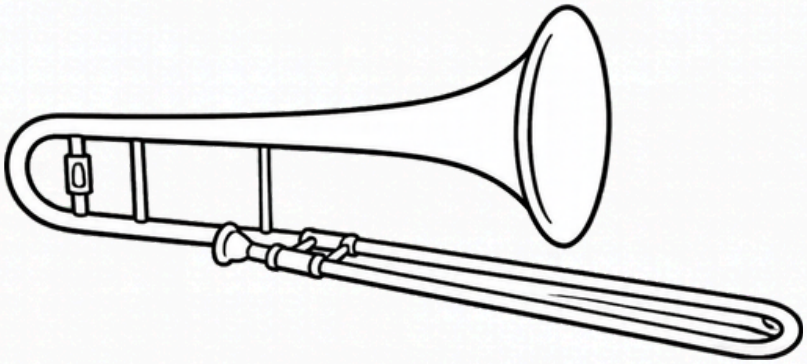
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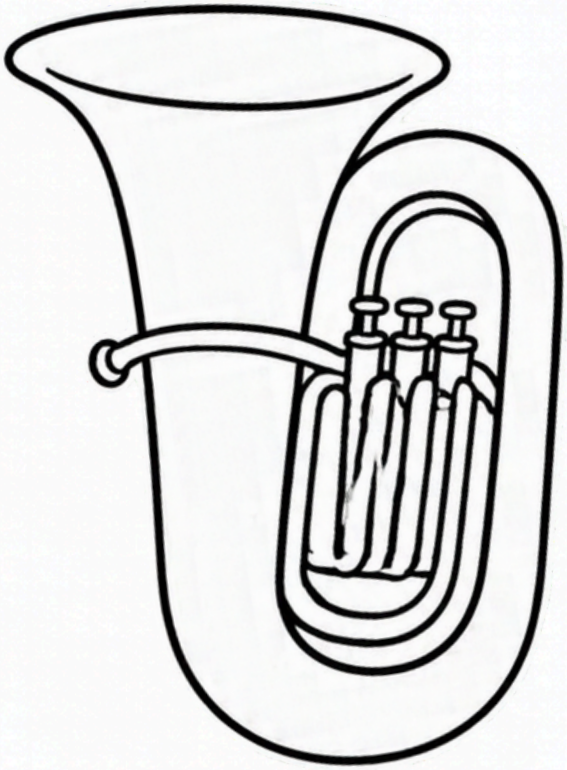
Giraffes Can't Dance: Get to Know Brass Instruments

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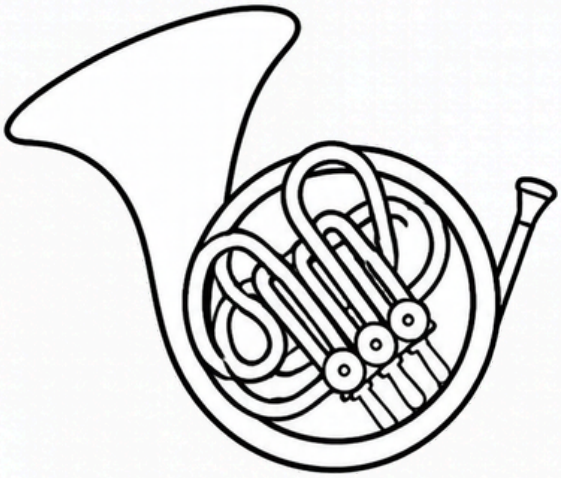
Can you name each instrument? Pick the correct instrument name and write it under each picture.



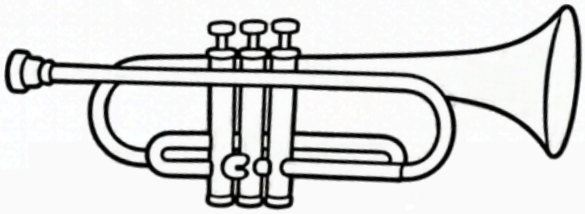
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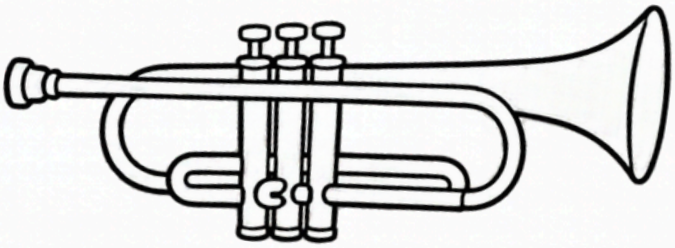
Trumpet

Tube

French horn

Trombone

Trumpet



The trumpet is a brass instrument that makes sound when you blow into it and press down its buttons (valves). This bright sounding instrument is loud, fun, and can play both joyful and serious music. Trumpets have been around for a long time, but didn't get their valves added until the 1800's. They are used in many different kinds of music - classical, jazz, marching bands.

How does it work?

The trumpet works by combining the player's air, buzzing lips, and pressing its valves. When the player blows into the mouthpiece and buzzes their lips, the air travels through the metal tubing creating vibrations. Pressing the valves changes the path the air takes, making different pitches. Higher or lower notes are created by changing your lips and which valves are pressed. Valves change the length of tubing the shorter the tube, the higher the pitch and the longer the tubing, the lower the pitch.

Fun Fact:

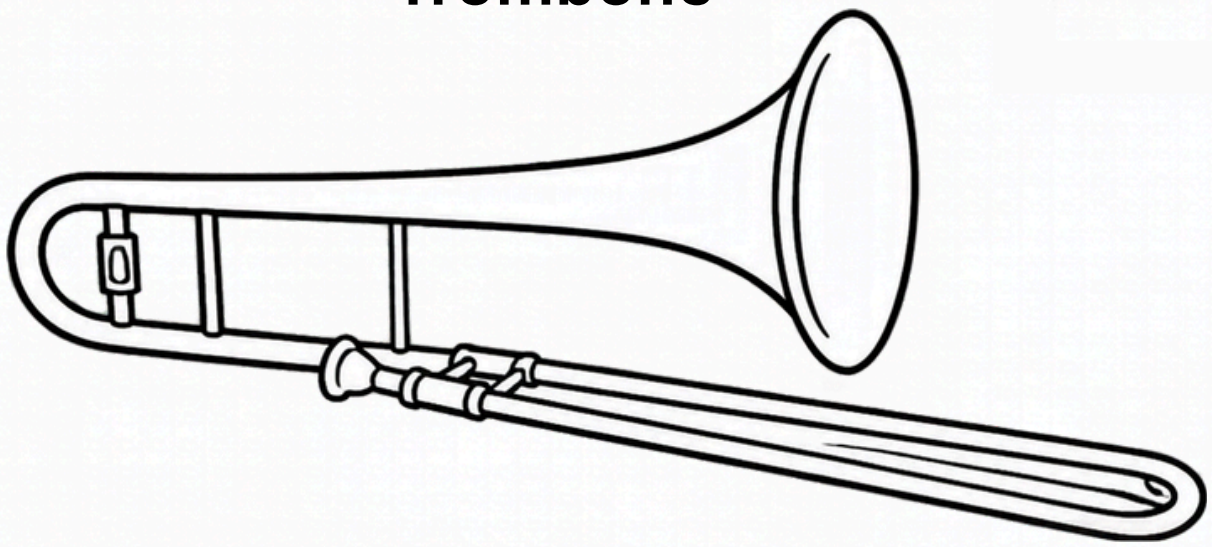
Tubing on a trumpet, if stretched out, would be about 4.5 feet long!

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Trombone



The trombone is a brass instrument that makes sound when you buzz your lips and move the slide. Unlike other brass instruments, it has no valves —just a long slide that you push in and out to play different notes. Trombones have been used since the 1400's when it was called the sackbutt. You can hear them in bands, orchestras, jazz groups and funk bands.

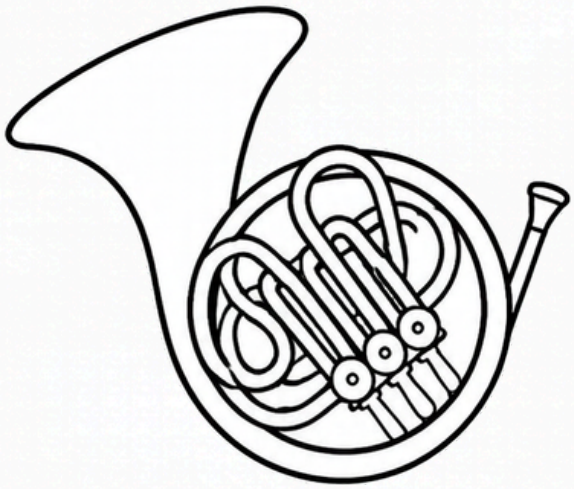
How does it work?

The trombone works when you buzz your lips combined with steady airflow and slide position. When the player buzzes their lips into the mouthpiece, vibrations travel through the tubing. Moving the slide out lengthens the tubing and lowers the pitch; sliding in shortens it and raises the pitch.

Fun Fact:

Tubing on a trombone, if stretched out, would be about 9 feet long!

French horn



The French horn is a shiny brass instrument with long, curled tubing and a warm, round, majestic sound. You buzz your lips into a small mouthpiece, press valves, and use your hand in the bell to shape the tone. It plays beautiful melodies and warm harmonies in orchestras, bands, chamber groups and movie soundtracks. It's considered one of the hardest brass instruments to play in tune.

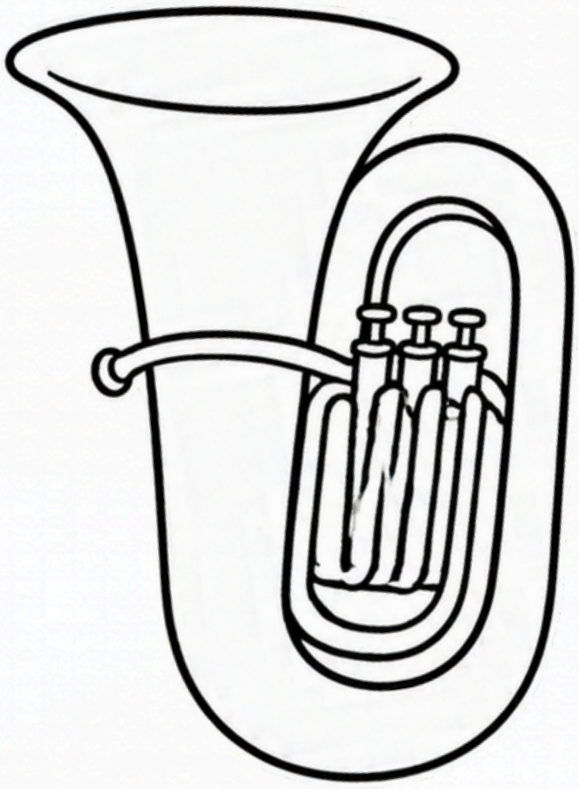
How does it work?

The French horn works when the player blows air through buzzing lips into a mouthpiece, creating vibrations that travel through the tubing. Like other brass instruments, pressing valves changes the path length - longer tubing for lower notes, shorter for higher notes. The lip shape of a french horn player is really important and careful listening is key in order to avoid playing the wrong note. Hand placement in the bell (hand-stopping) further shapes tone and pitch.

Fun Fact:

Tubing on a french horn, if stretched out, would be about 12 feet long!

Tuba



The tuba is the biggest and lowest-sounding brass instrument. It is also the newest instrument, created in 1835. It might look huge, but it's fun to play and has a deep, powerful sound. The tuba helps support the whole band or orchestra by playing the bass part. Tubas are used in a wide variety of music-from orchestras and concert bands to jazz, brass quintets, and even marching bands.

How does it work?

The tuba works by changing air and lip vibration into deep, powerful sound. When the player buzzes their lips into the large mouthpiece, the vibration moves through the instrument's tubing. Pressing valves adds more tubing, which makes the air travel farther and lowers the note. Releasing a valve shortens the tubing and raises the pitch. The tuba's wide tubing allows for slower air vibrations, which is why it produces such low notes compared to other brass instruments.

Fun Fact:

Tubing on a tuba, if stretched out, would be about 16 feet long!