

Andante ♩ = 80

Violin 1
p

Violin 2
p

Viola
p

Cello
p

Double Bass

This example presents our second orchestration problem: using winds as harmony instruments. While using one woodwind instrument alone as a melodic soloist is fairly straightforward, making the whole family blend into harmony is quite difficult, because the instruments are really not from the same family.

On the top two staves we present an extract from a Bach chorale (N.B. These two staves do NOT play back). The string orchestra version below (which does play back) will serve us as a basis for comparison, since, unlike winds, strings blend beautifully. Notice how it is quite hard to distinguish what the middle parts are doing here, except when they move faster than the outer parts. This is typical of a good blend.

Assignment: Try to set this chorale for woodwinds, first *piano* and then *forte*. Aim for a blended sound.