

Cross Timbers MS Step-up Instrument Information

As students grow as musicians they may begin to experience the limitations of their beginner instrument. When the student, parent, private teacher, and band director agree that a student has shown sufficient progress and commitment it may be time to investigate upgrading to a step-up instrument.

The purpose of a step-up instrument is to improve the quality of the instrument thereby removing the inherent limitations of the entry level instruments. Most step-up instruments are made with higher quality materials, feature mechanisms that are more responsive, and generally offer the student to greater ease in producing a more musical tone.

There are many instrument brands and models out there. A good rule to remember is that you get what you pay for. The brands and models listed here have a proven record of quality and durability. More importantly, the models listed here represent a good value in terms of improved quality and workmanship. In other words, you are still getting a good value for the cost of the instrument.

One caution to remember, occasionally there are good deals that can be found online – also, there are also many false claims and ultimately buyer beware.

If you have questions about your child's future instrument needs, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be happy to provide any assistance.

- **Flute** (Look for models that have an offset G)
 - Yamaha 574H
 - Yamaha 674H
 - Miyazawa 201
 - Miyazawa 101

- **Clarinet** (use a Vandoren M15-88 mouthpiece)
 - Buffet R-13
 - Yamaha YCL-CSG
 - Yamaha YCL-650
 - Buffet E-11

- **Saxophone** (use a Selmer C* mouthpiece)
 - Yamaha YAS-875
 - Yamaha YAS-62
 - Selmer 52 (only instruments manufactured in Paris)
 - Selmer 62 (only instruments manufactured in Paris)

- **Trumpet** (use a Bach 5C or 3C mouthpiece)
 - Yamaha YTR-8335 (Xeno)
 - Bach Stradivarius 180S37

- **Trombone** (use a Bach 5G mouthpiece)
 - Conn 88HO
 - Bach 42BO
 - Eastman Shire
 - Yamaha YSL-8820 (Xeno)