

# BARITONE

The baritone horn was invented by the creator of the saxophone by around 1790. At first it consisted of glass rods which were stroked by moistened fingers to make sound. Over the years, it has "evolved". The baritone horn can be described as a mini tuba, but with a higher range of notes. It has three valves and the bell on the top can be curved or straight. A full size baritone is about three feet in height and has a mouthpiece which you buzz into to make the sound.



## Baritone Links

<http://www.dwerden.com/bareuph.asp>

## How the sound is made

Sound on a brass instrument comes from a vibrating column of air inside the instrument. The player makes this column of air vibrate by buzzing the lips while blowing air through a cup or funnel shaped mouthpiece. To produce higher or lower pitches, the player adjusts the opening between his/her lips. The mouthpiece connects to a length of brass tubing ending in a bell. The shorter the tubing length, the smaller the instrument, and the higher the sound; and the longer the tubing length, the larger the instrument, and the lower the sound.

## How the pitch is changed

The pitch of a brass instrument depends on the volume of air that is vibrating, as well as the speed at which the player's lips vibrate. The volume of air depends on the length of the tube; a longer tube means a larger volume of air, hence lower pitch. By buzzing the lips faster or slower, the player can cause the air in the tube to resonate at different harmonics. In order to get all 12 notes of the chromatic scale, the player needs to change the length of the tube by moving a slide or by pressing valves.