

**\*\*\*Standing Wave: Wave pattern that results when 2 identical waves travel in opposite directions and interfere. Instruments are set into vibration by striking, plucking, bowing, blowing, etc and vibrate at their natural frequency (resonate) creating standing waves and making music.**

**Harmonics:**

1. Fundamental Frequency: The lowest frequency of vibration for a standing wave that determines its pitch
2. Harmonics Series: A series of frequencies (overtones) that include the fundamental frequency and multiples of it

\*Notes played are usually a mixture of fundamental and harmonics

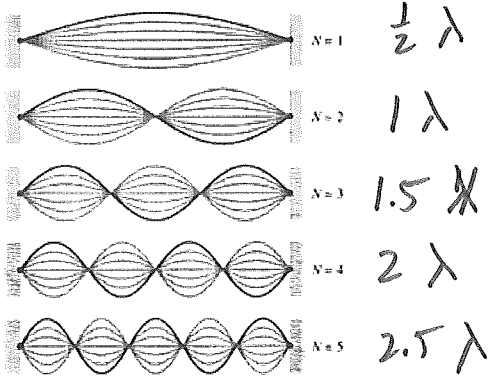
**2 TYPES OF INSTRUMENTS:**

1. **STRING instruments AND pipes OPEN AT BOTH ENDS:**

Examples: guitar, violin, Boomwhacker, piano

Wave has to end in a node

1st thru 5th harmonics of a vibrating string



$$f_n = n \frac{v}{2L}$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3$$

$n$  = harmonic #  
 $f_n$  = freq of harmonic  
 $v$  = Speed of sound  
 $L$  = length of string/tube

A standing wave ending in a node is created every  $\frac{1}{2}\lambda$  wavelength.

**Example 1:** Find the fundamental frequency for the spinning plastic tube (length = 0.8 m) if the speed of sound is 343 m/s in the classroom. ( $\approx 214$  Hz)

$L = 0.8 \text{ m}$

open both ends!

$v = 330 + (.6 \cdot 21^\circ) = 342.6$

$f_n = 1 \left( \frac{342.6}{2 \cdot 0.8} \right) = 214 \text{ Hz}$

At what frequency would the next harmonic occur?  $214 \times 2 = 428 \text{ Hz}$

2. Pipe CLOSED AT 1 END:

Examples: trumpet, oboe, clarinet, BW with cap

Instrument has to end in an antinode.



$$f_n = n \left( \frac{v}{4L} \right)$$

$$n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

A standing wave ending in an antinode is created every ODD  $\frac{1}{4}^{\text{th}}$  wavelength.

**Example 2:** What is the fundamental frequency of a 0.20 m long organ pipe that is closed at one end, when the speed of sound in the pipe is 352 m/s? (440 Hz)

$L = 0.2$   
 $v = 352 \text{ m/s}$

open 1 end

$$f_n = 1 \left( \frac{352}{4(0.2)} \right)$$

$$= \boxed{440 \text{ Hz}}$$

only odds!

At what frequency would the next harmonic occur?

$$440 \times 3 = \boxed{1320 \text{ Hz}}$$

Hmm...how does an instrument like a guitar with only 4 or 5 strings play so many different notes?

hold string in diff. place - changes  $\lambda$ ,  
new fund. freq + harmonics