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Theory of marching band (Theoretical)

About the artist

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About the piece



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Ninos S Gerasimos "Theory of marching band"
Free edition - 2012

Ninos S Gerasimos

Theory of marching band



2012

Ninos S Gerasimos

Military marching band theory

The research of various authors, publications and various work on the instrumentation of military bands, can be applied to all types of the species band. The details of this instrumentation, at times the existing institutions, and various officials, determine the final result for the final version of a military band. So the arrangements should take care to cover all the parameters, so the band, regardless of the circumstances and traditions, to be functional and able to perform the pieces with no deficiencies.

Below is the way in which the reader will be able to recognize and understand the various organs of the military band, and understand, the different function of each instrument separately in total.

I wondered how to approach the issue and to accomplish the best result, I thought to present as a typical example, a modern British military band and show all the current use of organs by analyzing the operation of each individual.

A small British band, divided into two groups, consisting of twelve people each, and the composition of each group is as follows:

1) Piccolo and flute, oboe, six or seven clarinets, bassoon and saxophone group. This will be the group of woodwind instruments. It should be emphasized that in a march, the oboe and bassoon in lost in the group because of their low intensity compared with other organs. So most times are good, these institutions, to use them to redouble their performers of percussion instruments of the band.

Including wooden the flutes and the saxophones, although made of metal.

2) The second group is composed of brass instruments. This group consists of: two French horns, four or five trumpets, three trombones, euphonium and two somersaults. Also we must bear in mind, our subgroup of percussion. Many times, the smaller bands are likely the executors of horns, trumpets play second.

In brass instruments, the sound produced by blowing, the valve means is that as a separate component of each institution.

Included in snare drum, the bass drum, the cymbals, the glockenspiel, the xylophone, etc.

Regarding the military band, I repeat that there are no absolute rules as to the operation of arranged and final form.

Flute

The flute (flageolet) is a cylindrical tube about 67-68 cm length with head plate drilling and improved key remote cover holes.

The current flute is the result of improvements and refinements of the first half of the 19th century by Th. Boehm (1794-1881). The original wooden instrument that, constructed some time even ivory and glass. From the early 20th century the flageolet made of metal (folding modern flute), and some models are silver or gold!

Divided into three sections:

1. The head: Covers 1/3 the length of the body, conical and has rounded on the side of an opening to mount on the lips.
2. The middle section: it is a cylindrical tube with holes and the opening and closing mechanisms for the production of phonemes.
3. The leg or foot: it is a small tube that has the equipment to produce more low sounds of the instrument.

There are several sizes of flutes and the band, there are entire rows consisting of flutes and drums, and is very popular, especially in Britain.

The piccolo is a small flute with the same technique and the same function. The difference between these two instruments, is that the piccolo plays an octave above the flute, and thus extends the melodic band upwards. The keys were added in the last century so that they can comfortably play all scales and so with three fingers to qualify four or more holes to be produced with ease all the voices.

Previously, the piccolo and flutes were made of wood. From the battle of Waterloo and later replaced the wooden flute from the metal.

The small flageolet divided into 2 parts, is half as long as that of normal, playing an octave above him and the sound is sharp and shrill. The keys and the caps have the same layout as the regular flute, so the band usually played by one of two or three flutist.

As revealed by the Greek name of the institution flageolet, the shooter supports the body to the side with his right thumb, leaving the other fingers free to manipulate the mechanism of keys and special way with blows into the mouthpiece on the side of the head. The executors of the above bodies, during parades, put on their left arm, a document holder which is usually tied with a belt, and contains several tracks that run during the parade.

Because the flute is an instrument with a sweet sound, can not distinguish sound than if you perform high voices, so the band parade, it is advisable to use the piccolo and flute to use it more for concerts indoors. We must keep in mind know that the flute, always dub the clarinet Eb (Quartino) to enhance the melody that runs the instrument.

Oboe.

Wooden aerophones with a double reed mouthpiece. It comes from the ancient Greek flute, Roman and Asian timp zournas. The name oboe comes from the French word «hautbois», which means "high-wood" or "strong-wood." In the Middle Ages was mainly used by shepherds, until I finally recognized in orchestras in France in 1657 as a key instrument.

The oboe was constructed and used in French bands around 1660 and after a few years in England. Initially, the oboe was 6 +1 holes and 2 plugs. From the early 19th century, the oboe has improved in the German area and equipped with new plugs and levers. Today the oboe has 18 keys and 4 holes. Its length is 60 cm. The sound is expressive with a melancholy tinge. It is quite difficult to handle, as we need a strong blast of air to pass from the thin capsule. The tuning of an orchestra is primarily playing the note LA (440IZ) from the oboe. The musician, to play, places a special way mouthpiece (reed) in his mouth and blows. It keeps the body supporting it with his right thumb, while the other fingers operate the mechanism. Six of the holes open and close directly with the fingers of the performer and the other with keys.

Since 1678, the band of the Grenadier contained six such instruments in the composition. In 1684 a royal decree, were added to each 12 oboe band marches and so these institutions were strong in the basic strength of the British band. And this instrument, in the few keys that had been added even more, after the battle of Waterloo.

The bands of 1800, usually consisted of two oboes, two clarinets, two horns and bassoon two. From 19th century onwards, French and German instrument maker, created several institutions with final destination the band and this contributed to further development.

The oboe is not an easy instrument, and that is why there are not many performers of the bands. That is why most of the military bands fail today, even in their instrumentation. The instrument has accepted many changes, so it has now become a sweet sound, and not sound so tough now, but heard two centuries ago.

A slightly larger instrument, is the English horn, which in essence is the lowest form of tonal Oboe. The name has nothing to do with England, but nor is there anything to do with the horn, so you should never confuse the instrument based on its name. The big bands use it indoors, mainly in concerts, which delivers the sad and somehow, the most serious melodies.

Sarousophone

In 1856, The M. Sarous, created this family of wind instruments, consisting of eight different members, which include the full extent of the band. These institutions were created to replace the oboe and bassoon in the French bands, since the sound was much louder sarousophone than that of the oboe and bassoon's. They had double-reed mouthpiece, and were made of metal. In the process, however, replaced by saxophones that proved most effective.

Clarinet

The clarinet, including an entire family of instruments, from the highest tone (Eb) to the lowest which is the bass clarinet. The most common instrument used in the band, the clarinet is Bb.

This woodwind, whose name derives from the Latin clarus and has a single reed mouthpiece. The acoustic tube has a cylindrical body piercing and "breaks" at the top and down tube, plus the mouthpiece, the cabana and a removable connector to set the tone. The clarinet has a cylindrical upper and lower conical punch, which affects the creation of harmonic tones. In the upper tube are the keys to the left, the down tube for the right hand.

The first clarinets were built around 1700 by J.Ch.Denner in Nuremberg, initially with little plugs, probably from a folk instrument called in French «chalumeau», from the Greek Reed. By the time the caps were increased and improved the sound of the clarinet major. In France in 1839 built on a model in which incorporated the mechanism devised by Boehm for the flageolet. This version of the instrument spread to France and England.

The clarinets and if necessary for the band, though the English did not often use it in their bands in parades.

It is worth to note that in modern instrumentation, the clarinet family of widely used and gives a more modern sound to the band.

Still, we should bear in mind that a cornet is always stronger, so we should have more clarinets to balance the components of these organs, which form the core of the band, and one designated as the 'violins of the band '.

A band of 24 musicians, should have six or seven clarinets Bb, so that there is balance.

The clarinet Eb (Quartino) is a smaller instrument, used largely to double lots of flutes, the sound of acid produced. The lowest alto and the bass is not as widespread, and occur occasionally in concerts and more enclosed spaces

Saxophone

The name of the institution, from T. Adolph Sax of Belgium, who invented the new organ in Paris in 1846, obtaining a patent. Created specifically for the military band, to bridge the gap that had developed between wood and brass instruments, and based on numerous improvements were made to last. The new body was essential to be able to produce a louder sound than standard wood, but it is not much difference in their style. As a result, created an instrument with the same mouthpiece clarinet, mounted on a curved metal instrument.

The family of saxophones, in principle, included only two items, one for orchestra and one for the band, but never went there first and the result was to use the same instrument and the orchestra and band. Today there are seven different types of saxophone, although the most acid and the bass is rare ..

In a band of 24 musicians, there must be at least two alto and a tenor saxophone.

The baritone saxophone, a frequent member of the larger band, but the bass saxophones that are large and cumbersome extinct. The French bands have included the new body straight in their power, and later the British but ultimately the most use. The saxophone, in all sizes, is a very strong body, and fills the gap between wood and copper very effectively. The saxophone usually plays the counter melodies with the bassoon or emphonium and dub also plays the melodies of other organs.

Bassoon

The bassoon is a wooden instrument woofer with a double reed and a very large tube reaches approximately 2.60 meters. Due to the length of the bassoon is "folded" so that o downlink (side) and the ascending tube (bass) are next to and joined with the bottom (base) is a tube-shaped U. The bore of the tube is close to the bassoon and slightly conical. The side tube is placed a coil on the end and clamped double reed. The instrument is held sideways, next to the body so that the tip of the coil with the tab to enter the mouth nearly horizontal. The bassoon has holes that are controlled by the fingers, as well as openings equipped with plugs and a complex device drivers.

Manufacturing and usually two types of apparatus:

- The German (Heckel) is the most widespread, with 5 open holes and 24 plugs.
Advantage is the "round" sound.
- The French (Buffet) with 6 open holes and 22 plugs.

The name of the institution from both parties are to me and basically it is a sheaf. The

Germans and the Italians call the bassoon because it looks like a package or a bundle of sticks. Keeps the 16th century.

The sound is quite unique, but not strong enough, so that in a parade to be lost in total. That is why sometimes the executor of the institution, including the strengthening of the drums in parades.

In a concert, the band consists of 24 musicians, there will be a bassoon, and two major bands. Performs bass and baritone parts, and sometimes only play the bass parts, when we want something to run exclusively on wood. It fought on opposite melodies in major issues and adds small words at the end of a line when not moving any other body.

Trumpet

The trumpet is an instrument of real military band, although it can be played with the band, but rather is used to generate more fanfare in harmony. Manufactured from copper or brass can be plated and highly decorated. The 4 ½ feet of tubing coiled in oval shape and result in a xn. the bell. Hunters came from Germany, and later brought to light infantry regiments and Rifle.

Unfortunately, the instrument can only give five notes. However, it is strong and bright. It is a simple and robust instrument tuned to Bb and has been used in the Crimean War.

There are only trumpets and drums bands, but as we said above, the notes of trumpets limited to five and so I assume the main role of the drums

French horn

The French horn is a circular "wrapped" brass wind instrument with mostly conical bore of the tube, small diameters length (mensur), an enlarged bell and three valves.
Use a funnel-shaped mouthpiece.

Horn with a circular "wrap" out of the pipe already in the 14th century illustrations. But probably these organs to be suitable only for transmission of audio messages. By the mid 17th century in France presented the hunting horn (horn, cor de chasse) with small diameters in length, widening and extension of the bell of the pipe up to 4.5 meters.

The French horn came from hunting in France, just as the trumpets came from Germany. . The horn entered the orchestra and band in the 17th century and the technique soon completed in full. Being the longest and narrowest tube of the trumpet, could perform more notes and was more friendly.

By 1764, it was impossible to play at all scales and this only made by replacing the transmitter body, which helped to change the tone. .

The apparatus is held in his right hand from the bell, and with the left handle of the instrument valves.

The mouthpiece is more tapered than the other mouthpieces of brass instruments.

Generally the body is thin and only the bell is great. This gives the horn, the particularly sophisticated sound, which varies from sweet and soft to loud and aggressive. For the French horn performers as having a direct relationship with the trombone and trumpet players.

A small band, contains a pair of horns, while the larger have three. Fill the middle harmony, and combine the sound of brass and wood, keeping the consistency of sound. As an institution, is excellent for solo parts.

The horn on top, facing the same problem with the trumpets. That is, there was a big limitation on the notes that could be fruitful. Thus, through the ideas generated to refine the instrument, and included the French horn, with the addition of three valves and acquired its present form in 1825.

Cornet

The cornet used by the old years, because it was always from the official musical instrument of all armies and beyond. With the cornet announced orders, religious processions were held, there were attacks etc.

In Germany, the tube was used only to serve the emperor. .

The notes could be produced was limited, especially in the lower octave, but a long oval eight-foot tube, could yield the same notes in an octave higher. The Bach and Handel, were those who first used the instrument in the orchestra of the 18th century, which gave the name 'clarinet'. During the 19th century, the instrument was amended by changing the length and in the tonality Bb. Also then. were added and three valves.

This is the modern trumpet used in orchestras and jazz .. There appears regularly in British military bands and brass bands at all in general. The cornet is used instead.

There are currently various tubes in a British military use.

There is a cornet cavalry of the Royal Artillery and Royal Air Force. It is tuned to Eb and coiled to give an overall length of 26in. the instrument. There is also the cornet of the cavalry, which has fewer spirals and is longer than the tube mentioned above. This type of tube is wound in A. Both types of tubes can also carry a banner hanging when used in ceremonies.

The tubes are also used by the bands.

Superficially resemble the old straight cornets with banners hanging from the bottom, but valves and coils. It is tuned to Eb and Vb. These tubes are called 'Aida trumpets'.

The German cornet in orchestras and bands, has some differences with the other.

There are various valves and pipe has larger dimensions coiled in a spiral wider than the British and the French cornets. Held horizontally and never vertically as in Britain and France.

Cornet, trumpet and flugelhorn.

Trumpets called, generally, the brass of a mostly cylindrical tube, in contrast with the main tube of conical horn. In particular we call the soprano trumpet brass wind instrument which has a tapered cylindrical tube has a relatively small bell and three valves. The trumpet mouthpiece has a shallow container and form a sound sharp and bright, with high harmonics. The instrument is held by a slight tilt to the left hand while the right handles the valves.

The melodic line of the British brass military band, always takes the cornet Vb. The cornet, the trumpet, the flugelhorn and orchestral trumpet, is of the same family and this indicates the existence of a pipe about 4ft. 6in. long for all three instruments. The "cornet" indicates "lower horn". Created in the 19th century and included everything from the three valves. The flugelhorn came from Austria.

The mouthpiece of the tube is more the shape of the cup and that of flugelhorn is more conical than that of cornets if we compare them with each other. In appearance, leaf roll the tube is longer and the tube is narrower than the tube of the cornets. The flugelhorn is larger and has the valves closest to the mouthpiece so that it can be easier to handle and three valves from the performer.

Is the sound of the same flugel cornets and this gives a distinctive mellow tone and encourage the use of brass in the orchestra. Also often used in places with dramatic solo style.

Regarding the difference between the cornets and trumpets Vb Bb, by Philip Bate on page 87, issue of "trumpet and trombone," says that "the tone of cornets, while it is warm and appealing when played, it lacks the heroic quality of true trumpet. " . I Harry Mortimer in his autobiography, says that Sir Hamilton Harty when he asked the conductor of the orchestra to get the cornet and trumpet in a side room of the Manchester club, and play a song six times, the jury expert orchestral heard and no one could tell when correctly used the cornet and when the trumpet. Most were wrong every time. The quality of tone and style depends on the technique and the desire of the performer rather than small physical differences between the institutions.

A military band of 24 musicians, contains four or five trumpets in two or three parts. They share the main melody with clarinets and play well by themselves as opposed to wood. There is not the flugelhorn in the British military bands, although used in the rest of the country. Almost all bodies of the Italian band Bersaglien, is the type of flugel.

There is also a small tuned to Eb cornet, and the purpose is to enhance the high voices in parts of cornets. But not used in military bands.

Baritone Eb & Bb

With the invention and then the development of valve bodies in the last century, many people invented many new instruments. The Adolphe Sax invented the saxophone in 1840, while he gave his name and a number of brass, which he called the 'saxhorns'.

It was just one of many manufacturers.

This category consists of two rows of bodies, but one managed and resisted. Both categories of saxhorns, containing valves between the shape of this old trumpet and French horn.

Today, the British, particularly through the company Bloosey and Hawkes, established as a leading manufacturer of such instruments. The largest organ of the class, and bass are placed over the shoulder of the performer.

Operate and these organs, with three piston valves on the right hand and the larger sizes can operate a valve compensation is handled by the left hand.

In the process, created various types of valves to operate the instrument comfortably and can be placed in the left shoulder. The bells have been adapted in different directions, some forward, some to the left, and some backward. The names were and are equally numerous and therefore there is always confusion. Is it really necessary to clarify, since Eb Bb is a country to another.

Baritone Eb, is a vast body which came from the trumpet, the cornet and French horn.

His sound is similar to the cornet in particular the flugelhorn, but with most althorn.

There stands the audio band, while other organs perform their melodic parts, though this body can not overtake them, they usually used to supplement harmony. It is much easier and lighter than the French horn and can perform exactly the same places with very similar connotations. . Therefore, we can easily use a couple of the specific organ.

The British military bands do not use it, but generally in different bands, there are three to complete the harmony.

The American firm Conn, has created a kind of institution that has the same shape as the horn, and called Mellophone.

The baritone Bb is tuned an octave below the cornet. It is similar to the ratios Eb baritone, but is slightly larger in size. It is essentially a "completion" of the body and very rarely has the melody part. Almost always used in counter melodies, counter to those that yield initial melodic instruments.

Trombone

This is mainly cylindrical body with perforation, valve and form a shallow container and part (slide) that slip by pushing in the direction of organist grip. With this movement grows or shrinks the length of the tube is obtained and the characteristic sound of the trombone while the length ranges from 2.5 to 4 meters. This body is therefore the only wind instrument that produces all the tones of the sound area. From the technical description that the trombone is a peculiar variant of the trumpet. Probably created around 1450 in the Burgundy region of a trumpet with changing tube length. In the 16th century trombones were made in 5 different areas of audio, high up bass. From the late 18th century established the orchestra in a trio of trombone: an alto, a tenor and a bass trombone.

For the trombone there are reports from 1551, stating that it was almost like a body today, but with less bell to several differences in the tube. He was very popular in the processional ceremonies of the church.

The Germans have a special appreciation to the instrument, as it is to motivate the days of the crisis of the trombone as mentioned in the Bible. There he says to the Corinthians, chapter 15, verse 52, "the trumpet will sound, the dead will be increased incorruptible," the translation of Luther explains that "it will sound the trombone." Therefore Handel wrote a wonderful trumpet theme to go with these words, and the Brahms "German Requiem" has a chorus trombone.

In the 18th century, the trombone has almost disappeared and resets the Handel in 1784, the festivities of the palace, with the participation of performers trombone in military band Majesty.

The trombone is an instrument and if tuned to the tone of the piano, called Bb and the tube has a size of about nine feet and has two bends.

The internal diameter is less than half an inch. The bell, grows quickly as a trumpet. The sides are parallel so that one can slide to slide up and down to change the length of the tube and produce the notes through the seven seats that can take the slide.

During the 19th century until the second world war, the British also used a different kind of trombone, with a handle that allowed the performer to reach the seventh position. Today there is a valve that serves this purpose. There is also a special holder which is mounted on the tube near the mouthpiece so the shooter can place the pieces. The mouthpiece is quite deep and tapered.

But there are different types of trombones, with added three valves like other brass instruments in the band. This way is much easier to run the institution, especially for musicians who ride on horses, a trombone and a hose would cause panic in the animal, since the slide going back and forth over the head of the horse.

The trombones are the only wind instruments, which must be used, always a combination of three, within the band, and generally of all musical ensembles .. The various parts are written in harmonious lines. These instruments have a magnificent sound and can be sweet when needed. Also, when added together the French horn, then the sound is bright and splendid, distinguishing features from the rest of the band.

Euphonium

The euphonium name comes from the Greek language and means 'sweet sound'. The Americans and Canadians call it baritone and give us a little confused as to the name of the instrument. The tube has a length of nine feet, and coiled into an oval shape with a bell attached upward or forward. It has three valves that handle with your right hand and still has a compensation valve handle with your left hand.

Finally we should note that the family of brass starts from the smallest Eb, followed by the larger Bb, and the next is even more euphonium. The family is completed by the tuba is the largest instrument.

The euphonium, took the bass role of the band or get the main counter melodies in collaboration with baritone Bb, just like moving the cello in the orchestra. The bassoon and baritone or tenor saxophones, can enhance the contrast in these melodic parts.

Tuba and sousaphone

The tuba is the most woofier bronze wind instrument, although the bass trombone can give even lower sounds. Instrument is bulky and difficult to hold, is wrapping up front, especially conical punch and heightened grand opening bell.

The mound in its current form began around 1835 as an instrument for military bands. Later used in the orchestra, which supplanted the bass horn and other instruments baritones of his time.

Since the valves were developed for easy implementation of the brass, so I deep organs replace the secondary organs such as snake instr etc.. Initially, they gave a better and more powerful sound and the other was stronger institutions. Now create instruments that can produce sounds lower than euphoniums and trombones, giving the basis of harmony.

Bands in Britain, there are two sizes mound. The less that is tuned to Eb, and a larger volume and lower tuning which is Bb. Both have larger valves. The handle flips with three valves on the right hand and maybe a valve to compensate for the left hand.

The long tube length up to thirty six feet.

The mounds, sometimes called the bass and because their role in the band.

The Bombarntin is another sort of mound. Is the name used in the orchestra, when used as a fourth member of the choir, trombone.

In British bands used by the bell flips adjusted upwards. There are also black, white or brown bags to protect the instrument from damage fortunes.

In German bands, the mounds are used, have the custom bell above the left shoulder. The company Stowasser has a circular mound in Vienna, worn around the body and performer based in the left shoulder with the bell above and in front of the head. This mound was named "Helicon".

The Conn of America, created a similar institution in 1898, the director of the U.S. Navy Band, John Philip Sousa (1854-1932). Sousaphone is known and can exist apart from bell metal, and fiberglass bell 26in ..

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A military band of 24 musicians, contains two somersaults and a big band will contain four, two of whom two Eb and Bb. They always play the bass line and specifically the Bb play an octave lower.

Characteristics of the military band

The military band, is an instrumental group, permanent military personnel, performing the music of the various tasks of the military service of any country in which sleevelets.

A typical military band consists mostly of wind and percussion instruments. The conductor of the band, usually bearing the title of Bandmaster and almost everything is different person than the commander of the band.

It is speculated that the oldest military bands were the Ottoman, whose existence dates from the 13th century.

The military band should be possessed of discipline and have a commanding presence in appearances in parades. Also in her repertoire, including the marches, the national anthem and patriotic songs of the country, and anything else necessary. He plays the position but also in the parade.

Military bands also play a notable role in military funeral ceremonies.

There are two traditional types of military historians band.

The first is traditional military band. This type of music includes the fallopian tubes (or other natural instruments such as natural trumpets or natural horns), bagpipes, or piccolos and almost all of the drums. This type of band used to elevate the morale of the troops on the battlefield, as well as for their entertainment. After development of wind instruments such as trumpet or family saxhorns and flugelhorns, formed a second type of band that included almost all the new institutions and the woodwinds.

The term "military band" is not however limited only to the events of military formations, nor necessarily imply that the whole is a wind orchestra conducted only parades.

The correct sense is that when we refer to the military band, we mean a military ensemble, which includes wood and brass and percussion, and a feature musical complement to the large military formations.

You still have to emphasize, that there are famfares, consisting of all the band instruments, other than wood. You should understand that they are different types band together and not confuse them.

Also, there is a substantial difference between "military band parade" and "concert band" (or "symphonic band").

The symphonic band can perform the songs that the band plays on the parades but greater number of performers and holds a larger repertoire (mostly civilian), including all orchestral instruments, arranged for this band.

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The oldest British military band is the band of the Royal Artillery, which has the peculiarity of the musicians have a dual role, having the ability to perform two wind instruments, each musician.

This band appeared in the year 1557 at the Battle of ST Quentin, and formalized as regular military band in 1762. Ranking is the highest band of the British army. An unusual detail courtesy of the band, is that all musicians, flying sword. The swords of a custom that has its roots in the first award by the Duke of Kent, who was the father of Queen Victoria.

When is playing all the military bands joined a big band, this artillery, positioned right in total, and opposite that of the Cavalry and Grenadier.

In the United Kingdom, united military bands appear in «trooping the color», an annual ritual that takes place every June, in honor of the celebrations of the Queen's birthday. The united military bands played a large role in this ceremony.

The military band, and then the band in general, there is a hierarchy on the formation and the final position occupied by each institution within the band, so to balance the overall sound output.

So should the cornets with acute bell sound and looking forward, to put behind euphoniums with lower frequencies and the bell facing upward, so that sounds balanced both organs from afar. Also the trombones should not have been an obstacle in front of them, to allow the performers to play comfortably.

The wood should be at one end of the band, not the 'choke' the other institutions. With that in mind should be placed at the beginning or end of the band, to be able to distinguish the most delicate and weak sound, relative to the strongest bronze.

So with these thoughts, we present below, the position put each instrument in the British band.

General formation

This is the formation used by the British Army and Royal Air Force. The bands of cavalry also use this formation with the major difference that only use two drums on the classic horse and right behind the conductor.

They do not use other percussion.

Trumpets (optional)
Trombones
Euphoniums
Somersaults
Cornets-flugelhorns
Percussion (snare drum, frame, gongs, Pound (optional)
Horn-althorns
Saxophones (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone) - bassoon
Clarinets
Oboe - flutes - piccolo

Bodies of drummer (army bands)

Drum
Casket
Cymbals
Flutes
Pound (optional)

Band with bagpipes (Royal Regiment of Scotland and other military forces)

Bagpipes
Drum
Casket

Membership of the British band of cavalry and artillery troops, when the band parades on horses.

A pair of classic drums
Trumpets
Somersaults
Euphoniums - baritone
Trombones (usually with valves)
Cornets
Saxophones - bassoon
Wooden

Composition of the band of the Royal Navy

Drums formations
Trumpets
Percussion (snare drum, frame, gongs, Pound (optional))
Trombones
Somersaults
Euphoniums - althorns
Horn
Saxophones
Cornets - flugelhorns
Wooden - bassoon

Ninos S Gerasimos "Theory of marching band"
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In conclusion, we observe that in all the British bands, the composition is almost identical, with some minor changes, made purely for technical reasons. The trombones are almost always placed in front because of their specificity, since it must have free space can comfortably play performers.

The mounds and baritone, placed behind the second line, because such shape, the sound goes up, and because low frequencies are quite slow compared to the 'faster' cornets. So put them on top, not to have losses, when the band plays outside.

The horn also follow the same reasoning.

The drums will have to be placed in the middle of the band, so you have all the performers, the sense of rhythm.

Placed behind the saxes and cornets with the possible and the shrill sound. The sound of cornets, reflected on the front musicians, and it becomes annoying blanketing the whole band is going to happen in a false case could be placed at the forefront of these organs.

Finally, comes the most hushed wood, and that is why we put them last. Usually wooden figurines made in marches, and placing them back, we achieve a stereo situation.

With this tactic, we manage to hear all instruments evenly, without crashing each other, and simply without having to pass any instrument in front of us to hear.

Editor

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