

Acquiring an Instrument - Renting and Purchasing

1. Not all instruments are equal; look for name brands. A quality instrument is an important factor in your child's success. Common name brands: Bach, Besson, Blessing, Bundy, Cannonball, Conn, Evette, Gemeinhardt, Getzen, Holton, Jupiter, King, Reynolds, Selmer, Vito and Yamaha. CB700, Ludwig, Pearl, and Vic Firth for percussion. **If in doubt, ask me BEFORE paying!**
2. Both new and used name brand instruments can be rented from local music stores. Rates from one store to the next should be within a few dollars of each other.
3. When renting a flute, make sure it comes with a cleaning / tuning rod.
4. Brass instruments should not have large dents, and all valves and slides must work smoothly. Valve oil is a must for valved instruments. "Trombotine" cream is required for trombones.
5. Most dealers offer insurance to cover loss, damage, and theft. Insurance is highly recommended. It should already be included in the rental cost; if not, the additional charge is minimal. **Ask: *Does the insurance plan cover all repairs? Is there a deductible?***
6. Does the rental account build equity? Does 100% of your rental fee apply and for how long? Is equity applied toward purchase of a new instrument? What is the purchase price?
7. What services are offered? (loaners during repair, delivery to school, discount on accessories etc.)
8. For a list of required supplies, please see the "[Required Supplies and Accessories](#)" pdf on our website www.bandrox.com
9. If you prefer to buy an instrument, please purchase from a qualified music dealer as opposed to a department, discount, or warehouse store. Try to avoid online auction sites. A new, good quality band instrument will typically cost over \$500. A used instrument will often need repair to bring it to good playing condition. *Used instruments should be taken to a local repair shop for appraisal before purchasing.* Please remember the old saying, "**You get what you pay for.**"
10. **Do not buy colored instruments!** These are made to entice students to play but are of lesser craftsmanship, producing inferior tone quality, inaccurate pitch and frequent repairs. They will cause your child unnecessary difficulty and stress and will not be allowed on our concerts.
11. Estimated monthly costs to rent an instrument (inc. tax and insurance, prices vary):

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| Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone | Economy \$20 | Used \$25 | New \$35 |
| Alto Saxophone | Economy \$35 | Used \$40 | New \$50 |
| French Horn | Economy \$40 | Used \$45 | |
| Baritone/Euphonium | Economy \$45 | Used \$50 | |
| Tenor Saxophone | Economy \$50 | Used \$55 | |
| Bass Clarinet | | Used \$60 | |