

TRADITIONAL INSTRUMENTS OF AFRICA

(SOUTH OF THE SAHARA)

African Musical Instruments today include a wide variety of traditional instruments (below) plus modern Western instruments such as electric guitars, saxophones, basses, trumpets, and keyboards of all types. The names of instruments vary with each region and tribe.

DAWURO – one of many types of single iron bells shaped like a curled up leaf; played with metal beater



MBIRA (also known as *sansa* or *kalimba*) – a hand held hollow box or board with metal tongues plucked with thumbs; often played inside a large gourd resonator; it may have bottle caps or other metal attached to produce a buzzing sound



GANKOGUI (see Video 13) – metal double bell found throughout West Africa; played with wooden stick

IDIOPHONES

(main parts vibrate)



XYLOPHONE (see Video 17) – wooden keys played with mallets; may have gourd resonators under each key



SLIT DRUMS – also known as slit gongs are large hollow logs played with large wooden beaters; they are the ancient relatives of the modern wood block or tongue drums.



SHEKERE (see Video 3) – a medium-sized calabash gourd which has outer netting with attached seeds or shells

TRADITIONAL INSTRUMENTS OF AFRICA

(SOUTH OF THE SAHARA)

African Musical Instruments today include a wide variety of traditional instruments (below) plus modern Western instruments such as electric guitars, saxophones, basses, trumpets, and keyboards of all types. The names of instruments vary with each region and tribe.



KPANLOGO – a barrel-shaped drum carved from one log: found among the Ga people of Ghana; played with hands and sticks



DONNO (see Video 24) – one of the many names for the hourglass-shaped *talking drum*; throughout West Africa; played with an L-shaped stick

MEMBRANOPHONES

(membrane vibrates)



DJEMBE – a goblet-shaped drum played throughout West Africa



FRAME DRUMS
(see Video 23) – may be round or rectangular; played with the hand



SOGO – a barrel drum found among the Ewe people of Ghana; played with hands or sticks

TRADITIONAL INSTRUMENTS OF AFRICA

(SOUTH OF THE SAHARA)

African Musical Instruments today include a wide variety of traditional instruments (below) plus modern Western instruments such as electric guitars, saxophones, basses, trumpets, and keyboards of all types. The names of instruments vary with each region and tribe.



NATURAL HORN – made from an animal horn (kudu horn pictured); blown like a trumpet

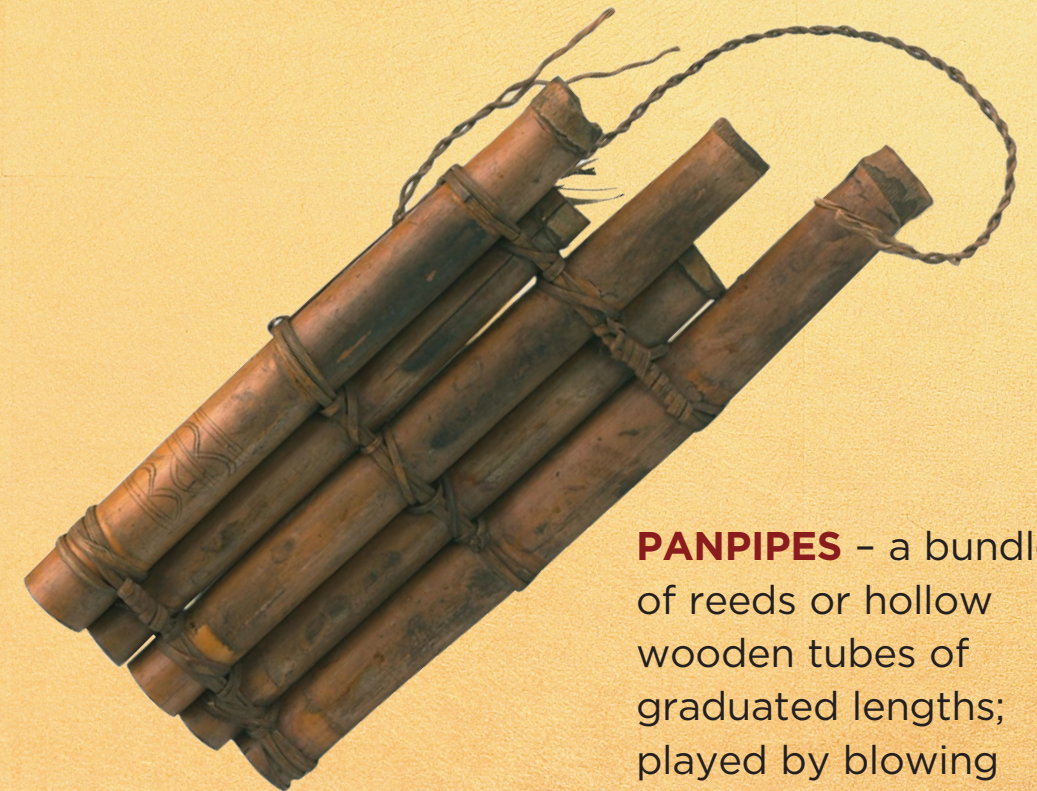


AEROPHONES

(air column vibrates)



FLUTE – natural wooden flutes of all sorts are played throughout Africa



PANPIPES – a bundle of reeds or hollow wooden tubes of graduated lengths; played by blowing over the top

TRADITIONAL INSTRUMENTS OF AFRICA

(SOUTH OF THE SAHARA)

African Musical Instruments today include a wide variety of traditional instruments (below) plus modern Western instruments such as electric guitars, saxophones, basses, trumpets, and keyboards of all types. The names of instruments vary with each region and tribe.

MUSICAL BOW – a single stringed instrument; played by plucking or hitting the string with a stick; often with an attached gourd resonator

CHORDOPHONES

(string(s) vibrates)

BOWED FIDDLE (see Video 36) – half gourd covered in leather, one-string, bowed

ARCHED HARP – one of many types of stringed harp-like instruments (including the *Kora*) found throughout parts of Africa; plucked

