

Instrumental Repertoire

Choose songs you can use for the next three to five years. The goal is to have songs already prepared when auditions, talent shows, and family events arise. Make sure they are appropriate for your age and abilities. When first starting to build your repertoire, choose songs that are "easy" for you and fit your current skills. As you advance, choose songs that expand your range and abilities. Make sure you have sheet music and accompaniment tracks in the correct key. An internet search for any of these categories should give you plenty of ideas.

Basic Repertoire

1. **Fast Classical or Movie Theme Piece**

Something that showcases technical proficiency and precision. Ex. Bach's *Prelude and Fugue* or Beethoven's *Sonata Pathetique* (for pianists).

2. **Slow Classical or Movie Theme Piece**

A piece with emotional depth that you can use for weddings or more serious performances. Ex. Chopin's *Nocturnes* (piano), *Meditation* from *Thaïs* (violin), or *Clair de Lune* (piano).

3. **Pop/Rock Song (Fast)**

A popular song that showcases your style and is fun for social events. Ex. *Let It Be* (piano), *Sweet Child O' Mine* (guitar), *Uptown Funk* (bass), *Bohemian Rhapsody* (drums).

4. **Inspirational Piece**

A piece suitable for meaningful events such as weddings, funerals, or corporate events. Ex. *Canon in D* (piano/violin), *Imagine* (piano), or *What a Wonderful World* (trumpet).

5. **Folk Song or Traditional Tune**

Something that connects with a wide audience, especially for our senior center performances. Ex. *Greensleeves* (piano/violin), *Danny Boy* (guitar/violin), or *Shady Grove* (banjo).

Next Level Repertoire

6. **Virtuosic Classical Piece**

A challenging piece to show off your technique. Ex. Liszt's *Hungarian Rhapsody* (piano),

Paganini's *Caprices* (violin), or *Flight of the Bumblebee* (violin).

7. High Tessitura Piece

A melodic piece that showcases lyrical and expressive playing. Ex. *The Swan* (cello), *Sicilienne* by Faure (bassoon), or *Ave Maria* (violin).

8. Character Piece (Comedy/Fun)

A fun piece where you can incorporate humor or playful elements. Ex. *The Entertainer* (piano), *Funky Fiddle* (violin), *The Pink Panther* (bass), or *Yakety Sax* (saxophone).

9. Modern Pop Song

A current pop or rock hit that can be performed with a personal twist. Ex. *Shape of You* (guitar), *Blinding Lights* (bass), *Someone Like You* (piano).

10. Patriotic Song

A song suitable for patriotic events. Ex. *Stars and Stripes Forever* (band), *God Bless America* (trumpet), or *America the Beautiful* (piano).

11. "Get the Party Started" Song

A piece that's upbeat and guarantees audience engagement. Ex. *Happy* (piano), *Uptown Funk* (bass), *Can't Stop the Feeling* (guitar).

12. Holiday Song

Perfect for holiday-themed performances. Ex. *Jingle Bells* (piano), *Silent Night* (violin), *Carol of the Bells* (guitar).

13. Wedding/Love Song

A piece that's great for romantic occasions. Ex. *Canon in D* (violin), *A Thousand Years* (piano), *Your Song* (guitar).

14. Worship/Church Song

A piece you can perform in a spiritual setting. Ex. *Ave Maria* (violin/piano), *How Great Thou Art* (bass/guitar), *Be Thou My Vision* (piano).

15. Country Tune

A lively country piece for casual events. Ex. *Jolene* (guitar), *Take Me Home, Country Roads* (violin), or *Ring of Fire* (bass).

16. Cultural Song

A song from another culture to challenge your skills. Ex. *Ode to Joy* (German, piano/violin), *Hava Nagila* (violin), or *La Vie en Rose* (guitar).

17. Jazz Standard

A piece that can add sophistication and flair. Ex. *Take Five* (bass), *Autumn Leaves*

(piano), *So What* (trumpet).

18. Oldie (50s/60s)

Something nostalgic and fun for classic social events. Ex. *Yesterday* (piano), *The Twist* (bass), or *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star* (violin).

For the Serious Instrumentalists

19. Latin Jazz or Bossa Nova Piece

A challenging, rhythmically complex piece. Ex. *Desafinado* (saxophone), *The Girl from Ipanema* (piano), *Chega de Saudade* (guitar).

20. Opera or Classical Aria/Recitative Accompanying a Live Singer

An intricate and technically demanding classical or operatic piece. Ex. *Nessun Dorma* (violin/piano), *O Mio Babbino Caro* (violin), or *Voi Che Sapete* (violin).

21. Ragtime

A genre that blends classical technique with syncopated rhythms. Ex. *Maple Leaf Rag* (piano), *The Entertainer* (piano), or *Pine Apple Rag* (clarinet).

22. Ethnic Folk Music

A piece representing a specific culture, often requiring unique playing techniques and rhythms. Ex. *Balkan folk songs* (violin), *Celtic tunes* (flute), *Indian classical ragas* (sitar).

23. Original Work - 1-3 minute song, written, recorded and performed by the student