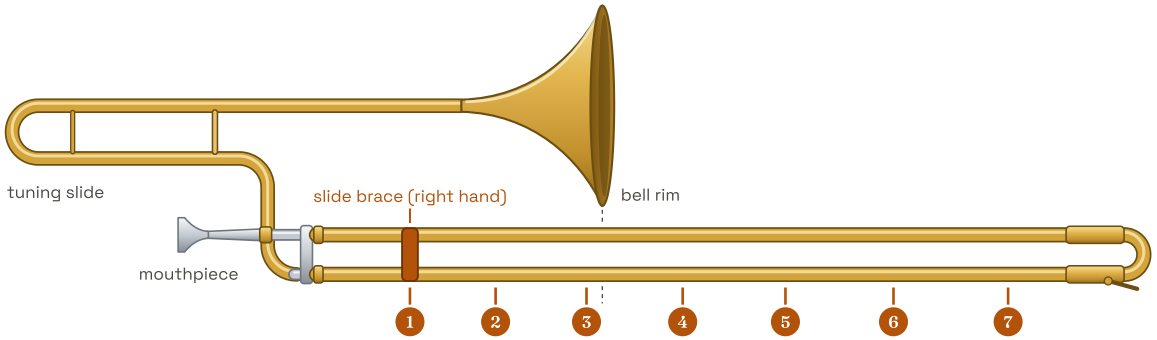
Trombone slide *positions*

All seven positions on a tenor trombone, with the notes each one gives. Bass clef, concert pitch.

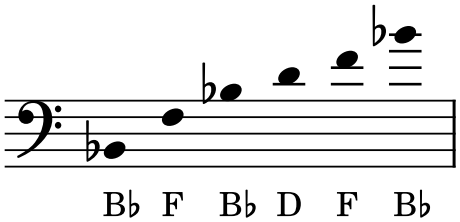
Matt Waters
Low brass teacher, Leicestershire
basstrombone.co.uk



These positions are approximate. Every trombone and every player is a little different. Always use your ears: move the slide until each note sounds centred and in tune.

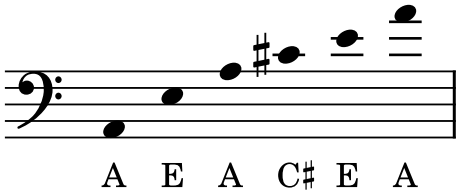
1st

All the way in



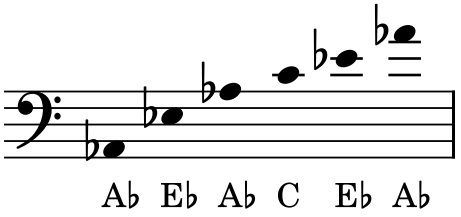
2nd

About 8 cm out



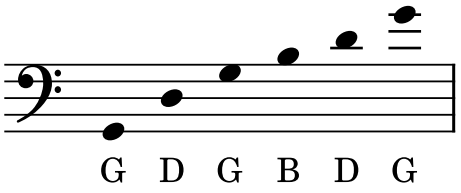
3rd

Brace near the bell rim



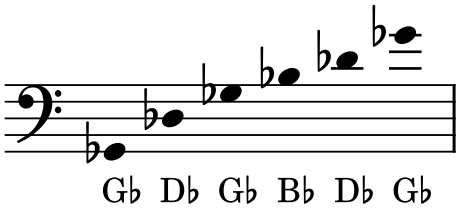
4th

Just past the bell



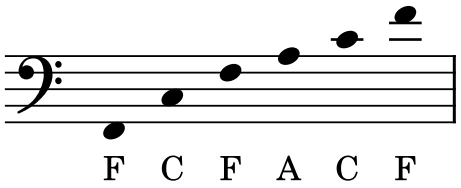
5th

A comfortable arm's reach



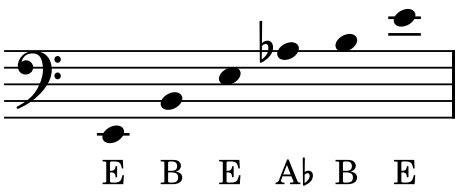
6th

Extended arm



7th

Full stretch



How to read it. Each position gives several notes. You move between them with lips and air, not the slide: a faster buzz gives a higher note. Each stave runs from the 2nd partial up to the 8th. The 7th partial is left out because it plays flat.

Common alternates: F3 in 6th, B♭3 in 5th (slightly in), A3 in 6th, C4 in 6th, D4 in 4th, E4 in short 5th, F4 in short 4th.

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