

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	—	<u>T6</u>
C #2 / D ♭2	—	<u>T5</u>
D2	—	<u>T4</u>
D #2 / E ♭2	—	<u>T3</u>
E2	7	<u>T2</u>
F2	6	<u>T1</u>
F #2 / G ♭2	5	—
G2	4	<u>T6</u>
G #2 / A ♭2	3	<u>T5</u>
A2	2	<u>T4</u>
A #2 / B ♭2	1	<u>T3</u>
B2	7	<u>T2</u>
C3	6	<u>T1</u>
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	—