



RECORDING INSTRUCTIONS

All instruments and voice

Please read carefully items 1-5, and specific instrument requirements in item 6.

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1. Important General Rules:

- **Format:** Single, continuous, unedited recording in MP4 or MOV format, file size under 3GB (turn off HD).
- **Order:** Record technique/technical focus song first, then songs.
- **Sheet music verification:**
 - Photo:
 - Take a photo of yourself with the Trinity book or books (hard copy or e-download) and submit with the video
 - No photos needed with non-Trinity materials such as individual song downloads
 - Sheet Music:
 - Original TCL books or e-books with watermark clearly visible must be shown to the camera before starting to play
 - Legal downloads of individual songs: cover sheet shown to the camera before performing that specific song



- **No verbal cues:** Do not speak to the camera before playing.
- **Audio:** Use 1 room mic with no effects/enhancements. External accompaniments are allowed, but metronomes, counting, or prompt cues disqualify the student.
- **Memorization:** not required for songs, only for technique
- Don't delete the video until you receive the certificate.

2. Recording Environment

- **Quiet room**
- **Device:** check battery power and storage capacity
- **Check light levels:** you must be clearly visible on screen. Avoid standing in front of the light source.
- **Sound level:** no distortions

3. Equipment:

- **No enhancements:** such as reverb, compression, pitch or rhythm correction, tonal effects.
- **Only 1 microphone:** placed in the center of the room and not directly in front of the instrument/voice.
- **Breaks between songs:** must remain in the recording.
- **Separate audio and video recording devices:** allowed but must record simultaneously.

4. Troubleshooting - audio:

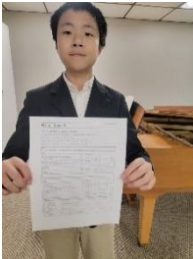
- **Automatic microphone compression:** turned off
- **If audio is distorted:** lower the microphone input level or move your recording device further away from the performer.
- **Turn off/disable the following features:** noise reduction, suppression of background noise, echo cancellation, sound correction, and audio stability.

5. Accompaniment tracks:

- **Track must be clearly audible in submitted video:** to the student and the judge
- **Balance between accompaniment track and student performance:** device with accompaniment track can be placed closer or further from the recording device for best balance
- **Soundcheck before recording:** make a short recording to check the balance
- **External device:** must be used for accompaniment tracks
- **R&P exams:** only with Trinity backing tracks downloaded from the Trinity website, otherwise grade lowered.

6. Instrument-Specific Requirements

- **Drum Kit / R&P Drums:** Camera at eye level on the right side looking through the Hi-Hat stand. Must capture full body, hands, feet, face, and whole kit.
 - **Songs from TCL books:** only show the cover of the book/e-book to the camera before playing
 - **Legal downloads:** show cover of every downloaded song to the camera before playing that song
 - **Technical work:** memorized, no headphones, metronome or clicker
 - **External backing track speaker:** required
 - **Only 1 mic**
 - **Music stand:** not blocking the student

- **Clickers:** allowed in some songs – check the book
 - **Soundcheck:** record the loudest sections of the exam then listen to that recording to make sure you can hear both the drum set and the backing track clearly
 - **Headphone splitter:** allowed
 - **Unaccompanied pieces from group B:** no headphones, metronome or clicker
 - **Recording angle:** <https://resources.trinitycollege.com/percussion/playing-an-acoustic-kit>
- **Piano:** Angle from the side showing face, both hands, keys, and pedals.
 - **Songs from TCL books:** only show the cover of the book or e-book to the camera before playing
 - **Legal downloads:** show cover of every downloaded song to the camera before playing that song
 - **Scales/arpeggios:** memorized; show the book cover to the camera then set aside;
 - **List of scales/arpeggios:** show the written list of technique to the camera and put it on the piano stand while playing
 - **Exercises:** book can be used
 - **Digital piano:** no special effects allowed
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- **Recording angle:** <https://www.trinitycollege.com/qualifications/music/grade-exams/piano/resources/piano-technical-work/initial-piano-exercises>
- **Voice:** Film from the front showing face, hands, and most of the body.
 - **Songs from TCL books:** only show the cover of the book or e-book to the camera before singing
 - **Legal downloads:** show cover of every downloaded song to the camera before singing it
 - **Exercises or folk songs:** memorized, show book cover to the camera and set it aside
 - **Music stand:** not blocking camera view
 - **Recording angle:** <https://resources.trinitycollege.com/singing/the-benefits-of-singing-in-a-foreign-language>

- **Strings:** Camera on the bowing side showing face, hands, instrument, and bowing arm.
 - **Songs from TCL books:** only show the cover of the book or e-book to the camera before playing the songs
 - **Legal downloads:** show cover of every downloaded song to the camera before playing it
 - **Scales, arpeggios, bowing exercises:** memorized, show book cover to the camera and set aside, not on the stand
 - **List of scales/arpeggios:** show the written list of technique to the camera and put it on stand while playing
 - **Studies and orchestral excerpts:** can use the book
 - **Music stand:** not blocking camera view
 - **Recording angle:** <https://resources.trinitycollege.com/strings/exploring-the-violin-repertoire-grade-6-grade-8>



- **Guitar:** Position slightly to the picking-hand side showing face, hands, instrument, and foot pedals. R&P - effects must be student-operated and visible.

Acoustic, R&P and classical

- **Songs from TCL books:** only show the cover of the book or e-book to the camera before playing the songs
- **Legal downloads:** show cover of every downloaded song to the camera before playing it
- **Music stand:** not blocking the camera view
- **Recording angle:** <https://resources.trinitycollege.com/acoustic-guitar/spotify>

Acoustic and Classical only:

- **Scales/arpeggios** memorized, show the book to the camera and set aside
- **List of scales/arpeggios:** show the written list of technique to the camera and put it on stand while playing
- **Classical guitar:** music can be used for exercises but not scales and arpeggios