

## Piccolo, Woodwind Instrument

The three branches of the **woodwind family** have different sources of sound. The sounds made by **flutes** and **piccolos** are produced when the musician blows air across the hole in the mouthpiece, causing the air to vibrate.

The **piccolo** is exactly like the flute except that it is much smaller and is usually made of silver or wood. The pitch of the piccolo is higher than that of a flute. The word "**piccolo**" means "small" in the Italian language. It is the smallest instrument in the orchestra, and it plays the highest notes, which can be very loud and piercing.

