone may be used as a solo instrument or provide harmony. Famous trombone solos are included in: John Cage's Solo for Sliding Trombone Leonard Bernstein's Elegy for Mippy II Gustav Mahler's Third Symphony Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Requiem
Christopher Rouse's Trombone Concerto Paul Creston's Fantasy for Trombone Tommy Dorsey's "I'm Getting Sentimental Over You" Alexandre Guilmant's Morceau Symphonique Igor Stravinsky's The Firebird Famous players include Christian Lindbergh, Alan Ralph, Bill Watrous, Joseph Alessi, Tito Puente, Tommy Dorsey, Frank Rosolino, Arthur
Pryor, Don Lusher, Nick Hudson, Denis Wick, J.J. Johnson, Ian Bousfield, and Glenn Miller. Other well-known players include Leroy Kenfield, August Mausebach, and Carl Hampe, Urbie Green, Kai Winding, Ronald Borror, Ralph Sauer, and Henry Charles Smith. The most famous reference to trombones may be the song "Seventy-Six Trombones" from
the musical The Music Man by Meredith Wilson. Musical Expert is dedicated to providing accurate and trustworthy information. We carefully select reputable sources and employ a rigorous fact-checking process to maintain the highest standards. To learn more about our commitment to accuracy, read our editorial process. By Mary Elizabeth
Passionate about reading, writing, and research, Mary Elizabeth is dedicated to correcting misinformation on the Internet. In addition to writing articles on art, literature, and music for Musical Expert, Mary works as a teacher, composer, and author who has written books, study guides, and teaching materials. Mary has also created music
composition content for Sibelius Software. She earned her B.A. from University of Chicago's writing program and an M.A. from the University of Vermont. Most people when they're asked to think of a trombone will probably picture a brass instrument with a slide. But, what people often don't know is that there is actually a family of trombones with
lots of different kinds! Like most instrument families, there are lots of different types of trombone, what they tend to be used for and where you might find them. The trombone family contains seven different sizes. However only three of these sizes
are regularly seen, and only two tend to be studied as a primary instrument. The sizes are listed below, from large to small: Contrabass Trombone Bass trombone and the tenor trombone are the main two sizes, and nearly all trombonists will
specialise on one of these instruments. Of the two, the tenor trombone is the most popular with most people referring to this one when talking about the 'trombone'. Bass trombonists will sometimes 'double' (play as an auxiliary instrument) on the contrabass trombone. Similarly, tenor trombonists may double on the alto trombone. The soprano
trombone will occasionally be played by trombonists, but it is more common for this instrument to be player. This is also true for the sopranino and piccolo trombones. Trumpet players play these instruments because they are more familiar with the mouthpiece size. Below we will look at each of the trombone sizes in turn. These instruments because they are more familiar with the mouthpiece size.
'comfortable' register of each instrument will be described (these are the notes that can be played easily), although this register ultimately depends on the skill of the performer. The lowest note available has been included in brackets, because this is
theoretically undetermined. The Tenor Trombone is the most common type of trombone, pitched in Bb.It comes in two main variations, with and without an F attachment allows the instrument to play lower and use fewer long positions. The tenor trombone is used in many different
ensembles, including orchestras, big bands, pop groups, and jazz combos. The tenor trombone is also used as a solo instrument, especially within the context of jazz music. Have a listen to two different styles of tenor trombone playing below: 'If You Were The Only Girl In The World' by Bill Watrous & Carl Fontana Tuba Mirum' by Mozart The bass
trombone is the second largest, and second most common type of trombone. The Bass Trombone is like the tenor trombone also
has a bigger bell, a bigger mouthpiece, and a larger bore size. These modifications make the sound darker and richer in the low register, but less precise and clear in the higher register. The first valve transposes the instrument into F and is identical to the F attachment on the tenor trombone (see below). The second valve can either transpose to Gb
(the most common configuration) or G.If you engage both valves at the same time this transposes the instrument to Db and D respectively. The second valve can only be used in combination with the F attachment (as they are connected in series). If the system is
independent, the second valve can be used without the F attachment. Bass trombone solo in this recording: Martin van den Berg - 'Saturday Night' The lowest sounding member of the trombone family is the Contrabass Trombone
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which is also the largest member. It has been produced in different keys throughout history, although the common contemporary instrument is pitched in F, a perfect fourth lower than the tenor trombone. As the contrabass trombone is low in pitch, it has a very long length of tubing. The length end slide is limited to five or six positions, so two rotary valves are used to access the missing notes. These rotary valves transpose the instrument by increasing the length of the tubing. Occasionally, you might come across an even lower contrabass trombone with a doubled slide. This instrument is usually pitched in Bb (an octave below the tenor/bass trombone), and the slide is effectively twice as long allowing for twice as many shorter positions: The contrabass trombone is occasionally used in the orchestra, requiring a fourth player to join the trombone section. Here it is primarily used harmonically rather than melodically, adding depth to the brass sound. The contrabass trombone was first used orchestrally in Wagner's Ring Cycle; have a listen to this video below where the contrabass trombone is compared with its smaller counterpart, the bass trombone: Das Rheingold' by Richard WagnerThe Alto Trombone is a fourth higher than the tenor trombone, in the key of Eb.It has a smaller bell and bore size, proportional to the reduced tube length. The pedal notes are often hard

to play on the alto trombone, and although the instrument is smaller, the high notes are not significantly easier to play than on the tenor trombone is therefore not primarily used to simply play high notes, and is rather used for its brighter, nimbler tone. Some alto trombones have a rotary valve that transposes the instrument down into Bb (like the tenor trombone). This allows the instrument to play lower and avoids the long positions. Alto trombone part in the classical era, so we often use the alto trombone for composers like Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. Some later composers use the alto trombone because they prefer the tone of the instrument, for example, there is an additional alto trombone can also be used as a solo instrument, have a listen to this album of alto trombone concerti: Albrechtsberger, Wagenseil, L. Mozart & M. Haydn - 'Trombone Concerti'The Soprano Trombone is in the key of Bb, but an octave higher than the tenor trombone. It is at the same pitch as the trumpet, hence why it is normally played by trumpet players. Often the soprano is used as a humorous novelty, or by trumpeters who want to employ glissando (sliding between pitches). Very occasionally, the instrument will be used as the top voice in a trombone choir (a group of trombone splaying together). It is debatable whether this instrument was ever used historically. The soprano trombone is notoriously difficult to play in tune, as the slide positions are so small. Skip to 2:50 in this video to see Wycliffe Gordon (a jazz trombonist) play the soprano trombone to great effect: Wycliffe Gordon - 'Swing That Music'These trombones are even smaller than the soprano trombone is essentially a gimmick, and very limited as an instrument. It is very shrill (the bell is uncomfortably close to your ears), and the slide is so small that playing in tune is virtually impossible. Due to the ratio of the slide, many notes are simply impossible to play. The variants of the trombone are still used today in performance. Historical instruments are often described as Romantic trombones and Classical trombones, and they are subtly different to modern instruments in their construction. These instruments are rarely played and used by ensembles with an interest in historical authenticity. A Contra-Bass Sackbut (CC BY-SA 4.0) Another, earlier musical period, we call the instrument used a sackbut. The historical sackbut is significantly different to the modern trombone and is commonly used in contemporary performances of Renaissance repertoire. Here performers will typically use replicas of historical sackbut is best described as having a more vocal sound than the modern trombone due to its smaller bore size which therefore makes a brighter sound. The bell is less flared than the modern trombone, making it quieter. Sometimes the bell to resonate more freely. The metal is often not lacquered which also may aid resonance. The mouthpiece usually has a flat rim, which can make playing a little bit uncomfortable at first. Modern sackbut replicas often include user-friendly features that were not historically available, such as water keys, bumpers, and braces. Sackbut replicas often include user-friendly feature is useful to contemporary Renaissance performers, who often must play in different pitches (for example A = 415Hz is often used as opposed to the standard A = 440Hz). Sackbuts are all common and frequently used. The slide trumpet was the predecessor of the sackbut, however, this name can also refer to the modern soprano trombone (see above). We will now consider some instruments that are either variants of the trombone, or similar enough to the trombone that trombone the trombone of a slide. It is similar to a tuba, although it has a cylindrical, rather than conical bore shape. The cimbasso was used primarily by the Italian opera composer Giuseppe Verdi, who wanted an alternative to the tuba (some say that Verdi disliked the tuba because it reminded him of his rival Richard Wagner). The cimbasso sounds similar to a trombone and is, therefore, more integrated into the trombone section. As its name would suggest, the Valve Trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. Like the slide trombone with piston or rotary valves (like a trumpet) rather than a slide. valve system. Verdi had the valve trombone in mind for some of his operas, and some trumpet virtuosos (especially Jazz players) use the instrument. The Superbone is a hybrid instrument, having both valves and a slide. This instrument was famously used by the jazz musician Maynard Ferguson. The Euphonium is not a type of trombone. However, it has been included in this list because it is sometimes played by trombonists in the orchestra. Euphoniums have piston valves and a conical bore and are best described as a member of the tuba family and are used extensively in brass band music. In the orchestra, the euphonium is often referred to as a Tenor Tuba, and it has the same pitch as the tenor trombone. The euphonium has a warmer and less direct sound than the trombone. Examples of orchestral pieces that use the euphonium include Gustav Holst's The Planets. In this article, we gave an overview of the different sizes of the trombone, its historical ancestors, and some other instruments that trombonists should be aware of. Hopefully, this has been of use to those curious about the different types of trombones out there! Lots of different variants of the trombone have existed throughout history and knowing a little about these can help inform your performance. Some of the less common trombone sizes are also becoming increasingly relevant; many modern film scores call for the contrabass trombone and the alto trombone is becoming increasingly popular within the orchestra. Approach these different sizes with caution, each size requires learning a whole new set of slide positions for the muscle memory. This takes time and you can expect to play very out of tune at first!