

Instrument Rental/Purchase Guide

Buyer BEWARE:

DO NOT PURCHASE AN INSTRUMENT ON AMAZON OR EBAY!

If you find an instrument online that sells cheaply and comes in multiple colors – it’s junk.

The materials used match the cost of the instrument and your student will never be in tune, will play with a poor sound, and will not blend with our ensembles...if the instrument doesn’t break in a month.

The rule I tell kids is: “If it comes in multiple colors and includes a pair of white gloves – it’s junk.”

Then how do I get my kid an instrument?

You definitely want to do a “rent-to-own” program at a local music store!

Here are my recommended stores:

Mel Owen Music

4210 Shelbyville Road,
Louisville, KY 40207
Phone:502-893-6624

<https://www.melowenmusic.com>

Music and Arts

808 Lyndon Lane Suite #103
Louisville, KY 40222
502-479-3772

<https://stores.musicarts.com/louisville-ky>

You can rent quality instruments at these stores, every instrument is supported through an excellent repair policy, and if your student decides that band isn’t for them – you can return the instrument and stop payments.

But, seriously...

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Renting Instruments from the school:

Instruments are available for rent from the school. There are two categories of those instruments:

If you play the following instruments, you should look into renting them from an approved dealer:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flute• Clarinet• Oboe• Alto Saxophone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trumpet• Trombone
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All of these instruments are very affordable for a low monthly fee from a music store. The repair program pays for itself, and it is yours to do with as you wish. All six of these instruments are the most common, and therefore the least expensive.

However, we do have some of these instruments available to rent from the school on a case-by-case basis of need. The supply of these instruments from the school is limited.

The following instruments are really expensive, and should be rented from the school:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bass Clarinet• Bassoon• Tenor Saxophone• Baritone Saxophone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• French Horn• Baritone/Euphonium• Tuba• Most Percussion Equipment
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Playing these instruments is subject to instructor approval. It's important to fill these needs with students who will perform the best on them.

Instrument Rental Fee - \$40.00

Required for all percussionists.

If you own or rent an instrument from a music store, this fee does not apply to you.

Students issued school-owned instruments will pay \$40.00. Students will need to get a contract from Mr. Matheney during the first week of school to take home for parents to sign and return. **Please make the check payable to the Westport Middle School Band.**

THE RENTAL FEE IS A USAGE FEE AND DOES NOT COVER DAMAGES AND REPAIRS TO THE INSTRUMENT WHILE UNDER THE STUDENTS CARE. STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE THE RENTED INSTRUMENT REGULARLY MAINTAINED BY Mel Owen Music or Miles Ahead Music.

Students using school-owned instruments should purchase their own mouthpiece and other accessories (valve oil, reeds, etc.) as needed. We often keep these supplies on hand at school at a discounted price. Please purchase them before or after school when needed.