

Figure 6.13. Trombone Harmonic Series

Harmonic Series (to 9th partial)

B^b Trombone

CAUTION

Every instrument, even identical models, can have varying pitch tendencies. Learn the pitch of your instrument and advance your skills to voice / place / lip every note in tune. Use alternate fingerings only when necessary!

	Slide Position						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9th partial Slightly Sharp (lengthen slightly)							
	#3 C	#4 B	#5 B ^b	A	A ^b	G	G ^b
8th partial In Tune							
	b3 B ^b	b4 A	b5 A ^b	G	G ^b	F	E
7th partial Extremely Flat (shorten)	[decrease slide length approx. 1" to play in tune in 7th partial]						
	(G#/A ^b is not playable in 1st position)	#2 G	#3 G ^b	F	E	E ^b	D
6th partial Very Sharp (lengthen)							
	b1 #4 F	b2 #5 E	b3 #6 E ^b	D	D ^b	C	B
* Note: Some models can be slightly sharp in 5th partial. Check your instrument with a tuner to determine 5th partial tendency.							
5th partial Slightly Flat (shorten slightly)							
	b4 D	b5 D ^b	b6 C	b7 B	B ^b	A	A ^b
4th partial In Tune							
	#5 B ^b	#6 A	#7 A ^b	G	G ^b	F	E
3rd partial Slightly Sharp (lengthen slightly)							
	6 F	7 E	E ^b	D	D ^b	V ^b 1 C	V ^b 2 B
* 3rd partial is slightly sharp							
2nd partial In Tune							
	V ^{bb} 3 B ^b	V [#] 5 A	V [#] 6 A ^b	V ^{bb} 7 G	G ^b	V1 F	V ^b 2 E
F-Trombone (trigger depressed) 1st partial							
		V ^{bb} 3 E ^b		V [#] 5 D	V [#] 6 D ^b	V ^{bb} 7 C	
Fundamental (Pedal Tones) In Tune	These notes are pedal tones.						
	B ^b	A	A ^b	G	G ^b	F	E

Slide adjustments become incrementally larger as the slide is extended to outer positions.

Harmonic series fingering chart.

The trombone is essentially a big tuning slide, and the player must develop a great ear to play in tune. (Otherwise, it is an easy instrument to play incredibly out-of-tune!)
 If the pitch is sharp (▲), then Lengthen the slide to lower (▼) the pitch.
 If the pitch is flat (▼), then Shorten the slide to raise (▲) the pitch.