Orchestra Audition Repertoire

Some orchestras, especially ballet and opera, may request additional excerpts. Excerpts marked (•) are most commonly requested.

Books containing excerpts and interpretive suggestions have been authored by Al Payson, Morris Goldenberg, Fred Hinger, Raynor Carroll, Anthony Cirone, Alan Abel, Tim Genis, Jack Van Geem, Jacque Remy, and Gerald Carlyss, etc.

Online sources include:

Snare drum:
• Bartok - Concerto for Orchestra
• Berlioz - Hungarian March from The Damnation of Faust
• Block - Schelomo
• Debussy - Fetes from Nocturnes
• Kodaly - Hary Janos Suite
• Prokofiev - Peter and the Wolf
• Prokofiev - Lt. Kije Suite
• Prokofiev - Symphony No. 5
• Ravel - Bolero
• Rimsky-Korsakov - Capriccio Espagnol
• Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade
• Rossini - La Gazza Ladra
• William Schuman - Third Symphony
• Schostakovich - Symphony No. 10
• Franz von Suppe - Pique Dame Overture
• Sousa - Stars and Stripes Forever

Bass drum:
• Mahler - Symphony No 3
• Mahler - Symphony No. 5
• Stravinsky - The Rite of Spring
• Tchaikovsky - Romeo and Juliet
• Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 4

Cymbals:
• Dvorak - Carnival Overture
• Moussorgsky - Night On Bald Mountain
• Rachmaninoff - Piano Concerto No.2
• Tchaikovsky - Romeo and Juliet
• Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 4
Bass drum and cymbals (one player):
Mahler - Symphony No. 1
Stravinsky – Petroushka

Tambourine:
• Berlioz - Roman Carnival Overture
• Bizet - Aragonaise from Carmen Suite No. 1 (Entracte)
Borodin - Polovetisian Dances
Debussy - Images (Iberia)
• Dvorak - Carnival Overture
• Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade
• Stravinsky - Petroushka
• Tchaikovsky - Danse Arabe from The Nutcracker Ballet
• Tchaikovsky - Trepak from The Nutcracker Ballet

Triangle:
• Berlioz - Roman Carnival Overture
• Brahms - Symphony No. 4
Debussy - Images (Iberia)
Dvorak - Carnival Overture
• Liszt - Piano Concerto No. 1
Mozart - Abduction from the Seraglio Overture
• Rimsky-Korsakov - Scheherazade
Tchaikovsky - The Nutcracker Ballet

Castanets:
Bizet - Carmen
Prokofiev - Piano Concerto No. 3
Wagner - Bacchanale from Tannhauser

Xylophone:
• Copland - Appalachian Spring
Gershwin - American In Paris
• Gershwin - Porgy and Bess Overture
• Kabalevsky - Colas Breugnon Overture
• Khatchaturian - Dance of the Rose Maidens from Gayne Ballet
• Kodaly - VI. Entrance of the Emperor and His Court from Hary Janos Suite
• Ravel - Ma Mere L'Oye from Mother Goose Suite
Stravinsky - L'Oiseau de Feu from Firebird - Complete Ballet
Stravinsky - Les Noces
• Shostakovich - Polka from the Golden Age

Glockenspiel:
• Mozart - The Magic Flute
• Resighi - The Pines of Rome
• Dukas - The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Stravinsky - Petroušchka (1911)
Tchaikovsky - Capriccio Italien
Tchaikovsky - The Nutcracker

**Vibraphone:**
Bernstein - “Cool” from West Side Story

**Timpani:**
Barber - Medea’s Meditation and Dance of Vengeance
Bartok - Concerto for Orchestra,
Bartok - Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta
• Beethoven - Violin Concerto
Beethoven - Piano Concerto No. 3
Beethoven - Piano Concerto No. 5
• Beethoven – Symphonies No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9
Berlioz - Symphony Fantastique
• Brahms - Symphony No. 1
Brahms - Symphony No. 4
Elgar - Enigma Variations
• Hindemith - Symphonic Metamorphosis
Holst - The Planets
Mahler - Symphony No. 2
Mahler - Symphony No. 5
William Schumann - New England Triptych
Shostakovich - Symphony No. 1
Sibelius - Finlandia
Strauss - Burlesque
Strauss - Death and Transfiguration
Strauss - Don Juan
Strauss - Till Eulenspiegel
Stravinsky - The Rite of Spring
• Tchaikovsky - Romeo and Juliet
• Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 4