



Westwood Band Auditions

2024-2025 School Year

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: When will my audition take place?

A: During band class between May 8th and May 18th

Q: Do I have to audition?

A: Yes, all 6th and 7th grade students will audition. This audition is a test grade for all students. Auditions also determine band placement for next year; however, only students who are signed up for band according to the counselor's records will be placed in a band.

Q: What do I play for the audition?

A: The audition will consist of:

- 1) One scale of your choice, as many octaves as you can perform.
- 2) Another scale of your band teacher's choice, as many octaves as you can perform.
- 3) The audition etude (a short piece of music). Play as much as you can with a metronome.
 - a. 6th graders are required to play the first etude
 - b. 7th graders are required to play the first and second etudes
 - c. Students who wish to be considered for the varsity band will perform the first, second, and third etudes
- 4) Percussionists will perform
 - a. A combination of snare rudiments, mallet etudes, and snare etudes. See the attached music for details.

Q: What if I can't play that stuff?

A: Practice makes perfect! Ask for help from teachers, 8th graders, and peers. Do your absolute best and try your hardest. We want to hear what you can do so that we place you in a group where you can grow as a musician.

Q: How many bands are there at Westwood?

A: There are three bands: Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band. All three bands perform concerts, play at pep rallies and football games, and go to contests. You will be placed in a band based on your audition and your progress throughout the whole year. When selecting your band placement, directors want to ensure that students are in a group where they will feel successful and can learn in a suitable environment for their personal growth.

Q: How do I audition if I am an incoming magnet student?

A: If you are not a student at one of our elementary schools (Northwood Hills, Spring Creek, Hamilton Park, Spring Valley, or Carolyn Bukhair) then you will audition between 4:00 and 5:00 on Wednesday, May 8th at Westwood Junior High School (7630 Arapaho Rd., Dallas, TX, 75248). Please enter through the exterior band hall doors on the east side of the school near the big parking lot and the track. There are music notes on the door and letters that say "band hall" on the brick wall.

