

University of Melbourne Symphonic Ensembles

2026 Auditions: Bb/A, Eb, Bass Clarinet

Please prepare excerpts as instructed on your chosen instrument(s). Note that you may not be asked to perform all excerpts. All excerpts are from principal parts unless stated otherwise.

Any first year students: you only need to prepare Bb excerpts 1-6. The Eb and Bass Clarinet excerpts are optional.

Any A Clarinet excerpts can be played on the Bb Clarinet (if you don't have an A Clarinet). No transposition necessary.

Whilst the Eb and Bass Clarinet excerpts are not compulsory, candidates may wish to strengthen their audition and performance opportunities by performing all of the excerpts associated with one or both of these subsidiary instruments.

Need help preparing for your audition? Here are some suggestions:

- *Listen to the pieces in their entirety with full scores (recordings of some of these excerpts are available online). Listen to the orchestras that you've heard of (Berlin, Chicago, New York, Vienna etc). Scores are available in the music library, or through web resources such as:
 - <http://imslp.org/>
 - <http://archives.nyphil.org/>*
- *Do detailed work first – ensure that all tempos, notes, intervals and rhythms are correct.*
- *Once you've got the tempo, notes, intervals, rhythms sorted, record yourself playing ONE phrase of an excerpt. Listen to the professional version, and then listen back to your version. Name something specific that is better about the professional recording. Learn to do that specific thing. Repeat process until they are the same.*
- *Once you have the excerpts suitably prepared, record three of them in a row and then listen. Write down several things that you know need to improve and then spend time working on them.*
- *Take several excerpts (random order) and perform as a pretend audition. Always record these mock auditions. Sometimes play them in front of your parents, or sibling, or even your dog! No comments needed, just an audience.*
- *Repeat every day (after a nice warm-up). Use the recording to decide what basics you'll work on tonight or tomorrow morning before your next mock audition.*

EXCERPT OVERVIEW

Any rests longer than 2 bars can be observed as a short pause before continuing.

Repeats are to be acknowledged

Bb CLARINET – all years

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Bb/A CLARINET – Second Year onwards

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E♭ CLARINET – optional for any year level

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BASS CLARINET – optional for any year level

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Bb CLARINET – all years

1. BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6

Excerpt 1 Mvt I, bars 418 – 438

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Excerpt 1, bars 418-438. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a bracketed section from bar 418 to 432. The first staff is marked "Solo" and "dolce". The second staff is marked "dolce". The music features a melodic line with various articulations, including slurs, accents, and triplets. The dynamics range from piano (*p*) to forte (*f*). A first ending bracket is shown at the end of the excerpt, starting at bar 432 and ending at bar 438, marked with a first ending bracket and a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Excerpt 2 Mvt I, bars 474 - 492

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Excerpt 2, bars 474-492. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a bracketed section from bar 474 to 482. The first staff is marked "K" and "dolce". The second staff is marked "dim.". The music features a melodic line with various articulations, including slurs, accents, and triplets. The dynamics range from piano (*p*) to forte (*f*) and pianissimo (*pp*). A first ending bracket is shown at the end of the excerpt, starting at bar 482 and ending at bar 492, marked with a first ending bracket and a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Bb CLARINET – all years

2. BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 8 Mvt III, *Tempo di Menuetto*, bars 48 – 78

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Beethoven Symphony No. 8, Mvt III, *Tempo di Menuetto*, bars 48 – 78. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff (bars 41-50) features dynamics of *sf*, *f*, and *f*, with first, second, and third endings. A **SOLO.** section begins at bar 51. The second staff (bars 51-60) includes dynamics *p*, *p*, and *cresc.*. The third staff (bars 61-70) includes dynamics *p dolce cresc.*, *p*, *p dolce*, and *p dolce*. The fourth staff (bars 71-78) includes dynamics *cresc.*, *p*, *cresc.*, *p*, *dimin.*, and *pp*, ending with the instruction *Men. D.C. al Fine.*

3. TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 4

Excerpt 1 Mvt I, Pickup to bar 36 - 48

Musical score for Violin 1, Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4, Mvt I, Excerpt 1, bars 27 – 48. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb) and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is *Moderato con anima* (♩ = *Il movimento di Valse*). The score consists of five staves of music. The first staff (bars 27-36) includes the instruction *f espr.*. The second staff (bars 37-40) includes the instruction *cresc.*. The third staff (bars 41-44) includes the instruction *ff*. The fourth staff (bars 45-48) includes the instruction *B* and a dynamic marking *>*.

Bb CLARINET – all years

3. TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 4

Excerpt 2 Mvt I, bars 226 - 234

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Excerpt 2, Mvt I, bars 226 - 234. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The time signature is 2/4. The excerpt begins at bar 224 with a dynamic marking of *p* and a *Solo* instruction. The music features a series of eighth-note patterns with various accidentals (sharps and flats) and slurs. A first ending bracket is shown at the end of the first line. The second line starts at bar 230 with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The third line starts at bar 234 with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a *0* marking above the staff.

Excerpt 3 Mvt IV, Bars 84 – 93

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Excerpt 3, Mvt IV, Bars 84 – 93. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 2/4. The excerpt begins at bar 81 with a dynamic marking of *ff* and a *3* marking above the staff. The music features a series of eighth-note patterns with various accidentals (sharps and flats) and slurs. A *sempre legato* instruction is present below the second line. The third line starts at bar 88. The fourth line starts at bar 91 with a dynamic marking of *p* and a *C* marking above the staff.

Bb CLARINET – all years

4. STRAUSS Don Juan

16 bars after Fig. M – 2 bars after Fig. N

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Strauss Don Juan, measures 16-18. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb). It features four staves of music. The first staff begins with a 'Solo.' marking and includes dynamics like *pp* and *dolce*. The second staff includes *molto dim.* and *ppp*. The third staff includes *molto espr.*, *poco cal.*, and *a tempo*. The fourth staff includes *espr.*, *molto tranqu.*, and *pp*. The piece concludes with a repeat sign and a *pp* dynamic.

5. MENDELSSOHN A Midsummer Night's Dream

Scherzo, beginning – Fig. B

Musical score for Bb Clarinet, Mendelssohn A Midsummer Night's Dream Scherzo, beginning. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F#). It features four staves of music. The first staff is marked 'N° 1.' and includes the tempo 'Allegro vivace.' and dynamics *p* and *dim.*. The second staff includes first and second endings. The third staff includes a *cresc.* marking. The fourth staff includes trills (*tr.*) and a section marked 'B' ending at measure 9. The piece concludes with a *f* dynamic.

Bb CLARINET – all years

6. GRAINGER Lincolnshire Posy

Mvt IV, beginning – 1 bar after Fig. 25 (bar 26)

4. "THE BRISK YOUNG SAILOR" (who returned to wed his True Love)

Clarinet in Bb

The musical score is written for Clarinet in Bb and consists of seven staves of music. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 2/4. The piece is marked "Sprightly" and begins with a dynamic of *mp*. The first staff contains measures 1 through 8. The second staff starts at measure 9, marked *mp (short)*. The third staff starts at measure 17, marked *(short, detached)*. The fourth staff continues with sixteenth-note patterns, marked *mp*. The fifth staff continues the sixteenth-note pattern, marked *mf*. The sixth staff continues the sixteenth-note pattern, marked *mf*. The seventh staff starts at measure 25, marked *ff*, and concludes the piece. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and fingering numbers (6, 3).

Bb/A CLARINET – 2nd year onwards

8. RODRIGO Adagio for Wind Orchestra, Bars 131 – 168

Tempo I ♩ = 52

130 *p* 131 132 133 134 135 *p*

1 only

136 137 138

139 140 141

142 143 144

145 146 147

148 149 150

151 152 153

154 *accel.* 2 *accel.* 1 only *f* 156 157 *a tempo* 7

158 *mf* 159 160 161

162 *f* 163 *a2* 164 *accel.* 2 165

167 *mf* 168 *a tempo* 10 169 2 *2/4*

Bb/A CLARINET – 2nd year onwards

9. STRAVINSKY Petrushka (1947)

Excerpt 1 Mvt I, Fig. 64 – 4 bars before Fig. 68

DANSE RUSSE

[64 Allegro giusto, $\text{♩} = 116$ 65

66 Solo mf 67 Solo mf

68 69 p p stacc. sempre p sub.

Excerpt 2 Mvt II, Fig. 111 – 4 bars after Fig. 112



111 ff

112 sim. ff

riten. 1

Bb/A CLARINET – 2nd year onwards

9. STRAVINSKY Petrushka (1947)

Excerpt 3 Mvt IV, 1 bar after Fig. 188, for 6 bars

PEASANT WITH BEAR

188 Poco accelerando

Tempo giusto, $\text{♩} = 69$

Solo

189

190

191

ff *ff* *p*

Bb CLARINET – 2nd year onwards

10. BRAHMS Symphony No. 1

Excerpt 1 Mvt III, bars 1 – 23 (Bb Clarinet)

in B
Un poco Allegretto e grazioso

Solo
p dolce

9
p dolce

16 **A** *dolce* *3*

23 **7** Ob I *p dolce*

Excerpt 2 Mvt II, bars 42 – 48 (A Clarinet)

B

39 *p dolce*

45 **1**

Bb CLARINET – 2nd year onwards

11. BORODIN Polovtsian Dances from *Prince Igor* No. 8, bar 5 - 45

in B. Presto. Solo
mf brillante

8

8

mf

cresc.

ff

B 17 C 6

Viol. I

1

18

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Bb Clarinet, No. 8 from Prince Igor, bars 5-45. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It begins with the tempo marking 'Presto.' and the instruction 'Solo'. The first staff starts with a dynamic of 'mf brillante'. The music features a series of eighth-note patterns with various articulations and slurs. There are several dynamic markings throughout, including 'mf', 'cresc.', and 'ff'. The score includes repeat signs and first/second endings. A section labeled 'A' starts at bar 8. A section labeled 'B' starts at bar 17. A section labeled 'C' starts at bar 6. The score ends with a first ending marked '1' and a second ending marked '18'. There is a 'Viol. I' marking above the staff at the end.

12. MENDELSSOHN The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave) *Allegro moderato*, bars 202 - 217 (A Clarinet)

183

2

13

p

pp tranquillo assai

205

cresc.

p dolce

Animato in tempo

214

dim. poco ritard. dim. pp

3

p

f

Detailed description: This is a musical score for A Clarinet, The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave), bars 202-217. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It begins at bar 183 with a dynamic of 'p'. The music features a series of eighth-note patterns with various articulations and slurs. There are several dynamic markings throughout, including 'p', 'pp tranquillo assai', 'cresc.', 'p dolce', 'Animato in tempo', 'dim.', 'poco ritard. dim. pp', 'p', and 'f'. The score includes repeat signs and first/second endings. A section labeled '13' starts at bar 183. A section labeled '2' starts at bar 205. A section labeled '3' starts at bar 214.

E♭ CLARINET – optional

*Whilst the E♭ Clarinet excerpts are not compulsory, candidates may wish to strengthen their audition and performance opportunities by performing all of the excerpts associated with one, or both, subsidiary instruments.

*If you intend to audition on E♭ Clarinet you need to prepare all the excerpts not some.

13. RAVEL Piano Concerto in G major (top line for all)

Excerpt 1 Mvt III, Fig. 1 for 6 bars

Musical score for Excerpt 1, Mvt III, Fig. 1 for 6 bars. The score is in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment and a solo for the E♭ Clarinet. The piano part starts with a rhythmic pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The solo part begins with a forte (f) dynamic and includes a sixteenth-note run, a triplet, and a piano (p) section.

Excerpt 2 Mvt III, Fig. 18 - Fig. 20

Musical score for Excerpt 2, Mvt III, Fig. 18 - Fig. 20. The score is in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment and a first violin (1st Viol.) part. The piano part starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes a sixteenth-note run, a triplet, and a mezzo-forte (mf) section. The first violin part begins with a forte (f) dynamic and includes a sixteenth-note run and a mezzo-forte (mf) section.

EB CLARINET - optional

13. RAVEL Piano Concerto in G major (top line for all)

Excerpt 3 5th bar of Fig. 26 – End

Musical score for Excerpt 3, 5th bar of Fig. 26. The score is in G major and 3/4 time. It features a piano part with a dynamic marking of *p* and a forte marking of *ff*. The excerpt is enclosed in large square brackets on the right side.

14. RAVEL Bolero

3 bars after Fig. 3 – Fig. 4

Musical score for Excerpt 14, 3 bars after Fig. 3 – Fig. 4. The score is in G major and 3/4 time. It features a solo part with a dynamic marking of *p* and a forte marking of *ff*. The excerpt is enclosed in large square brackets on the right side.

BASS CLARINET – optional

*Whilst the Bass Clarinet excerpts are not compulsory, candidates may wish to strengthen their audition and performance opportunities by performing all of the excerpts associated with one, or both, subsidiary instruments.

*If you intend to audition on Bass Clarinet you need to prepare all the excerpts not some

15. GERSHWIN An American in Paris

Allegro grazioso, Fig. 15 – 17

The image displays a musical score for Bass Clarinet, consisting of three staves. The first staff begins with a bracketed section labeled '15' with the instruction 'Con brio tutti'. The second staff contains a measure labeled '16' and includes the instruction 'w/tuba, bsns.' and a dynamic marking 'f'. The third staff contains a measure labeled '17' and includes a dynamic marking 'p' at the beginning and 'f' at the end. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 2/4 time signature.

BASS CLARINET – optional

16. Ingolf DAHL Sinfonietta

Mvt I, Fig. B - 3rd bar of Fig. D (last note F)

♩ = 120

[B] Allegro con brio (♩ = 120)

f

[C]

p

1

[D]

ff

3

ff

- END -

Excerpts for educational purposes only