



Music Arranger Audition Requirements

Music Theory:

Construct the following scales in selected keys from memory: major, minor, and modal, whole tone, lydian-dominant, half/whole diminished, blues scales.

Construct simple and compound intervals.

Construct the following chords in open and closed positions and in all inversions: major sevenths, dominant sevenths, diminished sevenths, ninths, elevenths, thirteenth.

Define simple, compound and mixed meters.

Construct examples of the following meters using conventional notations: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 5/4, 7/4, 2/2, 3/2, 4/2, 3/8, 5/8, 6/8, 7/8, 9/8, 11/8, 12/8, etc.

Describe and construct examples of chord progressions within a given key, demonstrating standard root movement, secondary dominants and augmented sixth chords.

Construct polychords, tone clusters, quartal harmonies, standard alterations (flat five, flat nine, sharp eleventh, etc).

Demonstrating good voice leading, describe and construct examples of reharmonization (use of substitute chords of a chord progression).

Illustrate the limitations of all instruments used in Air Force musical ensembles in terms of range, transpositions, tonal and other characteristics, idiomatic usage.

Sample of Works:

Show a representative sample of works suitable for public performance exhibiting originality and ingenuity in a variety of styles and media found in typical Air Force musical productions (popular and patriotic songs; a medley of the same for concert band/show band, marching band, jazz band, pop music combo or protocol combo; or transcriptions for concert band of music literature from other ensembles). They should demonstrate the highest standards in orchestration, harmony, rhythm, melody, clarity of manuscript and presentation, broad knowledge of musical terms, counterpoint, arranging techniques (introductions, interludes, turnarounds, etc.). Works can be instrumentals as well as vocal solos.

Arrangements:

On the spot 12-16 bar arranging excerpt for concert band/show band (using a lead sheet) and two 12-16 bar transcriptions for concert band from orchestral works (one using a score, the other by ear).