

## Marching Band Horn - Soundfont version by Les Productions Zvon

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The exact name of the Marching Band Horn is unknown, it's an instrument that I bought over 30 years ago in a music store that was getting rid of a dozen or so of these. It uses a French horn mouthpiece and the range is a little lower than a trumpet and a little higher than a trombone. Due to its mouthpiece, the sound can be mellower than the 2 aforementioned instruments. It has only one valve.

The samples were taken from various performances that I played. As I had single notes, I then resynthesized them to create multi-samples. In all cases the resulting tone is still very brassy and close to the natural one. Some samples are time stretched so this library is not meant to perfectly emulate the real instrument. It's a simple library without velocity layers or alternate samples but it is great for adding a horn flavor and also providing a wider range of uses, a good way to add brassy sounds to your compositions at a very low cost. The sounds range from smooth and mellow to hard hitting and growling, from staccatos and stabs to sustained pads.

Even though the programs have an extended key range, it is when played from G2 to C5 (when Middle C is C3, it is C4 on the Bismark bs-16i) that it sounds pretty much like the real performance, higher it sounds like a trumpet and lower it can be pleasantly weird.

This version is a "best of" a previous version but it also has 3 new instruments. I have kept the original names so that is why there are some missing numbers in some names, for instance there are a Double 01 and Double 05 instruments but no Double 02, 03 and 04.

The free demo soundfont has 7 programs of the 38 programs, most are multi-sampled.

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Most of the natural instruments are multi-sampled except three that have (1) at the end of their names. Except for three instruments, the samples are not looped. The looped instruments have (L) at the end of their names.

About the tuning:

Some samples are a few cents off from the Equal Temperament scale that keyboards use, but it's intentional. I've retuned those that were too far off, but even when retuning I left some a few cents off. In my opinion it's more natural as horn players by themselves (as singers and string players) don't play in the Equal Temperament scale.

Those few cents off give warmth and richness to the sounds especially when layered. When a brass section plays the same note, no two players are exactly on the same pitch and the bigger the section, the bigger the differences.

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Note that the soundfont version is simpler than the Kontakt 4 version as Kontakt offers many tools that cannot be duplicated in a soundfont. All the samples are the same in both versions, but the soundfont does not have any combis, multis, scripts and various playback engines.

So, for instance, the video " Demo of Zvon's Marching Band Horn sample set for Kontakt 4" features those sounds specific to the Kontakt 4 version, sounds that are not in the soundfont version even if both use all the same samples.

I made the soundfont version more specifically for iOS devices. Visit our iPad and iPhone page for more sounds for your iOS devices: [http://lesproductionszvon.com/for\\_ios.htm](http://lesproductionszvon.com/for_ios.htm)

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