Trombone slide positions chart

The seven slide positions of the B♭ tenor trombone with the notes in every position (partials 1–10), alternate positions, and the F attachment (trigger). Printable, free PDF in A4 and Letter.

Notes use scientific pitch notation (middle C is C4). The tenor trombone is a non-transposing instrument, so written and sounding pitch are the same; the part is normally read in bass clef.

B♭ tenor trombone: the note in every slide position, by partial

POSITION	SLIDE OUT CM / IN	PARTIAL (HARMONIC) PLAYED WITH THE LIPS									
		1 PEDAL	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1st (B♭)	0 / 0.0	B♭1	B♭2	F3	B♭3	D4	F4	*A♭4*†	B♭4	C5	D5
2nd (A)	8 / 3.2	A1	A2	E3	A3	C♯4	E4	*G4*†	A4	B4	C♯5
3rd (A♭)	17 / 6.6	A♭1	A♭2	E♭3	A♭3	C4	E♭4	*G♭4*†	A♭4	B♭4	C5
4th (G)	26 / 10.2	G1	G2	D3	G3	B3	D4	*F4*†	G4	A4	B4
5th (G♭)	36 / 14.0	G♭1	G♭2	D♭3	G♭3	B♭3	D♭4	*E4*†	G♭4	A♭4	B♭4
6th (F)	46 / 18.1	F1	F2	C3	F3	A3	C4	*E♭4*†	F4	G4	A4
7th (E)	57 / 22.4	(E1)	E2	B2	E3	G♯3	B3	*D4*†	E4	F♯4	G♯4

† Seventh partial: about 31 cents flat; play it with the slide a little shorter, or use an alternate position. Pedal notes (partial 1) are hard to produce and used rarely; the seventh-position pedal E1 is theoretical. Distances are calculated from a 9 ft tube and are only a guide.

With the F attachment (trigger) engaged: six positions, one third further apart

TRIGGER POSITION	1 PEDAL	2	3	4	5	6	SAME SERIES AS
T1 (F)	F1	F2	C3	F3	A3	C4	6th position
T2 (E)	E1	E2	B2	E3	G♯3	B3	7th position
T3 (E♭)	E♭1	**E♭2**	B♭2	E♭3	G3	B♭3	longer than 7th
T4 (D)	D1	**D2**	A2	D3	F♯3	A3	longer than 7th
T5 (D♭)	D♭1	**D♭2**	A♭2	D♭3	F3	A♭3	longer than 7th
T6 (C)	C1	**C2**	G2	C3	E3	G3	longer than 7th

Bold notes are below E2 and exist only with the trigger. T1 and T2 give the same notes as 6th and 7th position in a shorter slide length. B♮1 is not on the F side; pull the trigger tuning slide out to E to get it in a very long position.

Note finder: which position for which note

Most common position first. “short 4” means fourth position with the slide a little shorter than usual. T = F attachment (trigger) engaged, then the position. C2 to F5, bass clef, sounding pitch.

C2	—	**T6**
C♯2 / D♭2	—	**T5**
D2	—	**T4**
D♯2 / E♭2	—	**T3**
E2	**7**	**T2**
F2	**6**	**T1**
F♯2 / G♭2	**5**	—
G2	**4**	**T6**
G♯2 / A♭2	**3**	**T5**
A2	**2**	**T4**
A♯2 / B♭2	**1**	**T3**
B2	**7**	**T2**
C3	**6**	**T1**
C♯3 / D♭3	**5**	—
D3	**4**	—
D♯3 / E♭3	**3**	—
E3	**2 · 7**	—
F3	**1 · 6**	—
F♯3 / G♭3	**5**	—
G3	**4**	—
G♯3 / A♭3	**3 · 7**	—

A3	**2 · 6**	—
A♯3 / B♭3	**1 · 5**	—
B3	**4 · 7**	—
C4	**3 · 6**	—
C♯4 / D♭4	**2 · 5**	—
D4	**1 · 4**	—
D♯4 / E♭4	**3** · short 6	—
E4	**2** · short 5	—
F4	**1** · short 4 · **6**	—
F♯4 / G♭4	**short 3 · 5**	—
G4	**short 2 · 4**	—
G♯4 / A♭4	**3 · 5**	—
A4	**2 · 4**	—
A♯4 / B♭4	**1 · 3**	—
B4	**2 · 4**	—
C5	**1 · 3**	—
C♯5 / D♭5	**2 · 5**	—
D5	**1** · short 3 · **4**	—
D♯5 / E♭5	**short 2 · 3**	—
E5	**2**	—
F5	**1**	—