

Filipino Rondalla Cheatsheet

Below can be applied to all instruments: **Tuning:** Similar to 5-String Bass Guitar, just adding a Low F# F#-B-E-A-D-G **Relations:** Closest to think about when scoring for these is probably Mandolin **Roles:** Bandurria: **Melody** Laud: Can **Double on Melody/Counter melody** Octavina: **Harmony/Counter melody** Feel free to experiment but this is the typical role for the instruments.

From Lowest to Highest String

String groups: F# B E A D G

Bandurria sounds an **octave higher** than the **Laud & Octavina**.
Laud & Octavina are in the **same octave**, but **Octavina's** tone just sounds a little deeper.

Ranges

Bandurria (16 Frets)

7

F# (Lowest) B (Highest) E F

Laud (19 Frets)

10

F# (Lowest) D (Highest) C

Octavina (20 Frets)

13

F# (Lowest) D# (Highest)

Pluck Stroke

15

Writing Down/Up strokes are **optional**, unless you are looking for a certain timbre the player can adjust to their preference

Chords

17

C F/C C G/B C

Chords can be played, but best to **split the chords's notes to individual parts** as it will be easier for the players, plus you will get a cleaner sound out of the chord, unless you are looking for a certain timbre. Still, **please use chords sparingly**.

2 **Harmonics**

Natural Harmonics are possible, but it is not too loud. **Not audible** on the **Bandurria**.

Tremolo **Audible for Laud & Octavina.**

Notation Output

32

(Triple Slash)
Commonly played

Quarter Note

Notation Output

34

Half Note

Notation Output

36

Whole Note

(Double Slash)
Less Common

Notation

38

Quarter Note

Notation

40

Half Note

Notation

42

Whole Note

Comfortable Tempos for Tremolos (Depends on Player's Skill Level)

♪ = 60 ~ 140 Triple Slash

♪ = 140 ~ 160 Triple Slash/Possibly Double Slash

♪ = 160 ~ 200 Double Slash/Triple Slash (Advanced)

Tremolo is the main feature & aesthetic from the Rondalla instruments