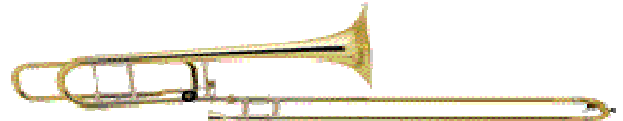
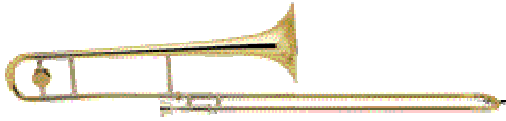




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Tips to Buying a Step-up or Professional Trombone

When buying a step-up instrument, parents must consider whether their child is mature enough to appreciate and care for the instrument. By purchasing a professional trombone for their kids, parents are showing their commitment in support of their child and their musical pursuits. Although it is next to impossible for kids at this age to really commit to anything, a new horn, in essence, is the child's commitment to continue playing throughout high school and hopefully college and beyond.

At this stage of a student's development, a step-up horn might not produce any immediate noticeable differences in tone quality, range, flexibility, etc., but the quality of sound and ease of playing (characteristics of higher-quality instruments) will become apparent in the long run.

TYPES OF TROMBONES

There are three major types: straight tenor, trigger-type tenor (also referred to as F-rotor or F-attachment), and bass trombones. The straight trombone is the simplest in design and has no tubing inside the main section. The F-rotor trombone has extra tubing within the main loop. This makes the horn longer, changing its tuning from Bb to F. The bass trombone is a larger bore version of the F-rotor trombone that adds a second rotor to extend its low-end even further. Typically, students start with a straight tenor trombone and later graduate to a horn with the F-rotor. If you don't use the trigger, the F-rotor horn plays exactly the same as a straight trombone. You can wait to learn the F-rotor when you're ready. On the other hand, for many applications, even advanced players stay with a straight trombone.

Large bore, small bore

The bore of a trombone is the inner diameter of the inner slide and is expressed in thousandths of an inch. The range is from about .481" (for students) to .547" (for symphonic use), on up to .562" (for bass trombone). Smaller bore horns have a brighter, more focused sound; while larger bore horns tend toward a darker or warmer and bigger sound. Bore size also effects a horn's resistance or back pressure. A smaller bore creates more resistance, a larger bore less. More resistance is usually better for student players because it makes it easier to support a tone. Amount of resistance is also a matter of taste. Some players prefer more resistance, some less.

Intermediate players may want a medium or larger bore instrument for a fuller and potentially more forceful sound, but this isn't a hard and fast rule. Symphonic trombonists tend to use the larger bore trombones typically around .547" bore.

The F-rotor factor

An F-rotor adds complexity and extends the trombone's capabilities. Most importantly it adds notes to the horn's low range. It also provides alternative ways of playing certain passages, making them easier.

There are two basic types of F-rotor. A traditional or standard wrap has more bends in it which makes it more compact but also increases resistance. The open wrap type has fewer bends for a freer-blowing trombone.

Bell Material

Trombone bells can be made of yellow brass, red brass, or gold. Yellow brass is most common. The other metals color the sound in subtle ways. Gold brass is warmer and red warmer yet.

Interested in stepping up.....?

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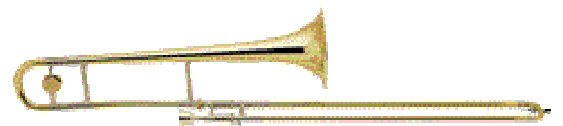
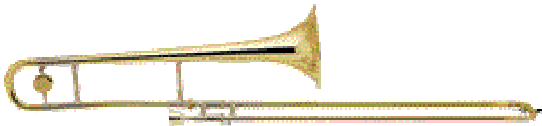
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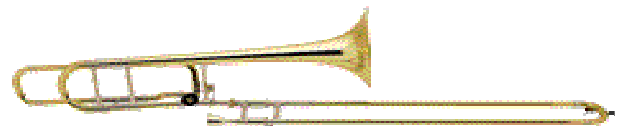
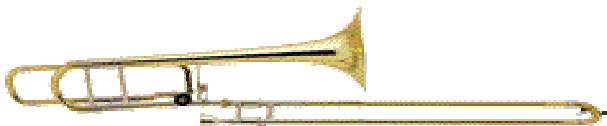


STEP-UP (Intermediate Level)

Jupiter	536L	Yellow Bell, light weight Nickel slide .525 bore	List \$ 1,675.00	Sale \$1,149.00
Bach	TB200B	Inter Bach, .525 bore, 2pc Yellow Bell w/F	List \$ 2,225.00	Sale \$1,399.00
Yamaha	YSL-446G	.525 bore, 8 ½” Gold Brass 2 pc Bell w/F	List \$ 2,097.00	Sale \$1,499.00
Yamaha	YSL-448G	.547 bore, 8 ½” Gold Brass 2 pc Bell w/F	List \$ 2,097.00	Sale \$1,499.00

PERFORMANCE (Professional Level)

King	2102L	“Legend” 2B .491 bore, 7 3/8” Bell	List \$ 2,820.00	Sale \$1,699.00
Conn	88HO	.547 bore, 8 ½” Rose Bell, Open Wrap w/F	List \$ 3,480.00	Sale \$2,089.00
Bach	36B	Strad model, .525 bore 8” yellow Brass Bell w/F	List \$ 3,835.00	Sale \$2,499.00
Bach	36BO	Same as 36B but with Open wrap	List \$ 3,835.00	Sale \$2,499.00
Bach	42B	Strad model, .547 bore 8” yellow Brass Bell w/F	List \$ 3,835.00	Sale \$2,499.00
Bach	42B0	Same as 42B but with Open Wrap	List \$ 3,835.00	Sale \$2,499.00
Jupiter	1236L-T	.547 bore, Yellow Bell, Thayer Valve	List \$ 4,105.00	Sale \$2,499.00



THE STEP-UP ADVANTAGE

*Gerry's Music is a family owned business specializing in student, intermediate and professional band instruments. We dedicate ourselves to providing the best in quality and service. We pride ourselves on our attention to detail and take extra care to make certain that our customers are happy. Through our efforts, we focus on creating a long-term relationship with our customers. We are committed to helping families make music and service their needs. This is why we are so proud of **THE STEP-UP ADVANTAGE.***