

Band Instrument and Supply List

Here is a link for [Ray's Midbell Music](#) in Sioux City and one for [Midwest Music Center](#) in Norfolk. Both stores are familiar with the method book (Sound Innovations) we use and equipment/instruments. If possible, students should have an instrument, method book, oil/grease, and some cleaning supplies for the band. Please let me know if you have any questions. I will answer them to the best of my ability or I will find the answer for you.

As a parent, investing in your child's music education means choosing a good quality musical instrument. I know those "bargain" instruments you see online or at discount stores can be tempting, but trust me, they aren't really a deal. More often than not, the low price comes from poor craftsmanship and cheap materials. These instruments tend to break easily and can be hard, or even impossible, to fix. Plus, they often won't play in tune and the sound quality is usually lacking.

It's really tough to see your child's excitement for music fade because of an instrument that holds them back. A low-quality instrument can also mess with the overall sound of the band, making it less enjoyable for everyone. That's why I want to share this list of recommended band instrument brands and accessories with you. Over the years, I've found these brands to be durable, easy to repair, and they really give your child the best chance to shine as a young musician. (And just so you know, the brands aren't in any specific order.)

If the instrument you are considering is not listed here, ask the seller for the instrument specifications and consult with me before you rent or buy.

Flute

Armstrong
Gemeinhardt
Jupiter
Yamaha

Accessories: swab, cleaning rod, polishing cloth (opt.)

Clarinet

Buffet
Jupiter
Leblanc
Selmer
Yamaha

Accessories: Hite Premiere mouthpiece, swab, cork grease

Saxophone

Jupiter
Selmer
Yamaha

Accessories: swab, cork grease, neck strap

Trumpet

Jupiter
Selmer/Bach
Yamaha

Accessories: Bach 7C mouthpiece, slide grease, valve oil, mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth & cleaning snake (opt.)

French horn

Bach
Conn
Holton
Yamaha

Accessories: Bach 7S, Schilke 30, or standard 11 mouthpiece, slide grease, rotary valve oil, polishing cloth (opt.)

Trombone

Bach
Conn
Jupiter
King
Yamaha

Accessories: Bach 6 ½ AL mouthpiece, slide grease, slide cream, mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth (opt.)

Baritone Horn

Bach
Jupiter
Yamaha

Accessories: Bach 6 ½ AL mouthpiece, slide grease, slide cream, mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth (opt.)

Tuba

Bach
Yamaha

Accessories: slide grease, valve oil, mouthpiece brush, (Please purchase mouthpiece if using a school tuba)

Percussion

Drum pad (with a stand for the pad)
Vic Firth EP2 (contains stick bag, snare sticks, timpani stick, and two types of mallet. Ray's Midbell have other options other than Vic Firth)

Reed Strength by Grade:

5th - Reed strength 2

6th - Reed strength 2.5 or 3

7th/8th - Reed strength 3

9th-12th – 3.5 Orange Box for Marching, 3 or 3+ D'addario Resere or 3.5 Rico Royal for Concert

**Flip Folder (and lyres if clarinet/saxophone) are required for marching
for marching (5th/6th do not march)**

Flutes - DEG Flutist's Friend Flute Lyre

Woodwind Mouthpiece, Ligature, and Reed Recommendations

Clarinet:

Beginner

- **Reeds:** Rico Mitchell Lurie 2.5 or 3
- **Mouthpiece:** Clark W Fobes Debut
- **Ligature:** Standard or Bonade inverted

****UPGRADE** (Grades 7-12, when ready) to:

- **Reeds:**
 - D'Addario Reserve Classic 3, 3.5, 3.5+
 - Legere Signature Series 2.5, 2.75, 3, 3.25 (for Bass Clarinet)
 - Vandoren V12, strength 3 or 3.5
- **Mouthpiece:**
 - Vandoren M13 Lyre or 5RV Lyre
 - D'Addario Reserve Mouthpiece
 - Upper level Fobes mouthpiece
- **Ligature:**
 - Bonade Inverted
 - Vandoren M/O any style
 - Vandoren Optimum

- Selmer Concept
- **Ligature:**
 - Vandoren M/O any style
 - Vandoren Optimum
 - Rovner Versa or Mark III
 - Rico H
 - BG Duo (about \$140)

JAZZ: Any above ligatures will do the job

- **Reeds:**
 - Legere "American Cut" 2.5, 2.75, 3
 - Vandoren ZZ or Vandoren V16, strength 2-3
- **Mouthpiece:**
 - D'Addario Select Jazz 6
 - Vandoren V16 (6M)
 - Vandoren JAVA (A45)
 - Meyer Hard Rubber
- **Jazz Bari Sax Mouthpiece:** Rico Royal Graftonite (B5) (\$25!!) Awesome mouthpiece and now they make one for all saxes. It's a powerhouse for jazz. Not good for concert band.

Saxophone:

Beginner

- **Reeds:** Rico Frederick Hemke 2.5 or 3 (ct:5)
- **Mouthpiece:** Fobes Debut or Yamaha 4C (*Bari Sax: Yamaha 5C*)
- **Ligature:** Standard or Bonade Inverted

****UPGRADE** (Grades 7-12, when ready) to:

- **Reeds:**
 - D'Addario Reserve 3, 3+, 3.5
 - Legere "Signature Series" 2.5, 2.75, 3 (for Tenor & Bari)
 - Vandoren Blue Box, 3 or 3.5
- **Mouthpiece:**
 - Rousseau New Classic NC4 (classic and round chamber 'RC')
 - Vandoren Optimum AL3
 - Selmer "Larry Teal" S80 C*

REED STORAGE: D'Addario Woodwinds Multi-Instrument Reed Storage Case with Humidity Control Pack

Brass Supplies

Trumpet:

- **Valve Oil:** Al Cass
- **Tuning Slide Grease:** Selmer Tuning slide and cork grease or similar
- **Mouthpiece:**
 - **Beginner:** 7C
 - **Upgrade:** Bach 3C

French Horn:

- **Mouthpiece:**
 - **Beginner:** Bach 7
 - **Upgrade:** Bach 4G
- **Slide Oil:**
 - Hetman Rotary Valve
 - Holton Rotary Valve

Trombone:

- **Slide Oil:** Super Slick Kit
- **Mouthpiece:**
 - **Beginner:** Bach 12C
 - **Upgrade:** Bach 4G or 5G

Euphonium/Baritone:

- **Valve Oil:** Al Cass
- **Tuning Slide Grease:** Selmer Tuning slide and cork grease or similar
- **Mouthpiece:**
 - **Beginner:** Bach 12C
 - **Upgrade:** Bach 4G or 5G

Tuba:

- **Mouthpiece:**
 - **Beginner:** Bach 32E
 - **Upgrade:** Bach 18, 12, 7

Percussion

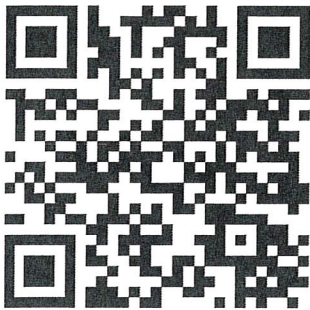
Vic Firth EP2 - Includes stick bag, SD2 Bolero drumsticks, M3 Medium Keyboard Mallets, M6 1" Hard Phenolic Mallets, and T3 Timpani Mallets. If taken care of, these should all last well into high school.

Links to supplies:

Ray's Midbell Music (Sioux City)



Midwest Music Center (Norfolk)



Flute Flip Folder



Grover Trophy Folder



Trombone Flip Folder



Trumpet Flip Folder



Lyres and Flip Folders



Reeds



Valve Oils



Cleaning Kits



Rotary Oils



Vic Firth EP2 Stick Pack



Cork Grease and cleaning for woodwinds



Slide Grease

