



Welcome to the world of Mollard Conducting Batons. For over 40 years, Mollard has manufacturer of the world's finest batons. Explore this site and discover why so many conductors, around the world, have chosen Mollard then customize the baton perfect for you.

Why Mollard?

The beauty...

Mollard knows that beautiful woods deserve superb craftsmanship, and so each Mollard baton is lovingly hand-crafted from the finest hardwoods, especially selected for their warmth and beauty. The handles are polished to a lustrous high gloss. The wood shafts are finished in clear gloss or bright white, and the carbon fiber shafts are finished in brilliant pearlescent white. Our Lancio aluminum baton handles come in an array of stunning colors.

The craftsmanship...

All Mollard batons are made in the USA from the finest materials available worldwide. If a material we purchased does not exceed our stringent quality control standards, we reject it. Period. We hand select the woods used in our batons, and we hand finish each and every component. During assembly, shafts and handles are carefully matched for weight and fit, then each newly-assembled baton is hand balanced using interior counterweights.

Our carbon fiber shafts are not fishing pole blanks. They have been specifically designed by Mollard to match identically in size and weight distribution to Mollard wood shafts. So no matter which shaft you choose, your baton will feel wonderful!

Our Lancio baton handles are machined to very tight tolerances from aircraft-grade aluminum stock. Mollard then anodizes and dyes each handle in brilliant colors. These are critical processes that take place within the Mollard shop.

The response...

Mollard is well known for creating many different baton styles, lengths and weights. There are Mollard batons suited for the smallest chamber ensemble, Mollard batons suited for opera or theater, Mollard batons made for military band field work; in fact, Mollard batons are used around the world in many different cultures with many different musical forces. And, every Mollard baton has that "floating" sensation coveted by conductors everywhere.

Why you'll love Mollard batons:

- Crafted and balanced by hand
- Constructed with gorgeous premium hardwoods
- Extremely lightweight
- Lightning fast, precise response
- Don't whip split or splinter

- Significantly reduce conductor fatigue
- Beloved by customers for over 40 years

Baton Guide

As you will see, we have many baton choices for you! Sometimes it's a bit overwhelming to decide, especially if you are just starting out. (Note for conducting students: your conducting instructor may want you to buy a particular sized or weighted baton. Be sure to check with him/her before you decide.) Choosing your batons is akin to choosing golf clubs or tennis rackets. One size does not fit all, and different batons suit different circumstances.

Here are some questions to ask yourself before selecting your Mollard batons:

1. *How tall are you? Long arms? Short arms?* We have watched thousands of people trying out our batons at music educator meetings, and many of them compare the length of the baton to the length of their forearm. This is a good starting point when choosing length, but it's not necessarily the final word. The other questions on this page will affect your choice of length as well.

2. *What sort of hand do you have? Large, small, short fingers, long fingers?* Each hand wants to hold a baton uniquely, so let your hands help you in your handle selection.

3. *What forces do you conduct?* How far are the performers from you? Is the environment bright or dark? Are the walls white or beige? How many performers? These questions are important because your choice of baton color and size will affect how well your performers can see you (assuming, of course, that they actually look up now and then!)

4. *Do you hold the baton at its balance point, or do you like a little tip weight?* While all Mollard batons are balanced, the balance points are designed to be in different places. Generally, the longer the baton, the further forward the balance point. For instance, our 12 inch wood batons balance within 1/4 inch of the handle. Our 14 inch wood batons have a balance point within 1/2 inch, and the 16 inch carbon fiber batons (with wood handles) balance within 1 inch of the handle. The Lancio batons are quite different in this regard. The balance point occurs within the front third of the handle itself, which admittedly is a rather unorthodox concept, but one that gives the Lancio batons a surprisingly silky feel. All these differing balance points accommodate a wide variety of preferences regarding baton feel.

5. *Are you conducting works that require sharp ictusses (or is that ictae?), or is imparting a legato more important?* One advantage of Mollard batons is that most any in our selection will do well no matter what articulation you must communicate. They are remarkably responsive to your slightest movement. However, like switching golf clubs for different shots, sometimes it is advantageous to switch batons for different circumstances. For instance, one may choose to use a P12 for a small baroque ensemble, an S14 or Lancio for a good sized choir, an E14 for pit work, or an E16 for a large band or perhaps when conducting multiple forces like at a bell choir festival. Of course, these are just our suggestions. It's really your choice.

6. *What do you like? Did you notice we listed this as the last item?* Of course we have our likes and tastes with regard to what we put in our hands, and that is important. So we offer many wood colors and style to accommodate your wishes. Of course, our job as conductors is to communicate clearly and effectively. If you happen to like an orange and green pin-stripe handle (we haven't started work on that one yet!) and you have success with your performers, then by all means go for it!

Custom Engraving

Giving Mollard as a gift? Or maybe you just want to treat yourself to something special? We can custom engrave your Mollard baton or hardwood case! You can have a name or any text engraved into the baton shaft, or on the outside lid of a hardwood case, or both.



You may have up to 40 characters (including spaces and punctuation marks) engraved onto a baton shaft. For cases, you may choose up to three lines of text. We will center the engraving for you no matter how many lines you choose.

The Mollard Story

More than 40 years ago, Bob Mollard was a graduate conducting student at the College Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati. His conducting teacher suggested he buy a light-weight, well-balanced baton. Bob searched high and low, but was dissatisfied with the quality of what he found. He decided to fashion a baton himself, using materials gathered from the local hardware store and a really cool-looking bottle of Italian Chianti. The effort proved to be a great success, and he went back to school and showed everyone his handiwork.

That's when the trouble started.

Now everyone else at school wanted one like his, so he promised to make more batons, which meant buying more supplies and more bottles of Chianti! Then everyone at school showed their friends, who wanted Bob to make batons for them, hence more hardware, more wine, etc. This chaos went on for several years, and it got to the point where Bob hated to answer the phone, fearing that it was yet another person wanting a baton, or that it was his mom pestering him to come visit more often, now that she was retired and had nothing to do!

Then it occurred to him... pesky customers on one hand, and a bored mom on the other... maybe, just maybe this could work... .

And so, Mollard Conducting Batons was born! Mother (Audrey) Mollard organized the business, and customers called HER to place their orders. All Bob had to do was figure out how to make the things without consuming so much Chianti! And so he did. As a result, Mollard Conducting Batons has become the world-wide leader of baton makers. You can find Mollard batons in better music stores world-wide.

Audrey retired from the business, and cherished the many wonderful memories of all the people she met selling batons over the years. She lived to age 94.

Bob is still active in the company, even as he keeps up with his demanding performance schedule. His wife Connie has been active in the business over 30 years, and was responsible for

inventing/developing the 'Brite Stix' line. Their son Patrick and daughter-in-law Christina are working hard to take Mollard into the future.

Batons

E-Serie

The Mollard **E** batons are designed for high visibility and heavy-duty applications. They are popular with conductors of opera, musical theatre, festivals, large orchestras and armed services ensembles around the world. The large handles allow for a secure grip even with gloves.



Wood Handle Choices: Cocobolo* or Zebrawood

Shaft Choices: White Birch Wood, Natural Birch Wood, Carbon Fiber

Handle Size: 0.75 in. x 2.5 in. (19mm x 60mm)

Approx. Weight: 1/2 ounce (14 grams)

P-Serie

These are the original Mollard batons. They are famous for their lightweight, precision balance, beauty and responsiveness.



Wood Handle Choices: Purpleheart, Zebrawood, Pau Ferro, Walnut, Curly Maple, Cocobolo*, White Oak

Shaft Choices: White Birch Wood, Natural Birch Wood, Carbon Fiber**

Handle Size: 0.5 in. x 2 in. (14mm x 50mm)

Approx. Weight: 1/4 ounce (7 grams)

S-Serie

The Mollard **S** batons use the same shafts as the **P** batons and have the same excellent weight and balance characteristics. They are designed with a pear shaped handle for those who prefer this style.



Wood Handle Choices: Purpleheart, White Oak, Pau Ferro,

Shaft Choices: White Birch Wood, Natural Birch Wood, Carbon Fiber**

Overall Length: 12 inches (305 mm), 14 inches (355 mm), 16 inches (405 mm)

Handle Size: 12 inch baton: 0.75 in. x 2 in. (20mm x 50mm), 14 inch baton: 0.75 in. x 2.25 in. (20mm x 55mm), 16 inch baton: 0.75 in. x 2.25 in. (20mm x 55mm)

Approx. Weight: 1/4 ounce (7 grams)

Brite Stix-Serie

Brite Stix™ Conducting Batons feature sure-grip cork handles in two sizes. The lightweight hardwood shafts are finished in dazzling fluorescent colors, which glow in black-light for those situations that require a lighted baton! Each Brite Stix is counter-weighted for that famous Mollard 'feel'. Many teachers find that their students love the wild colors. And who knows? Maybe these batons will convince them to actually watch once in a while!



Sure-Grip Cork Handle Choices: Hot Pink, Bright Orange, Lemon Yellow, Lime Green
Overall Length: 12 inches (305 mm), 14 inches (355 mm)
Handle Size: Medium: 0.5 in. x 2 in. (14mm x 50mm), Large: 1.0 in. x 1.75 in. (19mm x 44mm)
Approx. Weight: 1/4 ounce (7 grams)

Lancio-Serie

Our Lancio® batons have a bold appearance and an equally bold feel. The handles are turned from aluminum alloy, then hardened in a process called anodizing. While the overall weight of the Lancio baton is greater than our wood batons, the majority of the mass is located in the handle, hence in your fingers. This mass provides a damping action to the movement of the baton that defies description. You simply have to feel it! All Lancio® Batons are fitted with our gorgeous pearlescent white carbon fiber shafts.



Color Handle Choices: Silver, Black, Gold
Shaft Choices: Carbon Fiber
Overall Length: 12 inches (305 mm), 14 inches (355 mm), 16 inches (405 mm)
Handle Size: 12 inch baton: 0.75 in. x 2 in. (20mm x 50mm), 14 inch baton: 0.75 in. x 2.25 in., (20mm x 55mm) 16 inch baton: 0.75 in. x 2.25 in. (20mm x 55mm)
Approx. Weight: 12 inch: 0.65 oz., 14 inch: 0.70 oz., 16 inch: 0.75 oz.

**Please note that we cannot ship cocobolo batons outside the USA due to new CITES regulations*

***The 16" baton is only available with a carbon fiber shaft.*

