

Cello



The cello is a bowed string instrument with four strings. It is the second biggest member of the violin family. A person who plays the cello is called a cellist. Cellos have been around for a very long time, and the cellos that we play today were first made in the 16th century (around the time when Leonardo da Vinci painted Mona Lisa!).

The body of the cello is made out of wood and the strings are made of steel. The bow of the cello is also made of wood and has a ribbon of horsehair. Cellos come in many different sizes, and young cellists begin on a smaller version so it's not too big to carry or get your arms around!

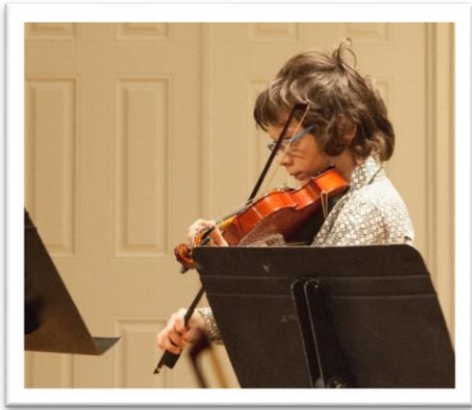


Cellists get to sit in a chair when they play, and allow the cello to rest on its endpin (like a leg). The cellist takes the bow and slides the horsehair across the steel strings, making a deep sound! The sound of the cello has been described as the closest instrument to the male human voice!

Here are some examples of the many things a cello can do on the SMP Cello Playlist!

<http://bit.do/SMPCello>

Viola



The viola is a stringed instrument with four strings that you've probably seen before in bands or orchestras! It is a middle-pitched member of the violin family, so it is between a violin and a cello in sound. A person who plays the viola is called a violist, and like many instruments they can either be played by themselves or in an orchestra.

The viola requires two very important parts; the body and the bow. The body of the violin is made out of wood with steel for the strings, and the bow is made out of wood with a ribbon of horsehair connected at both ends.



When a violist plays their instrument, they place the end of the viola on their shoulder and slide the horsehair bow across the steel strings of the viola. Like the cello or the violin, young violists start on a smaller viola and as they grow up they will move on to the next size viola until they are ready to play on a full sized viola.

Here are some examples of the many things a viola can do on the SMP Viola Playlist:
<http://bit.do/SMPViola>

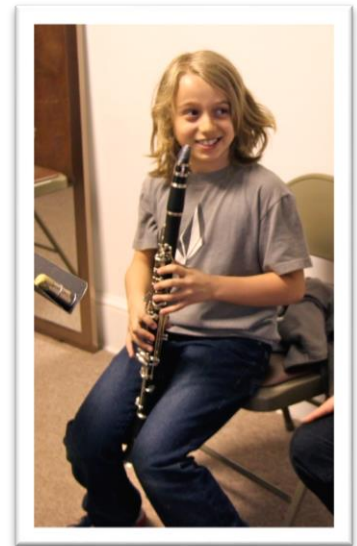
Clarinet



The clarinet is member of the woodwind instrument family, meaning it makes a sound when the player blows air through a reed or mouthpiece to make sound. A person who plays the clarinet is called a clarinetist, and they are usually found in bands and orchestras, or as soloists. The clarinet that we play today was created in the 18th century, and is in the same family as the recorder, which you may have played in school.

Clarinet bodies can be made from either wood or resin with keys and buttons made out of metal. The clarinet can be taken apart into four separate pieces! Clarinets are typically black and are held in the clarinetist's two hands, with the bottom of the clarinet pointing towards the floor.

The mouthpiece of the clarinet only works when a reed, which is a thin piece of cane, is attached to the mouthpiece. The clarinet is played when the clarinetist puts the mouthpiece in their mouth and presses the reed against their lower lip, and then blows into the mouthpiece.



Here are some examples of the many things a clarinet can do on the SMP Clarinet Playlist:

<http://bit.do/SMPClarinet>

Flute



The flute is a member of the woodwind instrument family. The flute comes in many different styles and shapes, but the most common flute is the western concert flute. A person who plays the flute is called a flutist. Flutes are an important instrument in both the orchestra and the band, and can also be played solo. The flute is often made of brass that has been coated with silver (and only 100 years ago they used to be made mostly out of wood!).

The flutist holds the flute in two hands, and it is held upright and off to the side. The flute is made up of three pieces that are joined together by the flutist when they are ready to play.



Many people think that the flutist blows into the flute in order to make a sound—but this is not true! The flute is played by blowing a stream of air over the mouthpiece, much like when someone blows air across a bottle to make a horn-like sound. In order to change the pitch of the instrument, the flutist presses down or opens up the keys that cover circular holes.

Here are some examples of the many things a flute can do on the SMP Flute Playlist:
<http://bit.do/SMPFlute>

Violin

The violin is a stringed instrument with four strings that you've probably seen before in bands or orchestras! It is the highest-pitched member of the violin family, and it has been in existence for over 600 years! A person who plays the violin is called a violinist, and like many instruments they can either be played by themselves or in an orchestra.



The violin requires two very important parts: the body and the bow. The body of the violin is made out of wood with steel for the strings, and the bow is made out of wood with a ribbon of horsehair connected at both ends.

When a violinist plays their instrument, they place the end of the violin on their shoulder and slide the horsehair bow across the steel strings of the violin. Like the cello and viola, young violinists start on a smaller violin and as they grow up they will move on to the next size violin until they are ready to play on a full sized violin.



Here are some examples of the many things a violin can do on the SMP Violin Playlist:
<http://bit.do/SMPViolinTBMS>