

Bell Tree Beyond 1st String

Area 7 Handbell Musician of America
Virtual Bell Tree Event 2020
Host: Karen Van Wert



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Bell Tree Stands – Peery Stand

- Solid built
- Stable
- Casters available for mobility
- Does not travel easily
- Expensive
- Available at [Jeffers](#) and other handbell suppliers



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Bell Tree Stands – Light Stand

- Check weight capacity (>50lbs)
- Potential to strip screws
- T-bar is long, center weight
- Peery arms fit
- No casters
- Travels well in gear bag or PVC case
- Available on [Amazon](#)



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Bell Tree Stands

- Support 110lbs
- BT Arms available at Heitz Handbells
- Locking ring
- No casters
- Inexpensive (usually come in pairs)
- Available on [Amazon](#)
- Travel well in gear bag



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Bell Tree Arms

- Pole size
- Highest one on ringer side
- 1.5 – 2 inches above your head
- 3rd arm for G4-B4 bells (optional)
- O rings or thick hairbands



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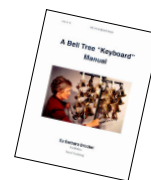
Keyboard Order or Not

WHY

- Playing more than one piece
- Sharing an instrument
- Muscle memory
- Looks impressive

ALTERNATIVES:

- String only bells needed
- String Lowest on top
- Separate stands for >1 ringer



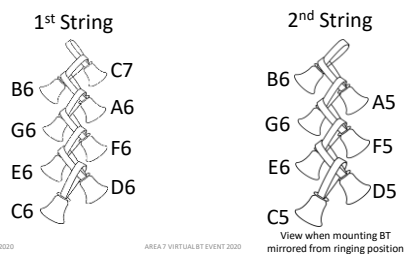
[Heitz Handbells](#)

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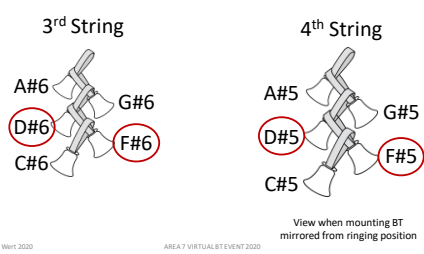
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String bell trees 1 & 2



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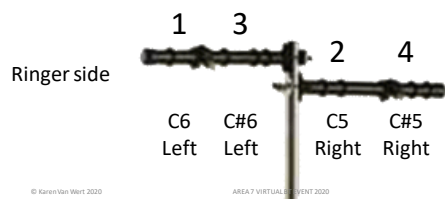
String bell trees 3 & 4



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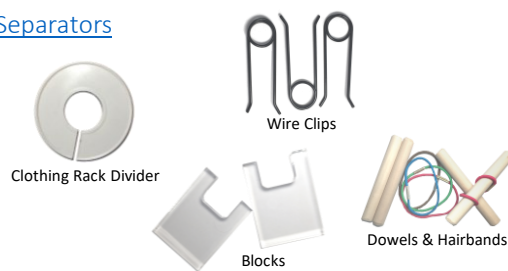
Mount Bell Trees

Alternate from center (3,2,1,4)



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Separators



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Mallets

- Length (Malmark/Ashhurst)
- Strike tendency
- Acoustics of space
- Personal Preference
 - Malmark (Grey; E6 and above)
 - Malmark (Red; F5 – D#6)
 - American Drum MB5, KR3 (double)
 - Malletech [NR29R \(marimba\)](#)



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Playing BT 1&2

The following melody exercises will help you practice smooth transitions from one bell tree strand to another:

- This Little Light of Mine – music – pdf <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h8u3k5V-7bXU5G8e0t5-F8P7WwV0/view?usp=sharing>
- Good King Wenceslas – music – pdf https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U9G_youTnF6k_gfnc8CmCjw12/view?usp=sharing
- Reach Spring (starting note – C6)
- Slane (starting note – C6)
- Foundation – How Firm a Foundation (starting note – G5)
- Steal Away (starting note – F5)
- I Love Thee (starting note – G5)

Other resources for two octaves:

- Melodies you can play on the two octave strands C5-C7 – list <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z5Mq8Bz8b2hFy8kV0t8Qb0g200/view?usp=sharing>
- Christmas music you can play on C5-C7 – music – Volume 1 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y8qyQ8gMmShwPfc0c8E7gnG5vE6M/view?usp=sharing>
- Christmas music you can play on C5-C7 – music – Volume 2 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h8u3k5V-7bXU5G8e0t5-F8P7WwV0/view?usp=sharing>

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Play on BT 3 & 4

- Amazing Jesus – Patterned Technique using Partner Songs Pentatonic (2 OCT) – Video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KD7fkG_uaj
- Amazing Jesus – Patterned Technique using Partner Songs: Pentatonic (2 OCT) – Music <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1033kwiu2rRPxgdSkLbtk8RRvP173runZ/view?usp=sharing>

Other melodies to play on string 3 & 4:

- Nettleton - Come Thou Font of Every Blessing (starting note – Bb5)
- Beach Spring – [Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service](#) (starting note – Gb5)
- Happy Land – There is a Happy Land Far, Far Away (starting note – A#5)
- Golden Hill – [Vital Union to Christ](#): In Lonely Mountain Ways – (starting note – Gb5)
- Cleansing Fountain – Praise for the Fountain – (starting note – Gb5)

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Resources

- Belltree-I Google Group <https://groups.google.com/u/2/g/belltree-i>
- Bell Tree Repository - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XTaeYY-Ag53NvK-3tN4WrVYsnULd-vdE?usp=sharing>

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Resources

Area 7 Handbell Musicians of America Bell Tree Loan Program
contact CHIME Chair, Michelle Finlon
Information available on Area 7 website

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