

Baltimore's Marching Ravens 2025 Audition Guide



Thank you for auditioning for the 2025 season of Baltimore's Marching Ravens. Included you will find information regarding the music audition, marching audition, and start of season dates. The goal of Marching Raven auditions is to ensure that the highest quality musicians and marchers represent the Ravens in every aspect of musical performance. We are the largest musical group in the NFL; representing our team, metropolitan Baltimore, the state of Maryland, and the NFL on local and world stages.

Season Opening Dates

- ❖ May 7 "Welcome to the Flock", rookie orientation and rehearsal, drumline rehearsal
- May 14 Full Band Orientation followed by rookie and drumline rehearsal, veteran marcher equipment distribution and uniform fitting (TBD)
- ❖ May 21 Full band first rehearsal
- ❖ Wednesdays Rehearsal

Wind Music Auditions

The wind music audition will consist of three (3) parts: scales, two etudes, and sight reading. Each part of the audition may be performed for a different set of adjudicators. Adjudicators are instructional staff and local professionals within the music and marching community. Scoring for the audition is point based. The scoring guide is based on criteria used by the Pennsylvania Music Educators' Association, Maryland Music Educators' Association, and National Association for Music Education. Wind audition music can be found on pages 2-17.

Percussion Music Auditions

The percussion music audition will generally consist of three parts: basics, technique, and sight reading. Adjudicators are instructional staff and local professionals within the music and marching community. Scoring for the music audition is point based. The scoring guide is based on criteria used by the Pennsylvania Music Educators' Association, Maryland Music Educators' Association, and National Association for Music Education. Percussion audition music can be found on pages 18-19.

Marching Auditions

Marching Auditions will take place on a clearly marked surface, so please come prepared with the appropriate athletic wear (sneakers, and loose or flexible clothing). The marching audition will consist of **2 Stages: Marching Basics** and **Drill Learning.** Judges for marching will consist of Outside Adjudicators and Instructional Staff. Marching Auditions will be completed in groups. Rarely will you march as an individual, so it makes sense to work with others during the marching audition. The Marching Ravens use a "low step" march. **Most importantly:** if you make a mistake do not be discouraged, stay positive and just keep going. Marching audition material can be found on pages 20-24.



PICCOLO

Part 1: Scales

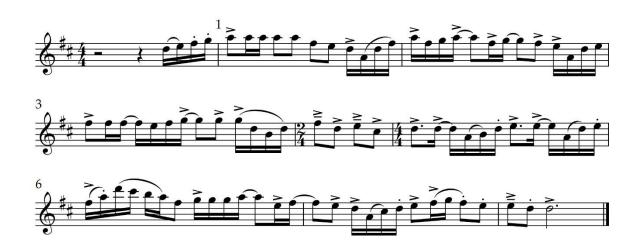
- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

All woodwinds will perform Etude 1.

Baltimore's Marching Ravens 2025

Woodwind etude #1



Monologue - excerpt



Part 3: Sight Reading.



FLUTE

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

All woodwinds will perform Etude 1.

Baltimore's Marching Ravens 2025

Woodwind etude #1



Part 3: Sight Reading.



CLARINET

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

All woodwinds will perform Etude 1.

Baltimore's Marching Ravens 2025

Woodwind etude #1



Part 3: Sight Reading.



Wind Instrument Audition 2025

SAXOPHONE — ALTO
SAXOPHONE — TENOR
SAXOPHONE — BARI

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

All woodwinds will perform Etude 1.

Baltimore's Marching Ravens 2025

Woodwind etude #1



Saxophone Etude (Excerpt)



Part 3: Sight Reading.



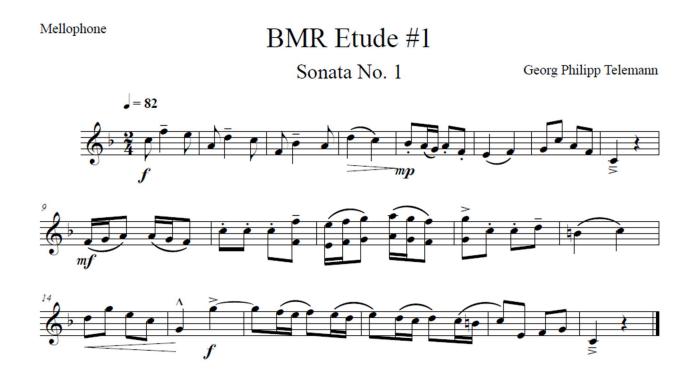
MELLOPHONE

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

• Please prepare both selections. The second selection can be found on the next page.





Part 3: Sight Reading

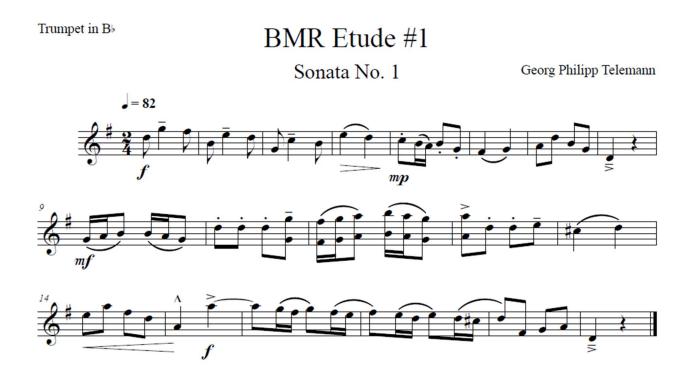


Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

• Please prepare both selections. The second selection can be found on the next page.





Excerpts from "Bad Guy"

Billie Eilish



Part 3: Sight Reading



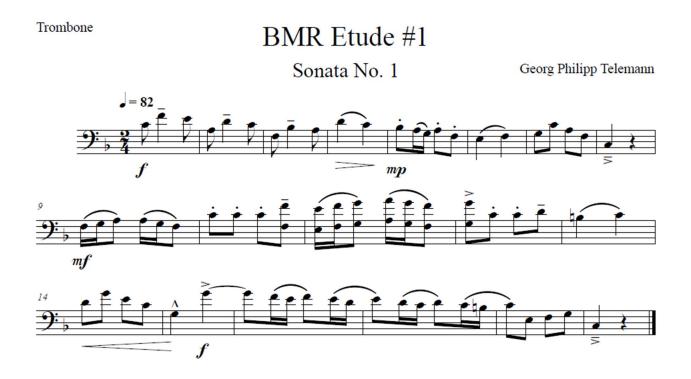
TROMBONE

Part 1: Scales

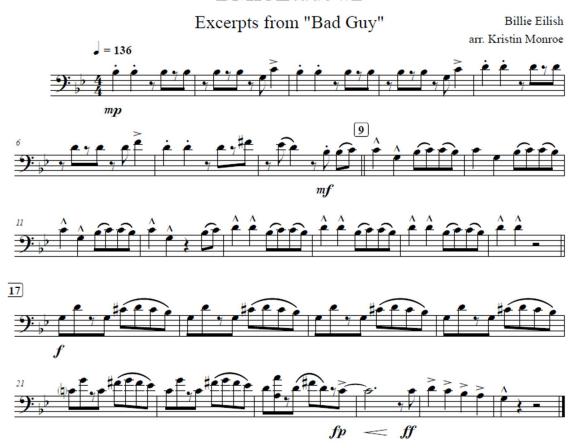
- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

• Please prepare both selections. The second selection can be found on the next page.







Part 3: Sight Reading



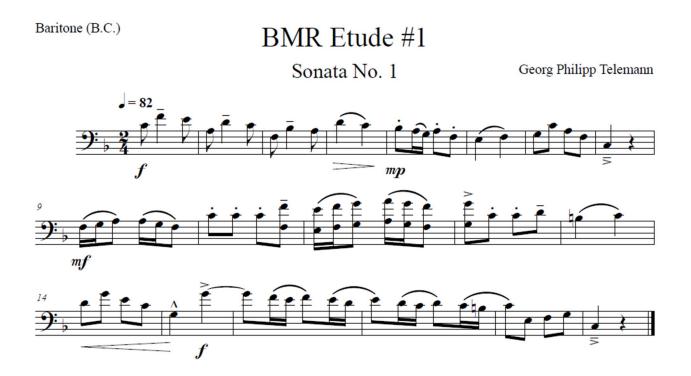
BARITONE B.C.

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

• Please prepare both selections. The second selection can be found on the next page.







Part 3: Sight Reading



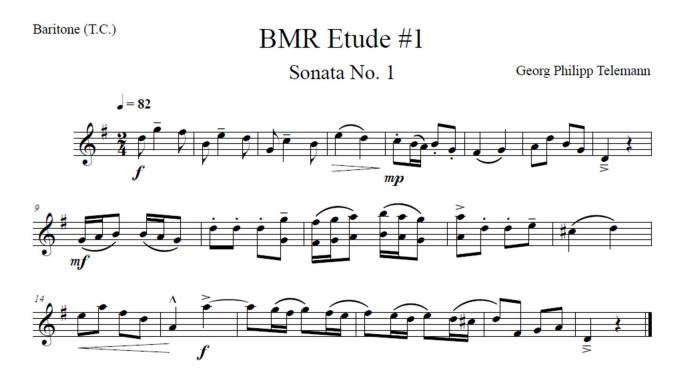
BARITONE T.C.

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

• Please prepare both selections. The second selection can be found on the next page.





Excerpts from "Bad Guy"

Billie Eilish



Part 3: Sight Reading



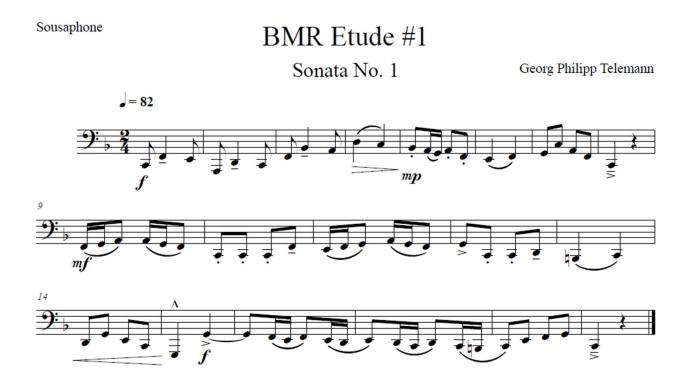
SOUSAPHONE

Part 1: Scales

- 2 Octave Chromatic scale starting on any pitch.
- Major scales up to 4 sharps or 4 flats (2 octaves)
- Scales should be performed in eighth notes at a minimum of quarter note = 120 bpm

Part 2: Etudes

• Please prepare both selections. The second selection can be found on the next page.





Part 3: Sight Reading



SNARE DRUM TENOR DRUM BASS DRUM

Part 1: Basics – Snare, Tenor, & Bass Drum

- You will be asked to perform your interpretation of each of the following exercises.
- Performance tempos are 100bpm and 120bpm



Part 2: Variations of Purple Grind performed at 110bpm.

- Accents 6", Tap 1"
- Buzz press on Accents
- Diddles on taps

Part 3: Sight Reading. You will see this part on audition day.



CYMBAL MUSIC

Part 1: Basic Crashes

• You will be asked to perform the following exercise and showcase your knowledge of different crash styles. Crashes may be picked at random from the judge to demonstrate.



Part 3: Prepare to perform a musical selection of your choice demonstrating at least 4 crash styles, rhythmic body motion throughout the piece as well as common cymbal technique and visuals. This selection should not exceed 3 minutes, but at least 1 minute. Bluetooth speaker will be provided.

Marching Auditions will take place on a clearly marked surface, so please come prepared with the appropriate athletic wear (sneakers, and loose or flexible clothing). The marching audition will consist of **2 Stages: Marching Basics** and **Drill Learning.** Judges for marching will consist of Outside Adjudicators and Instructional Staff. Marching Auditions will be completed in groups. Rarely will you march as an individual, so it makes sense to work with others during the marching audition. The Marching Ravens use a "low step" march. **Most importantly:** if you make a mistake do not be discouraged, stay positive and just keep going.

Stage 1: Marching Basics with Playing

In this Stage each performer will march basic maneuvers while playing. Performers will march everything below as one connected exercise. This stage will be performed twice at 2 separate tempos and will be reset in between. Below are the instructions and the music for the exercise. This should be memorized.

Stage 2: Drill Learning

In this Stage each performer will be given a **Coordinate Sheet** (see page 24 for an example) with specific positions on the field. It will consist of **Multiple Drill Sets** and in larger groups. Each performer will be given time to find each Drill Set (one set at a time) and will be given repetitions of each set before putting them all together. Drill Learning will end with full run-throughs of all sets connected at 3 separate tempos (100, 132, 160 bpm).



STAGE 1 – SNARE, TENOR, BASS

Stage 1 Counts

- 16ct Hold (m1-4)
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Right Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- 4ct Hold (m23)
- 4ct Turn (m24)

- 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Hold (m43-44)

- 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 4ct Hold (m23)
- 4ct Turn (m24)

- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Right Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Hold (m43-44)
- Sticks Down

Stage 1 Music

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STAGE 1 - CYMBALS

Stage 1 Counts

- 16ct Hold (m1-4)
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 4ct Hold (m23)
- 4ct Turn (m24)

- 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Left Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Hold (m43-44)

- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Right Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 4ct Hold (m23)
- 4ct Turn (m24)

- 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Hold (m43-44)
- · Cymbals Down

Stage 1 Music

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STAGE 1 - WINDS

Stage 1 Counts

- 16ct Hold (m1-4)
- 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Forward Left Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Forward Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Forward Left Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Forward Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 4ct Hold (m23)
- 4ct Turn (m24)

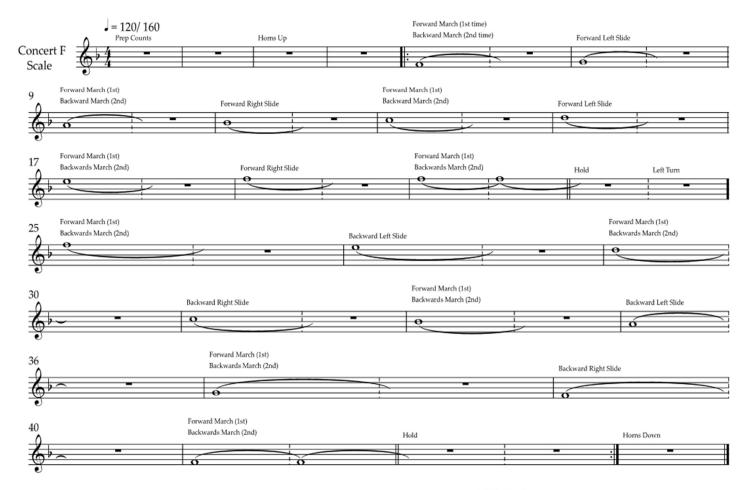
- 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Backward Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Backward Right Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Backward Left Slide
- · 8ct Forward March
- · 8ct Backward Right Slide
- 8ct Forward March
- 8ct Hold (m43-44)

- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Forward Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Forward Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Forward Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Forward Right Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- 4ct Hold (m23)
- 4ct Turn (m24)

- · 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Backward Left Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Backward Right Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Backward Left Slide
- · 8ct Backward March
- · 8ct Backward Right Slide
- 8ct Backward March
- 8ct Hold (m43-44)
- Horns Down

Stage 1 Music

BMR Auditions 2025



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STAGE 2 - DRILL LEARNING

In this Stage each performer will be given a **Coordinate Sheet** (see example) with specific positions on the field. It will consist of multiple drill sets and in larger groups. Each performer will be given time to find each Drill Set (one set at a time) and will be given repetitions of each set before putting them all together. Drill Learning will end with full runthroughs of all sets connected at 3 separate tempos (100, 132, 160 bpm).

*This segment of auditions is used to recreate the drill learning process throughout the season.

The Marching Ravens use Individual Coordinate Sheets for each performer for field shows. Each performer is expected to write their positions in their music and have the Ultimate Drill Book App to reference when rehearsing field shows. The Marching Ravens use an "8 to 5" step grid like most Drum Corps, High School, and Collegiate Bands. Please see the example below on reading coordinate sheets.

Example of Coordinate Sheet

- Side 1 = Performers Stage Right Side of 50
- Side 2 = Performers Stage Left Side of 50
- Inside = Towards the 50 Yard Line
- Outside = Away from 50 Yard Line
- Measure = Measure Numbers for move
- Counts = Beats/ Counts for each move

Performer: John Ziemann Symbol: X Label: 1				BMR Auditions 2024
Set	Measure	Count	s SIDE 1-SIDE 2	FRONT-BACK
0	Opening S	0	SIDE 2: 2.0 steps OUTSIDE 40 yd In	8.0 steps in front of FRONT HASH
1		16	SIDE 2: 3.75 steps OUTSIDE 50 yd In	1.5 steps in front of FRONT HASH
2		16	SIDE 1: 1.5 steps INSIDE 45 yd In	1.25 steps behind FRONT HASH
3	1/2 time	32	SIDE 1: 1.5 steps OUTSIDE 45 yd In	4.25 steps behind FRONT HASH
4		16	SIDE 1: 2.0 steps OUTSIDE 40 yd In	5.0 steps in front of BACK HASH
5		12	SIDE 1: On 40 yd In	8.0 steps in front of FRONT HASH
5A	hold	8	SIDE 1: On 40 yd In	8.0 steps in front of FRONT HASH

Field Set Up

