

Eckroth Music Recommends Beginner Instruments Using 3 Simple Steps

1. View each student's teeth, chin and lips
2. Based on the student's physical features, assign three numbers using the examples below.
3. Use the corresponding numbers below to recommend an instrument.

TEETH:

- 1 = Even
- 2 = Uneven

1



CHIN:

- 3 = Large (round or square)
- 4 = Pointed

4



LIPS:

- 5 = Full or large
- 6 = Medium
- 7 = Thin

5



1,3,5: Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba

1,3,6: Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium

1,3,7: Trumpet, Horn, Flute

1,4,5: Clarinet, Saxophone, Flute

1,4,6: Clarinet, Flute

1,4,7: Trumpet, Horn, Flute

2,3,5: Clarinet, Saxophone

2,3,6: Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe

2,3,7: Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe

2,4,5: Clarinet, Saxophone

2,4,6: Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe

2,4,7: Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe

Helpful things to consider...

FLUTE

- Straight/even teeth (NO overbites!)
- Medium to full lips (bottom lip "cushion")
Good distance from nose to top lip
- No Bow/V in top lip
- No double-jointed fingers (longer = good)

CLARINET

- Feel/make "flat" chin
- No thin bottom lip
- No protruding top teeth or sharp/jagged bottom teeth
- Longer fingers = good

SAXOPHONE

- Same as clarinet but can have uneven teeth

TRUMPET

- Straight/even teeth (no under bite)
- Pointed chin
- Thin to medium lips (top lip = good color)
- Check three fingers of right hand for dexterity

HORN

- Straight/even teeth
- Thin to medium lips (more thin)
- Good sense of pitch

LOW BRASS

- Even teeth less critical
- Large chin (round/square)
- Bigger chest cavity
- Medium to full lips (tuba = full)
- Good distance from nose to top lip
- Arm length for trombone
- Longer torso (tuba)

