

Official Performance Dress Code - Symphonic Ensembles 2026

The appearance on stage of musicians from the University of Melbourne is a significant aspect of the concert experience for our audience. This applies not only to individuals, but more important to the appearance as a group. The Orchestra Manager on duty is responsible for monitoring dress standards on stage. If you are not sure if an item of dress is suitable, please ask. You will be advised before each performance which dress code is applicable.

Whilst respecting traditional orchestral concert attire, we also value gender diversity. Note in all cases slogans are not permitted anywhere on clothing and please be mindful to not wear anything that can be considered distracting. Religious headwear is permitted, in black. No watches are to be worn onstage and water bottles need to be non-branded and inconspicuous.

ALL ENSEMBLES

- Black, clean and polished closed-toe shoes (no Dr Martens or other casual boots)
- No faded clothing, jeans or other casual attire - clothes must be ironed, clean, well maintained and presentable at all times.
- Shoulders should be covered – no strapless, halter-top or spaghetti-straps.

DRESS CODE A

Formal Dinner Suit

- Black dinner suit (trousers and jacket) with black bow tie and ironed WHITE shirt

Formal One-Piece Outfit

- Black dress or similar (mid-calf or longer). This can be accessorised with the addition of a black cardigan or black jacket

OR

Formal Two-Piece Outfit

Lower Half:

- Black skirt (mid-calf or longer) or black tailored pants.

Upper Half:

- Either a black formal blouse with an optional black cardigan or black jacket **OR** a white shirt
- When opting for a white shirt, it is mandatory to complement this with a formal black jacket and bow tie (i.e. no open-neck shirts allowed).

DRESS CODE B

Formal Dinner Suit

- Black dinner suit (trousers and jacket) with ironed BLACK shirt
- A straight black tie is required)

Formal One-Piece Outfit

- Black dress or similar (mid-calf or longer). This can be accessorised with the addition of a black cardigan or black jacket.

OR

Formal Two-Piece Outfit

Lower Half:

- Black skirt (mid-calf or longer) or black tailored pants.

Upper Half:

- Either a black formal blouse with an optional black cardigan or black jacket **OR** a black shirt
- When opting for a black shirt, it is mandatory to complement this with a formal black jacket.

DRESS CODE C

Semi-Formal/Cocktail Dress

- Black dinner trousers and with black shirt
- No tie required
- Black blouse with an optional black cardigan or black jacket.
- Black tailored pants OR black dress or skirt (mid-calf or longer).
- Black stockings/socks (ensuring that legs are adequately covered)
- Black dinner jacket is optional.