Musical Instrument Sound Chart

THE chart shown below indicates the audible frequency range of a variety of musical instruments. In most cases, the range indicates not only the instrument's fundamental frequency, but certain overtones that create the distinctive character of the instrument. In the case of the piano, note that the instrument keyboard goes to a lower fundamental frequency than is shown by the frequency range indicated

near the top of the chart. This is because the output at the lower piano notes are mainly harmonic in nature.

Not shown on the chart are the high-frequency noises that accompany many instruments to produce a certain amount of "color", *i.e.*, reed noise in the woodwinds, bowing noises in the stringed instruments, and key clicks and thumps of the piano and percussion instruments, etc.

