

Band Instruments – Reliable Brands to Buy

(2019 update | created by Bradley Mariska and crowdsourced by BDG)

Just like any product, there are good musical instruments and others that might not be worth the investment. If you are in the market for a new or used instrument, please consult this list (and look, you have LOTS of options!). Please email a band director if you find an instrument that is not on this list, as there may be other good instruments out there. With new instruments, you usually get what you pay for. With used instruments, you can sometimes find a name brand instrument as cheap as the 'generic' equivalent. But unlike the grocery store, 'generic' musical instruments very seldom measure up to the name brand equivalent. This is for many reasons:

- 1) Instruments made by companies listed below have a history of producing quality instruments. Generally speaking, they are designed and built by expert craftsmen. (Though always consult with a director before purchasing - in some situations only a certain model or vintage of an instrument brand may be recommended)
- 2) Instruments from these companies use/used quality materials. The instruments are more reliable, have a longer lifespan, and parts are easily repaired and replaced if a problem develops. (Note: several of the manufacturers listed below no longer exist and instruments may not be available as new, but are still in circulation)
- 3) Because they are crafted by experts and designed with quality materials, students can produce a quality sound more easily.
- 4) Repair technicians keep parts in stock for these instruments. These companies use standardized parts and materials that a repair technician can fix. Low-quality instruments use parts that aren't compatible - don't buy an instrument that cannot be repaired! It's a waste of money. Also, low-quality instruments are sometimes made of sub-standard metal that is either very soft or extremely brittle and repair techs often won't work on them.
- 5) Just because an instrument is shiny, it doesn't mean it will work well. Also, just because an instrument is cheap, it doesn't necessarily mean you're "getting a deal." You're better off saving your money and investing in a better instrument down the road or talking to a director to find a quality used instrument.
- 6) Even from the brands listed below, some models are better than others ... or sometimes a vintage (used) instrument is actually better than the new ones. So...
- 7) **ALWAYS CONTACT A DIRECTOR BEFORE BUYING – WE'RE HAPPY TO HELP, NO MATTER WHAT YOUR BUDGET!**

WOODWINDS				
Flute	Oboe	Bassoon	Clarinet	Saxophone
Altus	A. Laubin	Adler	Artley	Andreas Eastman
Armstrong	Buffet	Amati	Backun	Antigua Winds
Artley	Bulgheroni	Fox	Buffet	Buescher
Azumi	Cabart	Kohlert	Bundy	Buffet
Brio	Fox	Moennig	Cannonball	Bundy
Burkart	Fossati	Moosmann	Giardinelli	Cannonball
Bundy	Howarth	Puchner	Jupiter	Chateau
Cannonball	Jupiter	Renard	Leblanc/Bliss	Conn
Di Zhao	Marigaux	Schreiber	Martin Freres	Jupiter
Gemeinhardt	MCW	Walter	Noblet	Keilwerth
Haynes	Loree	Wolf	Normandy	Kessler
Emerson	Patricola	Yamaha	Patricola	King
Jupiter	Renard		Ridenour	Olds
Miyazawa	Selmer		Rossi	Phil Barone
Muramatsu	Yamaha		Selmer	P. Mauriat
Pearl			Vito	Sax Dakota
Powell			Yamaha	Selmer
Quantz				TM
Resona				Trevor James
Sankyo				Vito
Sonare				Yamaha
Trevor James				Yanagisawa

For a list of stencil instrument brands, please consult this document:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZTazfdqpQnoSC8-vrPiKTL4wG6wuAAOdWyN9mESOH0s/edit?usp=sharing>

Yamaha Vito				
BRASS				
<u>Trumpet</u>	<u>F Horn</u>	<u>Trombone</u>	<u>Euphonium/Tuba</u>	
Adams Atkinson B & S BAC Bach Benge Blessing Bundy Cannonball Conn Dynasty Eastman Fides Getzen Holton John Packer Jupiter Kanstul King Monette Olds Reynolds Schilke Shires Smith Watkins Sonare Stomvi XO Yamaha York	Alexander Bach Brasswind Cervený Conn Dieter Otto Eastman E. Schmidt Finke Hans Hoyer Holton Jupiter Kanstul King Lawson Mack Brass Paxman Reynolds Vento Yamaha York	Antoine Courtois B & S BAC Bach Benge Besson Bundy Conn Eastman Edwards Emerson Fides Getzen Holton John Packer Jupiter Kanstul King Mack Brass Olds Rath Reynolds Schilke Shires XO Yamaha	Adams B & S Bach Besson Cervený Conn Eastman Hirsbrunner Holton John Packer Jupiter Kanstul King Mack Brass Meinl Weston Miraphone/Mirafone Olds Perantucci Rudolph Meinl St. Petersburg TubaExchange Wessex Willson XO Yamaha	
PERCUSSION AND RHYTHM SECTION				
<u>Keyboard Percussion</u>	<u>Auxiliary Percussion</u>	<u>Concert Snare Drums</u>	<u>Drumsets</u>	<u>Guitar and Electric Bass</u>
Adams Bergerault Coe Mallettech Majestic Marimba One Musser Yamaha	Alan Abel Black Swamp Grover LP Meinl Ron Vaughn Treeworks	Black Swamp George Way Grover Ludwig Majestic Pearl Yamaha <u>Marching Snare Drums</u> Ludwig Mapex Pearl	Adams DW Gretsch Ludwig Mapex PDP (Pacific) Pearl Premier Slingerland Sonor Tama Yamaha	Archer Epiphone ESP Fender Gibson Ibanez Jackson Martin PDP Schechter Taylor Warwick Yamaha

		System Blue Tama Yamaha		
--	--	-------------------------------	--	--