

Part F: Musician skill levels

Church bands are a wonderful opportunity for musicians to be the gift to the church that God has made them to be. We want every musician to be developing their skills, at whatever stage they are currently at.

On the other hand, we should not expect everybody to have the skills required to be a blessing to the church on any given instrument.

These 'levels' sheets were developed by experienced music director Steve Crain to help identify a musician's current level of competency.

Level one for each instrument is intended as a basic level of competency required to play in a church band. If, after a relaxed informal audition, a musician doesn't seem to have level one nailed, it's not the end of the road. Book a follow up audition for a month's time and give them some guidance about what to work on.

If the musician has level one together, they can start playing at church. But that's not the end of the road either – the level's sheet can give them guidance about what they need to do to get to the next level.

Note: It is entirely appropriate that different churches will have different standards for their musicians. These standards might vary depending on the demands placed on their musicians in a given service (number of songs, rehearsal time, size of repertoire), the size of the church, the style of music played and the expectations of the congregation.