Style Sheet for Full Scores

Additional help files in this series:
• Style Sheet for New Parts
• Style Sheet for Replacement Parts

We adhere to principles outlined in the booklet

Standard Music Notation Practice

available from Music Publishers’ Association and
Music Educators National Conference

in addition to the Style Sheets for

BandMusic PDF Library
Two levels of scores are recognized at BMPDF:

1.) **Edition** – enter parts and edit, fixing pitch, rhythm, articulation and other errors; add transposed modern parts.

2.) **Arrangement** - Create brand new scoring of the original material. Reminder: Expect to find errors in the original printed parts. Correct them!

Always check via email to see if the title is already being scored. See below for contact info.

**Portrait Orientation** - 8.5”x11” for score and new parts.

For readability, keep combined parts together on the score and explode parts when extracted. Example: Typically CL 2/3 on the score; Separate pages for CL2, CL3 in the parts. Same for other parts.

Use the minimum reduction possible; hopefully keeping the reduced page to larger than 50%. (Judgment call.)


**Score Layout:** Band instrument order, not Orchestral order, i.e. Horns are below Cornets/Trumpets.

Ordinarily Tenor Horn parts are not included in a modern edition. Question: Are Tenors adding anything essential that is not covered by other voices in the band? If so, put them in another part. (Judgment call)

Do include parts for standard modern instrumentation, including Bass Clarinet, Saxes, etc. Find the most characteristic parts to double. For example, make the Bass Clarinet part lay well on the instrument.

Stay true to the composer’s intentions; in editing avoid arbitrary octave doublings in the middle of the sound spectrum in order to keep the composer’s sonorities clean.

Create Flute 1 & 2 parts from the original Db Piccolo part. Note that Flute 2 should not go above high F. Anything above high F should be doubled 8vb. Use your own good judgment to produce coherent musical phrasing.

Every time parts divide, put **div.** label; when they play together after a **divisi**, put **unis.** label.

Flute 1 and Piccolo may be on the same part by using +Pic. and -Pic. In general, use piccolo in louder passages and omit in softer passages. Or score Pic 8vb in soft passages. Again, this whole issue is a judgment call.

Do include Tempo and Metronome Markings on the score. If none were given by the composer, then “March tempo,” “Moderato,” “Allegro” or others might be appropriate.

Tempo, Metronome and Style markings need to be large enough to be easily read without a magnifying glass and printed in bold type.

Give yourself credit on the upper right of page 1 in the score as in the following example:

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E.E. Bagley
Edited by John Smith
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Right justified.

Refer to type point sizes and similar information on the accompanying BMPDF Style Sheet - Score, for a uniform appearance.

If in doubt, clarity and readability are always the final arbiters.

If the score is being donated to BandMusic PDF Library, then a **Creative Commons License** is used in place of the copyright notice. For an example, see accompanying Style Sheet. If the score is being done for publication, follow the publisher’s style sheet and copyright conventions.

Email [info@bandmusicpdf.org](mailto:info@bandmusicpdf.org) for details and questions.