

Freenotes have various sound qualities. For optimum musical expression, we recommend starting with at least three instruments in a grouping. Select any grouping of instruments based on variety of sound quality and pitch range, budget and space available.

Several of the instruments are **percussive** to distinguish them from those that are **sustaining**. In this case, percussive instruments have a short length of tone, about one second. The sustaining instruments have tones that last for five or more seconds. Both of these types of instruments can be successfully combined in a grouping.

Another sound quality is pitch range, which refers to tones that are **low** (bass), **mid-range** (alto) or **high** (soprano). Grouping the instruments in this way is also useful. The table below illustrates the attributes for each instrument:

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Percussive</i>	<i>Sustaining</i>	<i>Low (Bass)</i>	<i>Mid (Alto)</i>	<i>High (Soprano)</i>
<i>Aria</i>		X		X	X
<i>Cadence</i>	X		X	X	
<i>Contrabass Chimes</i>		X	X		
<i>Duet</i>	X	X		X	X
<i>Griffin</i>		X		X	X
<i>Imbarimba</i>	X			X	X
<i>Jack</i>		X		X	X
<i>Jill</i>		X		X	X
<i>Lilypad Cymbals</i>	X			X	X
<i>Manta Ray</i>		X			X
<i>Melody</i>		X		X	X
<i>Merry</i>		X		X	X
<i>Pagoda Bells</i>		X	X	X	X
<i>Pegasus</i>		X		X	X
<i>Piper</i>	X			X	X
<i>Rhythm</i>	X			X	X
<i>Swirl</i>		X		X	X
<i>Tuned Drums</i>	X		X	X	X
<i>Yantzee</i>		X	X		

Here are some example groupings: (We recommend, where possible, to pick at least three instruments.)

- A percussive trio of instruments: Cadence, Imbarimba, and Tuned Drums.
- A quartet group combining percussive and sustaining: Imbarimba, Tuned Drums, Manta Ray, and Yantzee.
- A sustaining trio that has all three pitch ranges: Pegasus, Yantzee, and Manta Ray.
- Another sustaining group that has all three pitch ranges: Contrabass Chimes, Swirl, Pegasus, and the Manta Ray.

It is useful to arrange them so that when the instruments are played together, the players have good eye contact. This encourages interactive play, where the players can respond to one another.

Freenotes instruments are designed to be played together. Any combination will work and the more instruments the more fun. We are happy to assist with any recommendations for groupings. Simply send us an email describing your location and budget and we will help you select the instruments that will best create a beautiful ensemble. Pre-selected Ensembles are available and can be found on our website: [www.freenotesharmony.com](http://www.freenotesharmony.com)



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## 2017 Instrument Grouping Suggestions

REVISION: NA

SCALE: 1:10

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