

All-District Percussion Audition Procedure

The following information is for percussionists auditioning for All-Virginia Band & Orchestra and it is what we use for our District auditions as well. This is in addition to (not in place of) the information for all students auditioning for All-Virginia Band & Orchestra.

All percussionists will audition on Snare, Mallets, Timpani and Multiple Percussion. You will rotate through a total of four rooms for the audition process as described below.

Students may not speak during the audition. Any questions by the student must take place between the student and the guide outside of the audition room. Students are subject to disqualification for speaking during the audition.

Room #1 – Snare Rudiments, Rolls & Sight-reading

- A snare drum will be provided (or you may use your own snare drum – sticks & mallets will not be provided)
- Set up quickly!
- You will be asked to play the long roll then the concert roll
 - Long Roll - rudiment #1 (from the [Ludwig Standard 26 Rudiments](#))
 - Concert Roll (closed or "buzz"), sustained sound from *pp-ff-pp*
- You will be asked to play two [rudiments](#) (open - closed - open) from the Ludwig Standard 26 Rudiments.
- After completing the second rudiment, you will turn the sight-reading over and have thirty seconds to study it.
- After the thirty seconds time limit, you will be asked to play the sight-reading
- After completing the sight-reading, gather your personal items & proceed to the next room

Room #2 – Mallets Scales and Sight-reading

- A standard three and one-half octave xylophone will be provided
- You will need to supply appropriate mallets (hard rubber, string wound, etc. – NOT metal)
- You will be asked to play a major scale
 - All major scales are required and will be memorized
 - Scales are to be played in as many complete octaves as possible on the instrument.
 - Tempo: Quarter note = MM 100
 - Major scales are to be played with a quarter note followed by a series of eighth notes for each octave:
- This process will be repeated for a second major scale
- You will then be asked to play the chromatic scale. You are to play the full length of the keyboard with a minimum tempo of Quarter note = mm120
- You will have 1 sight-reading exercise. You will be given 30 seconds to study the exercise prior to playing.
- After the thirty-second time limit, you will be asked to play the sight-reading
- After completing the sight-reading, gather your personal items and move to the next part of your audition.

Room #3 – Timpani Sight-reading

- A set of four timpani will be provided - you will need your own timpani mallets
- You will have forty-five seconds to study the sight-reading and tune the timpani to the appropriate pitches.
- The following pitch sources may be used for tuning: a pitch pipe, tuning fork or mallet instrument.
- After the time limit, you will be asked to play the pitches from lowest to highest
- After playing the pitches, you will be asked to play the sight-reading
- After playing the sight-reading, you will proceed to the next room

Room #4 – Percussion Prepared Selection

- You will have thirty seconds to set up your equipment.
- The following items will be provided:
 - A standard three and one-half octave xylophone
 - A set of 4 timpani
 - A snare drum & trap table (or you may use your own snare drum)
- You must provide your own sticks, mallets and accessory percussion items.
- The timpani will be tuned for you.
- As soon as you are set, you will be asked to play the prepared selection.
- After playing the prepared selection, collect all of your personal items. This concludes your audition.