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# *Eighth Note Publications*

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## Canon

Johann Pachelbel  
*Arranged by Ben Perrier*

**THE WORK:** Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) was an organist at Nuremberg and Erfurt in Germany. He was especially renowned for his vocal music, fugues, variations (chaconnes and passacaglias), and canons. The canon is the most strict form of imitative composition. This Canon is made up of a series of melodic variations (specifically a passacaglia) over a repeated bass line (ground bass). This work is originally for organ or another keyboard instrument but is more famous as a transcription for three violins and continuo. This piece has been arranged many times over for many different ensembles including brass quintet, brass choir, string quartet, string orchestra, woodwind quintet, woodwind choir, hand bell choir, kazoo quartet, and even an electronic synthesized version.

**THE TRANSCRIPTION:** Pachelbel's Canon..... for the Trombone? This is one of my favourite pieces of music and I decided not to let my instrument get in the way of playing this lovely piece. The original key of this piece is D major but I put it in B flat to facilitate the range and key of the trombone. I arranged this work for four equal trombones (as opposed to three tenors and a bass trombone) so I could move the bass line around. The bass line is predominantly in the fourth part. However, all players get a crack at this serene and simple melody. This transcription requires that all four players must have an F-attachment on their trombone - this is to play the aforementioned bass line as well as facilitate some of the more technical passages in the work. Tempo should be very strict pay attention so that the piece doesn't drag. Hear the bass line at all times. Because the bass line moves through all four parts, careful attention must be given so that it is consistently played the same throughout. The same should be applied to all the melodies throughout the course of the work. The piece very imitative and therefore all melodies should be played consistently by each player. Watch for tuning and articulation especially in the low range of the instrument. All trills are optional and articulations can be modified to the liking of the performers.

ISBN: 9781554721269  
CATALOG NUMBER: TQ961

COST: \$12.00  
DURATION: 4:00

DIFFICULTY RATING: Difficult  
4 Trombones

# Canon for Trombone Quartet

J. Pachelbel  
(1653-1706)  
Arranged by B. Perrier

Allegretto con moto ♩ = 108

Trombone 1  
Trombone 2  
Trombone 3  
Trombone 4

7

Trombone 1  
Trombone 2  
Trombone 3  
Trombone 4

19

Trombone 1  
Trombone 2  
Trombone 3  
Trombone 4

Musical score for measures 25-30. The score is in 12/8 time with a key signature of two flats. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The first staff has a melodic line with dynamics *mp*. The second staff has a rhythmic accompaniment starting with *f*. The third staff has a bass line with dynamics *sfz* and *mp*. The fourth staff has a bass line with dynamics *mp*. A trill is marked in the second staff at measure 29.

Musical score for measures 31-42. The score continues with four staves. Measures 31-32 feature a *sfz* dynamic. Measures 33-42 are characterized by dense, fast-moving passages in the second and fourth staves, both marked with *sfz*. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page.

Musical score for measures 43-48. The score continues with four staves. Measures 43-48 feature a *mf* dynamic. A "Solo" instruction is placed above the second staff at measure 43. The second and fourth staves have a *f* dynamic. The first and third staves have a *mp* dynamic.

49

Musical score for measures 49-54. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are in bass clef, and the last two are in treble clef. The key signature has two flats. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests.

55

Musical score for measures 55-66. The score consists of six staves. The first two staves are in bass clef, and the last four are in treble clef. The key signature has two flats. Dynamics include *f*, *mp*, and *mf*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests.

67

Solo

Musical score for measures 67-72. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are in bass clef, and the last two are in treble clef. The key signature has two flats. Dynamics include *f*. The word "Solo" is written above the first staff. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. A trill is indicated by "tr" above a note in the final measure.

73

Musical score for measures 73-78. The score is in 12/8 time and B-flat major. It features a piano part with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A trill is marked in measure 75. The piano part has a dynamic of *ff* starting at measure 79.

79

Musical score for measures 79-88. The score continues with the piano part. Dynamics include *ff* and *sfz*. A large watermark "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the middle of the page.

Musical score for measures 89-90. The piano part continues with a dynamic of *sfz*. An asterisk is placed above a note in measure 90, indicating an optional 8ve bass line.

\* Optional 8ve basso until 3rd beat of m.95

91

Musical score for measures 91-95. The score includes dynamics such as *mp* and *rit.*. A "Solo" marking is present in the piano part starting at measure 91. The piano part has a dynamic of *mp* and *rit.* markings.

97 *Maestoso* ♩ = 84

The musical score consists of four staves. The top two staves are for the piano, and the bottom two are for strings. The tempo is *Maestoso* with a metronome marking of ♩ = 84. The key signature has one flat. The score includes dynamic markings such as *rit.* and *fff*. A trill is indicated in the first staff at the end of measure 100.

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ISBN 978-1-55472-126-9



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in the United States by:



[www.alfred.com](http://www.alfred.com)

**TQ961** **\$12.00**



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