

# Harmonic Series Intonation Tendencies

Mother Nature

These are tendencies in a perfect harmonic series. The trombone is far from perfect, but usually its tendencies are similar. They are expressed in cents (1/100th of a semitone): +2 = two cents sharp. The same tendencies should exist in every position and will likely be exaggerated. Use a tuner app to identify the tendencies of your instrument(s) – they can vary considerably.

The image displays two musical staves illustrating intonation tendencies for a harmonic series. The top staff is in bass clef (4/4 time) and the bottom staff is in treble clef (4/4 time). Each staff shows six measures with notes and their corresponding intonation tendencies in cents.

Staff	Measure	Intonation Tendency (cents)
Bass Clef	1	0
	2	0
	3	+2
	4	0
	5	-14
	6	+2
Treble Clef	7	-29
	8	0
	9	+4
	10	-14
	11	+51
	12	+2