ZO Musical Instruments Ultra-Lite BBb Sousaphones



The **ZO Ultra-Lite Sousaphone** was designed specifically to solve many of the problems schools face with traditional brass sousaphones. While maintaining the appearance and sound projection expected from a marching sousaphone, it dramatically reduces weight, making it much easier for students to carry and perform with.

Construction

Unlike a conventional brass sousaphone, the ZO uses a **high-strength PC-ABS composite body**, which is:

- Extremely durable
- Impact resistant
- Weather resistant
- Corrosion proof
- Won't dent like brass
- Easy to clean

The valve section, leadpipe, and tuning slides are brass, so the instrument retains the feel and response of a traditional brass instrument where it matters most.

Weight

One of its biggest selling points is its weight.

- **ZO Ultra-Lite:** approximately **18–20 lbs**
- Traditional brass sousaphone: **28–35 lbs**
- Weight savings: **10–15 lbs**

For a student carrying the instrument for an entire football game or parade, that difference is substantial.

Sound

Despite its lightweight construction, the instrument produces:

- Full BBb tuba sound
- Excellent projection outdoors
- Warm, centered tone
- Strong low register
- Easy response throughout the range

Because the bell is full-sized, audiences hear a surprisingly large sound.

Valve Section

Features include:

- Three stainless-steel pistons
- Smooth, fast action
- Corrosion-resistant valves
- Standard BBb fingering
- Easy maintenance

Ergonomics

The lighter body provides several practical advantages:

- Less fatigue during long rehearsals
- Better posture
- Easier marching technique
- Reduced shoulder and back strain
- More comfortable for younger students

Band directors often find that students who struggled with heavy brass sousaphones are much more successful on the Ultra-Lite model.

Ideal Users

The instrument is well suited for:

- Elementary schools
- Middle schools
- High schools
- College pep bands
- Community bands
- Drumlines
- Parade bands
- Mariachi and Banda groups looking for a lightweight marching tuba alternative

Durability

Schools appreciate that the composite body:

- Doesn't dent
- Doesn't require dent removal
- Resists scratches better than lacquered brass
- Holds up well in buses, trailers, and marching environments
- Requires less repair than traditional brass instruments

This can significantly reduce long-term repair costs. For many schools, the combination of lighter weight, durability, and lower maintenance makes it a practical choice, especially when instruments are shared among multiple students throughout the year.

Available Colors



- Matte Black
- Matte White
- Matte Red
- Matte Blue
- Matte Green
- Matte Pink
- Matte Purple

These options allow schools to match uniforms or school colors.

Accessories

The instrument typically includes:

- Protective gig bag
- Mouthpiece
- Detachable bell
- Adjustable shoulder support

Why Schools Choose It

The ZO Ultra-Lite Sousaphone offers several advantages:

- **40–50% lighter** than many traditional brass sousaphones
- Comfortable for younger players
- Lower repair costs due to dent-resistant construction
- Excellent outdoor projection
- Attractive pricing compared with many traditional brands
- Available in multiple colors for visual impact on the field

Typical Applications

It performs well in:

- Marching bands
- Football games
- Street parades
- Pep bands
- Community performances
- School music programs
- Indoor athletic events