A Mello Catechism

A Guide to the World of Mellophones and Marching Horns

John Q. Ericson
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A Mello Warm-Up

The First Note

\[ \text{\( \dot{\text{r}} = 80-96 \)} \]

Center the Embouchure

\[ \text{\( \dot{\text{r}} = 60 \)} \]

Work Up

\[ \text{\( \dot{\text{r}} \)} \]
**Historical footnote: mellophones have long been used as a substitute for horns.**

An example may be seen below in the photo of a typical town band from the first part of the twentieth century, specifically a 1921 photo of the town band of my hometown of Emporia, Kansas, Grady’s Band.

In one of the more youthful looking sections of the band, in the second row on the left behind bandleader M. C. Grady, we find four mellophone players. This is in addition to seven trumpets, six trombones, one baritone, two tubas, two piccolos, ten clarinets, five saxophones, and two percussionists. Horn players are not seen; mellophones crooked in F are covering the horn parts of this typical 39 piece band.