

# MUSICIAN

Musicians play one or more musical instruments in recital, in accompaniment, or as members of an orchestra, band, or other musical group.

## DUTIES

A person in this career:

- Practices musical instrument performances, individually or in rehearsal with other musicians, to master individual pieces of music or to maintain and improve skills.
- Performs before live audiences in concerts, recitals, educational presentations, and other social gatherings.
- Specializes in playing a specific family of instruments or a particular type of music.
- Plays musical instruments as soloists, or as members or guest artists of musical groups such as orchestras, ensembles, or bands.
- Sight-reads musical parts during rehearsals.
- Plays from memory or by following scores.
- Listens to recordings to master pieces or to maintain and improve skills.
- Teaches music for specific instruments.
- Provides the musical background for live shows, such as ballets, operas, musical theatre, and cabarets.
- Auditions for orchestras, bands, or other musical groups.

Musicians' lives revolve around several key activities. Much of their time is spent practicing and rehearsing the music. Then, of course, performing is a big part of the job. Finally, some musicians get the chance to record their music for their fans.

Practice is the main part of this job. Many musicians practice up to 4 or 5 hours a day. Without practice, their shows and recordings won't be successful. No one would buy their music or pay to hear them perform. Even when they are on tour, they still need to set aside time to practice.

Musicians play all styles of music, from classical to jazz to rock. They perform solo or as a member of a band or orchestra. They may perform in front of audiences that range from 10 people to tens of thousands. Successful musicians are often invited to go on tour.

Performances and rehearsals go hand in hand for musicians. The purpose of rehearsals is to practice an upcoming event from start to finish. Final rehearsals take place the day of a concert. This gives musicians a chance to get used to the venue where they will perform.



## SALARY INFORMATION

Location	2018				
	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
California	\$42,710	\$54,200	\$69,730	\$92,680	\$121,660

\*Pay period based on yearly amount.

## EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK



Stable growth rate is estimated to be **7%**



**1,730** estimated annual job openings

Musicians may perform in a new city every day when they are on tour. They can visit 12 cities in a 2-week period! This happens a lot when they play in bands that work with popular singers. Depending on the type of concert, musicians may interact with their audiences. They may even joke around with them. But, they must still deliver a memorable show.

## RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Self-Enrichment Education Teachers ☀️
- Teacher Assistants ☀️
- Singers
- Radio and Television Announcers
- Tour Guides and Escorts ☀️

