

The four most common voice types are Soprano, Mezzo Soprano, Tenor and Baritone.

FEMALE VOCAL RANGE

RANGE	FEMALE	EXAMPLES
Highest	Soprano	
	Coloratura Soprano	Lucia in Lucia di Lammermoor
	Lyric Soprano	Violetta in La Traviata
	Dramatic Soprano	Leonara in Il Trovatore
	Mezzo Soprano	
	Coloratura Mezzo	Rosina in The Barber of Seville
	Dramatic Mezzo	Carmen in Carmen
Lowest	Contralto	Katisha in The Mikado



VOICE TYPES

SOPRANO

The highest of the female voice types, the soprano has always had a place of importance in the order of vocal types. In the operatic world, the soprano is almost always the 'heroine' or leading character within an opera.

MEZZO SOPRANO

The mezzo is the lower-ranged female voice type. Throughout opera history the mezzo has been used to convey many different types of characters: everything from boys or young men (these are called trouser or pants roles), to mother-types, witches, gypsies and old women.

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MALE VOCAL RANGE

RANGE	MALE	EXAMPLES
Highest	Tenor	
	Light Lyric Tenor	Nemorino in La Cenerentola
	Lyric Tenor	Nadir in the Pearlfishers
	Lyric-dramatic Tenor	Rodolfo in La Boheme
	Dramatic Tenor	Canio in Pagliacci
	Heldentenor	Tristan in Tristan und Isolde
	Baritone	Papageno in The Magic Flute
	Bass-baritone	Figaro in The Magic of Figaro
Lowest	Bass	Sarastro in The Magic Flute

TENOR

The Tenor is the highest of the male voices and has many sub categories such as a lyric tenor and a dramatic tenor. The tenor is usually cast in the romantic roles of opera. Generally he is the leading man within an opera.

BARITONE/BASS

The baritone is the most common male voice, lower in range than the tenor and more darkly-hued. The Baritone/Bass is usually cast in a villainous, comic or father figure role.



VOICE TYPES