

Vocal ranges: sources compared

Lowest-highest note · C4 = middle C · musictheoryprint.com

VOICE	TYPICAL Wikipedia, Voice type	EXTREME same article	NEW HARVARD DICTIONARY	GROVE	OPERATIC Wikipedia, Vocal range	SPREAD low / high, semitones
Soprano	C4–C6	A3–F6	C4–A5	C4–A5	C4–G6	0 / 10
Mezzo-soprano	A3–A5	F3–C6	A3–F5	A3–F $\sharp$ 5	A3–G5	0 / 4
Contralto	F3–F5	D3–B $\flat$ 5	F3–D5	F3–D5	F3–C5	0 / 5
Countertenor	E3–E5	—	—	—	—	—
Tenor	C3–C5	B $\flat$ 2–F5	B2–G4	C3–A4	D3–A4	3 / 5
Baritone	A2–A4	F2–C5	G2–E4	A2–F4	B2–F4	4 / 5
Bass	E2–E4	C2–G4	E2–C4	F2–E4	G2–C4	3 / 4
Treble (boy soprano)	A3–F5	A3–C6	—	—	—	—

- **Harvard and Grove list “alto”** (Harvard F3–D5, Grove G3–E5 with contralto F3–D5). The Harvard column shows its alto figure on the contralto row. Neither lists countertenor or treble. For the countertenor, BBC Music Magazine’s site gives about G3–E5, and Wikipedia’s “Countertenor” article E3–D5 or E5.
- **The spread is largest at the top of the soprano** (C6 in “Voice type”, A5 in Harvard and Grove, G6 in “Vocal range”), where it depends on whether the writer means choral or operatic singing. “Vocal range” itself calls its figures approximations that are “not meant to be too rigidly applied”.
- **Baritone:** Wikipedia’s own “Baritone” article gives G2–G4 as the usual range, and says composers write A2–A4 for opera and F2–F4 in choral music. The figure shown here is from “Voice type”. Wikipedia marks those baritone sentences as lacking a citation.
- **What is fixed across sources:** the order from soprano down to bass, the overlap of neighbouring voices, and that the middle two female and male voices (mezzo-soprano, baritone) overlap both neighbours. The exact edges are conventions; use them as a guide and let a voice teacher classify a real voice.

Wikipedia, “[Voice type](#)” (after McKinney, *The Diagnosis and Correction of Vocal Faults*), “[Vocal range](#)”, “[Baritone](#)”, “[Countertenor](#)” (CC BY-SA 4.0); *The New Harvard Dictionary of Music* and *Grove Music Online* as quoted by [Yale University Library](#); classical-music.com, musictheoryprint.com/charts/voice-types-vocal-range-chart