



All About Brass

The Brassketeers

All About Brass



The instruments of the brass family get their names from the type of metal they are made from. Brass is a shiny golden metal and makes beautiful instruments.

Each brass instrument is made from lengths of brass tubing that are coiled round and round many times.

Brass instruments make their sound when the player blows through a mouthpiece. Players 'buzz' their lips as they blow, and this is what produces the musical sound we hear.

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French horn



Trombone



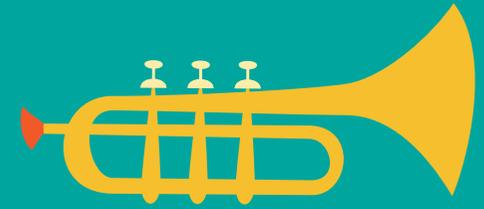
Trumpet

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Trumpet

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The **trumpet** is one of the smallest brass instruments.

It is made from 6½ feet of brass tubing (that's almost 2m, or 200cm) coiled around in a sort of oblong shape.

Trumpet players use little valves to change the pitch of the note – that just means how high or low the note sounds.

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valves

mouthpiece

bell

tubing

Trumpet

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Trombone



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The **trombone** is a really fun instrument.

It is made from 9 feet of brass tubing (that's about $2\frac{3}{4}$ m, or 275cm) coiled around in a similar way to the trumpet but with one very obvious difference...

Instead of valves the **trombone** has a long loop of tubing called a slide. The player uses this slide to change the pitch of the note they are playing – and it can make some very funny noises!

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tubing

slide

bell

mouthpiece



Trombone

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French horn



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The **French horn** is also made from long lengths of narrow brass tubing, but this time the shape is circular.

Do you think it looks like any sort of animal?

The **French horn** has valves, like the trumpet, but they are flat and at the side of the instrument. A **French horn** has 12 feet of brass tubing. That's about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m, or 350cm.



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French horn

mouthpiece

valves

tubing

bell





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