Commonly used terms in the Library of Congress Medium of Performance Terms for Music (LCMPT)


This is a list of commonly used names of instruments, voices, and ensembles as found in the Library of Congress Medium of Performance Terms for Music (LCMPT). This is *not* a complete list. Please consult Classification Web [3] (subscription required) or the Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music [4] website for the complete list.

These terms are used in conjunction with MLA's Best practices for using LCMPT [5] (version 1.41, 3/31/2020)) and Recording medium of performance for musical works [6] (RDA 6.15) in the 382 field in bibliographic and authority records. See Medium of performance (MARC 382) [7] for MARC coding in the 382 field.

**Instruments:** keyboard | wind: woodwind | brass | bowed string | plucked string | percussion | electronic | other | early | unspecified

**Voices**

**Ensembles:** instrumental | vocal

**Keyboard instruments**

- keyboard instrument (unspecified or unidentified keyboard instrument)
- celesta
- clavichord
- electronic keyboard
- electronic piano
- harpsichord
- organ
- piano
- reed organ

**Wind instruments**

- wind instrument (unspecified woodwind or brass instrument)
  -° woodwind instrument (unspecified woodwind instrument)
    -° reed instrument (unspecified reed instrument)
      -° double reed instrument (unspecified double reed instrument)
      -° single reed instrument (unspecified single reed instrument)
    -° brass instrument (unspecified brass instrument)

**Woodwind instruments**

- flute
  -° piccolo
  -° alto flute
  -° bass flute
  -° contrabass flute
- oboe
  -° English horn
  -° oboe d'amore
- clarinet
  -° soprano clarinet ( *use for E* clarinet)
  -° alto clarinet
  -° bass clarinet
  -° contra-alto clarinet
  -° contrabass clarinet
° basset horn
bassoon
° contrabassoon

Bowed string instruments

bowed string instrument (unspecified string instrument played with a bow)
violin
viola
cello
double bass
viola d'amore
## Electronic instruments

electronic instrument
  * computer
  * electronics
    * live electronics
  * MIDI controller
  * ondes Martenot
  * pre-recorded audio
  * sampler
  * sequencer
  * synthesizer
  * theremin

## Other instruments

- bayan
- accordion
- bagpipe
- bandoneon
- hurdy-gurdy

## Voices

**voice (unspecified vocalized part)**
  * singer (a performer who uses her or his voice to produce musical tone)
    * child's voice
    * boy soprano voice
    * high voice
    * soprano voice
    * countertenor voice
    * tenor voice
    * medium voice
    * mezzo-soprano voice
    * baritone voice
    * low voice
    * alto voice
    * bass-baritone voice
    * bass voice
    * basso profondo
    * lead singer
    * female voice
    * male voice
    * speaker (a performer who uses a speaking, rather than a singing, voice)

## Vocal ensembles

**vocal ensemble (two or more unspecified voices)**
  * solo vocal ensemble (solo voices)
  * chorus (unspecified chorus of voices)
    * children's chorus
    * chorus changing voices
    * equal voices (all the voices parts are for one type of voice)
      * girls' chorus
      * boys' chorus
      * men's chorus (adult male voices)
      * mixed chorus
      * spoken chorus (performers who use a speaking voice rather than a singing voice)
      * women's chorus

## Instrumental ensembles

**instrumental ensemble (diverse instruments that cannot be described by a more specific term)**
  * orchestra
  * chamber orchestra
  * string orchestra
  * band
° **band** versus **wind ensemble**:
  ° a "band" is a large ensemble consisting primarily of winds, brass, and percussion.
  ° may include non-wind instruments.
  ° a "wind ensemble" is an ensemble consisting of two or more mixed wind instruments.
  ° consists **solely** of wind instruments.
  source: MLA's *Best Practices for Using LCMPT* [8], page 12
° big band (generally 10-15 solo instruments, sometimes including a vocalist)
° brass band (brass instruments, sometimes percussion)
° keyboard ensemble (two or more varied keyboard instruments)
  ° harpsichord ensemble
  ° organ ensemble
  ° piano ensemble
° wind ensemble (two or more mixed wind instruments) (see band for the difference between "band" and "wind ensemble")
  ° woodwind ensemble (two or more different woodwind instruments)
  ° flute choir
  ° oboe ensemble
  ° clarinet choir
  ° saxophone ensemble
° brass ensemble (diverse brass instruments that cannot be described by a more specific term)
  ° cornet ensemble
  ° trumpet ensemble
  ° horn ensemble
  ° trombone ensemble
  ° tuba ensemble
° bowed string ensemble mixed or unspecified ensemble of bowed string instruments)
  ° violin ensemble
  ° viola ensemble
  ° cello ensemble
° plucked instrument ensemble
  ° guitar ensemble
  ° harp ensemble
  ° lute ensemble
  ° mandolin ensemble
° percussion ensemble
  ° handbell choir
  ° mallet ensemble
  ° marimba ensemble
  ° steel band
° electronics (unspecified electronic sounds, either produced live or from a recording)
  ° live electronics
  ° processed sound

Source URL: https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/LCMPT

Links