

What is a vocalist?

A **vocalist** is a person who uses their voice to make music. You can use your voice to make percussive sounds, chanting/rapping, and singing.

Vocalists can perform any type of music. They can perform country, pop, gospel, rap, sacred, classical, Broadway, opera, folk, etc.

Vocalists sing solos and sing in small groups and large groups. Large groups are called **choirs** and **chorus**. Small groups of singers can be called **back up singers** in a band.

Sometimes large choruses will sing with a large orchestra.

Types of vocal music you may not have seen yet.....

Solo singers dominate popular music. We are used to seeing pop stars sing. But one of the best vocalists is also the most unusual. His name is Bobby McFerrin:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BhsYbXwf4>

Here is a good example of a Chorus: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdnPAIFn32A>

Back Up Singers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtwHv8Lcsns>

Music that is written for Symphony Orchestras that have choir parts is usually spiritual music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bR0cEOTpYSk>

Barber Shop Quartet: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdTS6-fbNH0>

Acapella singers don't sing with instruments. They use percussive sounds they can make with their voice that sound like instruments (we also call this a beat box).

Acapella: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IExW80sXsHs>

Scroll down for some pictures.....

