

The Brass Family

Music

How brass instruments make notes, and what distinguishes each one.

All brass work the same way: buzzing lips, then tubing length.

Instrument	Key	Range
Trumpet	B 	Highest, brightest
Cornet	B 	Trumpet range, mellower
French horn	F	Wide, mellow, rear-facing
Trombone	C (slide)	Tenor, no valves
Euphonium	B 	Tenor-bass, round
Tuba	C / B  / E 	The bass

The trombone changes pitch by slide rather than valves, so it can play truly between the notes.