

Beginning Band Instrument Choices Wester Middle School Wildcat Band

Choosing an instrument is easy. Just come to the beginner drive and try them all. Many of you already have an instrument in mind. We are excited about that and hope that we can make that work out for you. Check out the different instrument choices. You may realize that there is something different you would like to try.



Flute - Very popular instrument. Plays some of the highest notes in the band and mainly a melodic instrument. Sound is produced by blowing air over a tone hole. It is helpful to have longer fingers. Students that have a tear-drop lip will probably have difficulty producing a sound on the flute.



Oboe - To produce a sound, a student must put the reed in their mouth and blow to cause it to vibrate. The Oboe is a more challenging instrument to play, so students will be required to be involved in private lessons. Oboe players are not afraid to perform by themselves.

School owned instrument.



Clarinet - Another extremely popular instrument. Wester usually starts 20 + clarinets every year. The Clarinet is extremely versatile and plays many melodic and harmonic parts. Children with a pronounced under bite will have difficulty playing the Clarinet.



Bassoon - The Bassoon is a low sounding woodwind instrument that is a lot of fun to play. Like the Oboe, the bassoon requires private lessons due to the fact that it is one of the more challenging instruments to play.

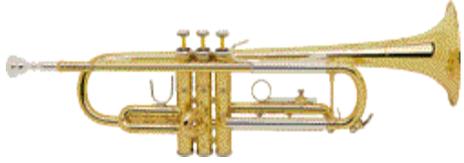
School owned instrument.



Alto Saxophone - This is an extremely popular instrument. The sax is a very versatile instrument that can play in many different genres. There is a cap on the number of students that will be in the saxophone class due to the high interest in the instrument.

Sign up for an appointment at www.westerwildcatband.com.

The beginner band instrument carnivals are on Feb. 5th and 9th in the Wester Middle School Cafeteria



Trumpet - An extremely popular instrument. It is mainly a melodic instrument. If you like to play loud, this is a great instrument for you. Trumpet players love to play out strong and be the center of attention.



French Horn - This instrument is a beautiful instrument that plays some wonderful music (Jurassic Park, Star Wars, Indiana Jones...) It is an instrument that requires that the student have a good musical ear. Students playing the French Horn are studious and hard working kids.

School Owned Instrument



Trombone - The trombone is a fun instrument that doesn't use valves, but uses a slide to change notes. Trombone players love to have fun and joke around. The trombone also requires that you have a good musical ear.



Euphonium - The Euphonium is an instrument that is unique to the band. It is a beautiful instrument that sounds like a trombone, but has a more mellow sound. Euphonium players are very proud of their instrument and really enjoy playing the music that they get to play.

School Owned Instrument



Tuba - The tuba is the foundation of the band. The size of the tuba makes it a challenge for a smaller child to play, but when it comes to practicing there is no problem. All tuba players get to have a tuba at home and a tuba at school.

School Owned Instrument



Percussion— Percussion class encompasses many different instruments, but percussionists in the beginning band practice on a drum pad and a practice marimba. Percussionists must be able to keep a steady beat and be willing to learn more than one instrument. Percussionists also need to be confident students who are not afraid to play as a soloist most of the time.