

**Determine your grade - Déterminez votre catégorie - Uw graad vaststellen**

This is a guide for self-grading adapted from ACMP - the Chamber Music Network. It is intended for your own use. The grade you determine for yourself will be included in the next edition of our list.

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**First method**

- D. "Novice/Beginner."** You play selected repertoire carefully chosen to be within your technical limitations. On a first reading you usually aim to get through the music and end together without too many stops and starts in between.
- C. "Fair."** You are in the process of exploring the standard repertoire, perhaps avoiding those works that are currently too technically challenging. You concentrate on not making major mistakes while reading an unfamiliar part, though you are aware of what the others are doing. You often slow down a fast movement for technical reasons.
- B. "Good."** You are quite familiar with portions of the standard repertoire (perhaps pieces from certain periods or for certain instrumental combinations). You generally sound good on your instrument and sight-reading is not a problem. You usually pay attention to blend, balance, dynamics, and basic phrasing on a first reading.
- A. "Excellent."** You know much of the standard repertoire (from many time periods and for a variety of ensembles including your instrument) "inside out." If your partners make a mistake, you can often bring them back in without stopping. You are a *prima* sight-reader and consistently sound excellent on your instrument. You already aim for cohesive musical expressiveness with attention to fine nuance on a first reading.
- Pro – "Professional musician."** You are better than an "A" player. You often perform difficult chamber music works professionally.

Choose the category to which you belong according to the First method: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Second method**

1. Do you practice regularly? YES (*score 2*); SOMETIMES (*score 1*); NO (*score 0*)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  2. How often do you play? TWICE WEEKLY OR MORE (2); WEEKLY (1); LESS FREQUENTLY (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  3. How often do you get lost? RARELY (2); SOMETIMES (1); OFTEN (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  4. If you get lost, do you find your way back? ALWAYS (2); USUALLY (1); SELDOM (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  5. How good is your sight-reading? PRIMA (2); OK (1); POOR (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  6. With how many of the following works are you comfortable?  
 STRINGS: Quartets by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven Op. 18 ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW:(0)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 WINDS: Baroque Trio Sonatas, Haydn Divertimento "St. Anthoni Chorale," Dittersdorf  
 and other Pre-classical composers ALMOST ALL (2); MANY:(1); FEW (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 PIANISTS: Haydn Trios ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW:(0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  7. With how many of the following works are you comfortable?  
 STRINGS: Quartets and Quintets by Beethoven (Op. 59, 74, 95), Brahms, Debussy  
 ALMOST ALL (2); MANY. (1); FEW (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 WINDS: Mozart Serenades, Beethoven Octet, Quintets by Reicha, Ibert, Milhaud  
 ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 PIANISTS: Trios, Quartets, Quintets by Schubert, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Dvorak  
 ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
  8. With how many of the following works are you comfortable?  
 STRINGS: Quartets by Beethoven (late), Shostakovich, Debussy ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW (0)... \_\_\_\_\_  
 WINDS: Quintets by Hindemith, Nielsen, Barber, Ligeti; Clarinet Quintets by Brahms, Bliss;  
 Piano Sextet of Poulenc ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 PIANISTS: Brahms Trios, Quartets and Quintet, Trios of Ravel and Shostakovich  
 ALMOST ALL (2); MANY (1); FEW (0)..... \_\_\_\_\_
- Total:..... \_\_\_\_\_

Calculate your category according to Second method: Over 12 = **A** 9-12 = **B** 5-8 = **C** Under 5 = **D**.

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**Finally**

Take the average of **First** and **Second** method.  
 My grade is: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: You may use + or – to better define you grade (B+, C- etc.)