

Andante ♩ = 80 J.S. Bach

The musical score consists of four staves, each representing a different instrument. The top staff is for Flute 1, the second for Oboe 1, the third for Clarinet in B \flat 1, and the bottom for Bassoon 1. All instruments play in a common time signature of 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a quarter note equal to 80 beats per minute. The key signature is one flat (B \flat). The flute part starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and moves to pianissimo (*pp*) later. The oboe, clarinet, and bassoon parts also start with a piano (*p*) dynamic and move to pianissimo (*pp*) later. The overall texture is contrapuntal, with each instrument playing a distinct melodic line.

This example is a slight improvement.

- By moving the flute up an octave, we now have it playing in a better register, so the balance is reasonable: The melody at least stands out now. Notice that the two middle parts have been inverted (exchanged), to avoid having them bunched together, too far from the soprano and bass lines. This also puts the oboe into a better register, less prominent, and the overall spacing between the instruments is more or less even.

However:

- the overall effect is still very contrapuntal; it does not sound like a mass of harmony, but like four melodic lines playing together.

How could this be improved?