

English-Setswana musical terminology

Mareo a mmino

English	Setswana
A cappella	Akhaphela Ntle le go felegetswa ka diletswa
Abdominal muscles/wall	Lebota la mpa Mesifa ya mpa
Above/Up	Godimo ga Kwa godimo ga
Abstract	Go go sa tlhomamang
Accelerando	Akeselerando Oketsa lebelo
Accent	Kgatelelo
Accentuate	Gatelela
Accompany	Felegetsa
Accompaniment	Phelegetso
Accompanist	Mofelegetsi/moletsi
Acting	Diragatsa
Active	E e dirisiwang
Activist	Molweladiphetogo
Adapt	Tshwanedisa
Adaptation	Tshwanediso
Air speed	Lebelo la mowa
Align	Tlhamalatsa
Alignment	Tlhamalatso
Allegretto	Ka bofefo jo bo bonolo
Allegro	Alekero/ka bonako le matlhagatlhaga
Alto	Aletho/lentswe labobedi
Analyse	Sekaseka
Analysis	Tshekatsheko
Andante	Ka bonya thata
Angle	Ntlhantebo
Aperture	E e bulegileng/pulego
Apply	Dirisa
Application	Tiragatso
Arm(s)	Seatla (sing.), diatla (pl.) Lebogo (sing.), matsogo (pl.)
Arpeggio	Arepejio
Arrange	Rulaganya
Arrangement	Thulaganyo
Articulate	Tlhalosa
Articulation	Tlhaloso
Artist	Modiragatsi/motaki/motshameki

Artistry	Bodiragatsi/botaki/botshameki
Ascending	Tlathloga/tlathlogela
Aspirate (inhale)	Hema
Association	Kgolagano/kamano/kgokagano
Atonality	Kwantle ga modumo o o rileng
Audiation (to think musically)	Akanya ka tebo ya mmino
Audition	Go tlholwa bokgoni ba tiragatso
Augmentation	Go okediwa/koketso
Backwards	Retologetse kwa morago/tsa kwa morago
Bar/measure	Bara/selekantsho
Bar line	Mola wa selekantsho
Bass	Base/bese
Bassoon	Basunu
Beat	Mokibo/moporo/moribo
Micro beat (pulse)	Mokibo/moporo/moribo o monnyane thata
Bell (percussion instrument)	Tshipi (seletswa se se itewang)
Below/Down	Kwa tlase/kwa fatshe
Belting (use of high chest voice)	Kgatelelo ya lentswe (tiriso ya lentswe la sehuba)
Bend	Koba
Binary (twofold)	Nomorepedi (gabedi)
Body	Mmele
Body alignment/posture	Peomannong a mmele
Bottom	Kwa tlase
Brass	Borase/ditorompeta/kgotlho
Breast bone/sternum	Lerapo la sehuba
Breath	Hema
Breath control	Taolo ya go hema
Breath, flow of	Go elela ga go hema
Breath support	Tshegetso ya go hema
Breathing	Go hema
Canon	Khanone/poapoeletso ya pina
Cantabile	Go go opelegang
Celesta	Piano ya tshitswana/tshipi
Cello	Tshelo
Change (v.)	Fetola
Change/transformation	Phetogo
Chant	Goa/goagoeletsa
Character	Semelo
Chest	Sehuba
Child-centered	Go ya ka pono ya bongwana
Choir	Baopedi/khwaere
Choir music	Mmino wa khwaere
Chorale	Baopedi
Chord	Khotho/setlhopho sa dinnoto
Chord, broken	Khotho e e phatlakantsweng
Chord progression	Kgatelopele/tsweletso ya dikhotho
Chromatic	Khoromathiki
Clarinet	Tlarinete

Clef	Sesupa segalo sa lentšwe
Alto cleff	Altho/lentšwe la bobedi
Bass cleff	Base/bese
Coda	Bofelelo
Cohesion (social)	Tshwaragano (leago)
Collaborate	Dirisana
Collaboration	Tirisanommogo
Collaborative learning	Thuto ka tirisanommogo
Comfort	Kgomotso/manobonobo
Comfortable	Lapolosang
Community music	Mmino wa baagi
Community of practice	Kopano ya go ithapisa
Community of practice, musical	Kopano ya go ithapisa ya mmino
Composer	Motlhami
Composition	Tlhamo
Concrete	Konkereiti/tlhomameng
Conduct	Laola/tshwara
Conducting	Botshwaratakata
Conductor	Motshwaratakata
Conflict	Kgotlhang/thulano
Consciousness (state of mind)	Kelotlhoko (boemo jwa mogopolo)
Consonance (harmonic)	Tumammogo (kutlwano/tsamaelano)
Context	Maemo
Contour (melodic)	Popego (ya molodi)
Contrabass	Khontarabase (Karolo kgotsa kgaolo e e kwa tlase ga base ka oketeife.)
Core characteristics	Dipopego tse di tseneletseng
Cornet	Khonete/khoronete
Counterpoint	Khaonthapoente Tsamaelano
Country music	Mmino wa selegae
Creak/noise music	Mmino wa modumo
Crescendo	Kherešendo/setlhoeng
Crotchet/quarter note	Khorotšhete/nnoto ya kwatara
Culture/way of life	Setso/tsela ya bophelo
Cultural border/difference	Maparego/dipharologano tsa ditso
Cultural change/transculturation	Thuanyo le kopantsho ya setso boša ka go tlotlana
Cymbals	Disemebala/tshipi tse di opanngwang
Da capo	Kwa tshimologong
Dal segno	Dale sekeno/go tswa kwa letshwaong
Damper (piano)	Dampara (ya piano)
Decrescendo	Phokotso ya modumo
Definition	Tlhaloso
Descend	Fologa
Descending	Fologang
Cadence	Kheidense
Imperfect	E e sa felelang
Perfect	Itekanetseng
Interrupted	Kgaosetswa

Plagal	Polakale
Diaphragm	Sehuba
Dictator	Mmusa-esi
Diction	Pisto ya mafoko sentle
Different	Farologane
Diminuendo	Phokotso ya modumo ka iketlo
Diphthong	Kgomagano ya mafoko a mabedi.go ntsha modumo o le mongwe/Difitong
Vowel	Tumanosi
Dissonance	Go se dumelane/go se utlwane
Division	Kgaogano
Dominant	Laolang
Dominant chord	Khoto e e laolang
Double bass	Bese e e boeleditsweng/besepedi
Down	Fatshe
Downstage	Seralafatshe
Drum	Moropa
Cymbal	Moropa wa sembale/tship e e opanngwang
Snare	Moropa wa letlao/serai
Bass	Bese
Duet	Kopelo/tiragatso ya sebedi
Duple	Sebedi
Duplet	Dinnoto tse pedi tse di tshamekiwang mo nakong tse tharo tsa boleng jo bongwe.
Dynamics	Matlhagatlhaga
Ear(s)	Tsebe (sing.), ditsebe (pl.)
Ecological	Tikologo/tsa tlhago
Elbow	Sejabana/sekgono
Embodiment	Mothofatso/setshwantsho/tshobokanyo
Embouchure	Tsela ya go futswela (mefuta ya ditorompeta)
Energy	Maikatlapelo/mokgothalo
Ensemble/band	Setlhophsa sa batshameki
String	Setinkane/mogala
Brass	Ditorompeta
Woodwind	Tsa legong tse di futswelwang
Enunciate/articulate/enunciation/articulation	Phasalatsa
Ethics-driven	Mekgwa/melao ya go itshola
Euphonium	Yunifomiamo
Eurhythmics	Tomagano ya go binela meribo
Event	Tiragalo
Exclusive	Go go kgethegileng
Experience	Maitemogelo
Expression	Tlhaloso/sesupo
Extend	Atolosa
Facilitation	Borulaganyi
Fall offs (voice)	Go thelela fatshe ga lentswe go tswa nnotong e nngwe go ya go e nngwe.

Falsetto	Folesetho/lentswe la banna la go opela le le kwa godi-mo eseng ka tlhago.
Family	Lelapa
Feet	Dinao
Feet, balls of	Kgato ya dinao/direthe
Fermata	Letshwao le le bontshang boleele jwa nnoto kgotsa ikhutso.
Filter	Setlhotlhi
Fine (end)	Sentle (kwa bofelelong)
Finger(s)	Monwana (sing.), menwana (pl.)
Fingering	Ukusebenzisa iminwe
Thumb	Kgonojwe
Forefinger	Tshupane/monwana wa bosupa
Middle finger	Monwana o o fagare ophakathi
Ring finger	Monwana wa palamonwana
Small finger	Monwana o monnye
Fitness	Kemopholo
Flat	Phaphathi/sepapetla/sephara
Flute	Folutu
Folk music	Mmino wa bogologolo/setso
Fore arm	Letsogo
Form	Sebopego/seemo
Binary	Palo ya dinomorepedi
Ternary	E na le dilo tse tharo tse di farologaneng
Rondo	Rondo
Forwards	Fetisetša pele/isagwe
Forte	Go go utlwalang/maatla
Fortissimo	Go go utlwagalang thata/ka maatla gagolo
Forward	Phambili
French horn	Lenaka laseFora/French horn
Fugue	Fuku
Function	Tiriso/mokgwa wa tiriso
Generalization	Kakaretso
Gesture(s)/body language	Go itshikinya mmele/tirisommele
Happy	Itumetse
Glottal	Ditumakhuetso
Gospel music	Mmino wa sedumedi
Gravity	Maatlakgogedi/bokete
Group (of people)	Setlhophha sa batho
Hammer (piano)	Hamore/hamole/noto (piano)
Hand(s)	Seatla (sing.), diatla (pl.)
Left	Sa-molema
Right	Sa-moja
Rounded	Kgolokwe
Together	Mmogo
Left-hand right-hand independency	Boikemelo gareng ga letsogo la molema le la moja
Harmony (sound)	Tumalano/tirisanommogo
Harmonic function	Tirisano ka tumelano
Harp	Harepa

Head	Tlhogo
Head, crown of	Tlhogo, serwalo sa
Health	Botsogo/kemopholo
Healthy	Pholo-ntle
Hear	Utlwa
Hearing	Kutlo
Heavy metal	Mmino wa heavy metal
Hip(s)	Noka (sing.), dinoka pl.)
History	Ditiragalo
Holistic	Ka go felela
Homophonic	E dumelanang le modumo
House speakers	Dipika tsa mo ntlong
House tops (voice)	Kwa godimo
Human	Motho
Hypermeter	Phetisa selekanyetso/haepamitara
Identity	Boitshupo
Identity, self	Mosola wa go ikitse
Imitation	Ketsiso
Improvise	Go go itirelwang
Inclusive	Akarediwa
Individual	Motho kabongwe
Instruction	Taelo
Instrument (musical)	Seletswa (sa mmino)
Instrumentation	Tiriso ya seletswa
Integral	Gwa bothokwa
Interactive	Tirisano/kopanelo/tumelano
Intercostal muscles	Mesifa e e magareng ga dikgopo
Interpret	Ranola/fetolela
Interpretation	Thanolo/phetolelo
Interval	Nakwana
Intonation	Segalo/mokgwatelo wa modumo
Inversion	Tlhanololo
Irregular metre	Mitara o o sa tlwaelegang
Jaw	Letlhaa
Jazz	Jese
Key	Senotlolo/taetsi
Key signature	Letshwao la taetsi
Key (of keyboard/piano)	Dinnoto (khiiboto/piano)
Keyboard	Khiiboto
Knee(s)	Lengole (sing.), mangole (pl.)
Knowledge	Kitso
Larynx	Kodu/kgokgotso
Leading tone	Nnoto-ketapele
Leap	Tlola
Learn	Ithuta
Learning	Thuto
Learning sequence	Tatelano ya thuto/ya go ithuta
Learning style	Mokgwa wa thuto/wa go ithuta

Legato	Thelelo ntle le kgaotso gareng ga dinnoto
Lento	E tshamekiwa ka bonya
Life	Bophelo
Lip(s)	Pounama (sing.), dipounama (pl.)
Listen	Reetsa
Listening	Reeditse
Loud	Modumo
Louder	Modumo o utlwagalang ga golonyana
Louder, gradually	Modumo o o oketsegang ka iketlo
Loud, moderately	Modumo o o oketsegang ka tekatekano
Loud, very	Modumo o o kwa godimo thata
Lungs	Makgwafo
Lyrics	Mafoko a pina
Major	Kgolo
Material/Concrete	Dilo tse di bonagalang/konkreite
Meaning	Bokao
Mediant	Mediente (bogare)
Mediation	Botsereganyi
Melody	Kopelo
Memorise	Dirisa kgakologelo
Memorisation	Kgakologelo/tshwara ka tlhogo
Mentor	Morutuntshi/mokaedi/morutisi
Mentorship	Borutuntshi/bokaedi/borutisi
Metaphor	Tshwantshiso
Meter	Mitara
Method	Mokgwa
Mezzo forte	Metso fothe
Mezzo piano	Metso piano
Microphone	Maekerofounu
Microphone technique	Bokgoni jwa go dirisa maekerefounu
Minim/half note	Mminimi/halofo noutu
Minor	Maena
Minor, harmonic	Maena, hamoniki
Minor, melodic	Maena, melodiki
Minor, natural	Mena, wa tlhago
Mirror pattern	Phethene ya seipone
Mnemonic	Kakanyo thuso
Moderato	Magareng
Modulation	Phetolophetolo ya modumo wa lentswe
Monophonic	Mola wa pina o nnosi o o sa felegetsweng.
Mood	Maemo a maikutlo
Motif	Kgopolo e e boaboeletsang
Mouth (buccal cavity)	Molomo (kgogobe)
Palate	Magalapa
Mouthpiece	Sefutswela ka molomo
Movement(s)	Tsamao (sing.), metsamao (pl.)
Muscle(s)	Mosifa (sing.), mesifa (pl.)
Music	Mmino
Music, group	Mmino, setlhopha

Musicality	Bokgoni/kamego ka tsa mmينو
Musical expression	Ikutlwagatso ya mmينو
Musical period	Nako ya tsa mmينو
Musical style	Mofuta wa mmينو
Musical theatre	Lefelo la bobogelo la mmينو
Musicology	Tsa boithutelo mmينو
Mute	Didimatsa
Myth	Tlhamane
Narrative	Tatediso
Nature	Tlhago
Natural	Tsa tlhago
Norm	Tlwaelo
Normal	Tlwaelegile
Abnormal	Go go sa tlwaelegang
Note(s)	Dinnoto/dinoutu
Note duration/value	Boleele/boleng jwa nnoto
Note grouping	Kopango ya dinnoto
Notation	Go kwalwa ga dinnoto
Oboe	Obo
Octave	Okhetheifi
Oesophagus	Mometso
Off-beat	E e seng mo nakong e e tlwaelegileng
Orchestra	Okhetra
Ostinato/riff	Ositinato/rifi
Participate	Tsaya karolo
Participation	Botsaa-karolo
Pattern	Sekao/mothaladi
Pedal	Phedale
Pentatonic	Phenthathoniki/dinnoto tse tlhano
Perception	Temogo/boitemogole
Percussion instrument(s)	Diletsa tse di itewang
Perform	Diragatsa
Person	Motho
Philosophy/worldview	Botlhajana/ponokgopolo
Phrase	Polelwana
Phrasing	Tiriso ya polelwana
Piano (soft)	Boleta
Pianissimo	Boleta gagolo
Piano (instrument)	Piano (seletswa)
Piano stool	Setulo sa piano
Pianist	Moletsi wa piano
Piccolo	Phikolo
Pitch	Segalo
Pivotal chord	Khotho ya botlhokwatlhokwa
Play (instrument)	Letsa (seletswa)
Poco a poco (gradually)	Ka iketlo
Polyphonic	Medumo e mentsi
Polyrhythm	Merethetho e mentsi

Popular/contemporary commercial music	Mmino o o tlwaelegileng/wa sekwalejwale
Posture	Kemo ya mmele
Power	Nonfo
Power relations	Dikamano tsa maatla
Practice /method/strategy	Mokgwa wa go ithapisa
Preparatory beats (conducting)	Moporo wa boipakaanyetso (botsamaisi)
Pressure (air)	Kgatelelo (ya mowa)
Proactive	Boithotlheletso
Process	Thulaganyo
Product	Kungo
Project (vb.) (voice)	Utlwagatsa (ga lentšwe)
Pronounce	Itsisi/bolela
Pronunciation	Go bidiwa ga mafoko
Quadruple	Gane
Quality of life	Maemo a botshelo
Quaver (8 th note)	Khwaifara (nnoto ya nngwe-robeding)
Rallentando/ritardando	Tiego/ngodiego
Range/tessitura	Mefutafuta
Rap music	Mmino wa rap
Reactive	Tsibogang
Reed	Letlhaka
Reflection (thought)	Ukucabanga
Register	Kwadisa
Register, mixed	Kwadisa, tswakantsweng
Rehearsal	Ipoetso
Rehearsal technique	Mokgwa wa ipoetso
Relative minor/major	Maena/meija tse di lomaganang
Relax	Lapologa
Relaxation	Boitapoloso/maitiso
Religion	Tsa sedumedi
Repeat	Boeletsa
Repetition	Poeletso
Repertoire	Lenaane/lenaneofaele
Research	Patlisiso
Resonance	Boleng jwa modumo jo bo boteng, jo bo tletseng ebile bo utlwala sentle.
Resource	Setlamelwa
Respect	Tlotla
Rest	Ikhutsa
Rhythm	Moribo
Ribs	Dikgopo
Rock and roll	Rock and roll
Rote learning	Thuto ka go itlwaetsa
Run	Siana/taboga
Sad	Hutsafetse
Safe space	Lefelo la polokego
Scale/mode	Sekale/mokgwa

Scale degree	Boemo jwa sekale (Boemo jwa nnoto e e rileng go bapantswa le nnoto ya ntlha.)
Science	Saense/mararanyane
Scoops (vocal)	Kopelo ya dinnoto tse di kwa tlase ga tse di ikaele-tsweng.
Selection	Tlhopho
Self-determination	Biokemelo/boitirelotshwetso
Semi-breve (whole note)	Nnoto e feletseng/semiborifi
Semi-quaver (16 th note)	Nnoto ya kota/semikhweifa
Semitone	Nnotwana/semithounu
Sequence	Tatelano
Sequential	Ka tatelano
Seventh chord	Khoto ya bosupa
Sharp	Bogale
Shoulder(s)	Legetla (sing.), magetla (pl.)
Shoulders, lowered/relaxed	Magetla, kwa tlase/repile
Sigh	Kgwa mowa/fegelwa
Sing	Opela
Singer	Moopedi
Sit	Nna/dula
Skip	Fetisa
Slide (brass)	Relela/thelela
Slide Position	Boemo jwa go relela/thelela
Slur	Dinnoto tse di tlhakantsweng
Social relationships	Botsalano jwa loago
Social system	Ditsamaiso tsa loago
Socialisation	Go nyalanngwa ga Setšhaba
Society	Setšhaba
Soft	Bonolo
Softer	Bonojana/bonolonyana
Softer, gradually	Bonojana, ka iketlo
Soft, moderately	Bonojana, ka tekanyetso
Soft, very	Bonolo thata
Song	Pina
Soprano	Soporano
Sound	Modumo
Source (essay writing)	Motswedi (kwalo ya tlhamo)
Speak	Bua
Speech	Puo
Spoken (recited, as opposed to sung)	Poapoeletso (jaaka mo lebokong)
Spine	Mokokotla
Spirituality	Tsa semoya
Staccato	E kgaogantswe
Detached (notes)	Katologane
Stage	Serala
Stamina	Matlhagatlhaga
Stand	Ema
Stave (musical)	Lekala
Strategy	Leano/togamaano

String(s)	Mogala (sing.), megala (pl.)
Strophic	Poapoeletso ya mmimo ka mafoko a a farologaneng.
Study/studies (n.)	Thuto (sing.), dithuto (pl.)
Subdominant	Sapodominante
Submediant	Sapomediente
Suck	Anya
Super-tonic	Supathoniki
Support	Tshegetso
Survival	Phalolo
Swallow	Metsa
Sweet	Botshe/monate
Syllable	Nòkó/lefoko
Symbol	Letshwao
Synchronise	Rulaganya ka tsamaiso
Syncopation	Mokgabiso
Synthesis/combine/integrate	Kgobokanyo/kopanya/tshwaraganyo
Teach	Ruta
Team	Setlhopha
Technical exercises	Boikatiso jwa setegeniki
Technique	Mokgwa wa bokgoni
Teeth	Meno
Tempo	Moribo
Tenor	Kodu ya/lentswe la boraro
Tetrachord	Setlhopha sa dinnoto tse nne tse di farologaneng.
Text	Mokwalo
Texture	Phopholego/moroko
Theme	Lemorago/setlhogo
Theme and variations	Lemorago/setlhogo le dipharologanyo
Theory (scientific)	Kgopolo
Thick	Kima/bokima/sekima
Thin	Sesane/mosesane/tshesane
Thought	Monagano/kakanyo
Throat	Mometso
Through-composed	Tlhamo ya mmimo e e sa ipoapoeletseng
Timbre/tone colour	Mmala/segalo sa modumo
Time signature	Letshwao la nako
Timpani	Moropa wa ketele
Tip (of tongue or finger)	Ntlha (leleme kgotsa monwana)
Tonality	Tsa modumotetso/tsa segalo se se rileng
Tongue	Leleme
Tongue level	Boemo jwa leleme
Tonguing	Go solasola/latswa ka leleme
Tonic/resting tone	Modumotetso wa ntlha/modumoteso wa boikhutso.
Top	Kwa godimo/setlhoa
Tradition	Setso
Transcription	Ikwaloletelo/kopololo
Translation	Phetolelo
Transmission	Phetiso

Transposition	Thanolelo
Triad	Gogoraro
Triangle	Khutlotharo
Triple Triplet	Gararo Boraro mo bobeding
Trombone	Seletso sa trombone
Trumpet	Terompeta
Tuba	Phala ya tšhuba
Tuning	Tolamiso/tokafatso
Uniform (similar)	Ponagalo e e tshwanang
Unison	Go ele gongwe
Up	Godimo
Values	Boleng/botlhokwa/melaometheo
Valve	Belofo
Cap	Setswalo
Rotary	Dikologang
Piston	Pisitone
Vibrato	Thoromo/thoromiso
Viola	Viola
Violin	Vayolini
Vocal folds	Memeno ya dikodu
Voice(s)	Lentšwe (sing.), mantšwe (pl.)
Chest	Sehuba
Head	Tlhogo
Vowel	Tumanosi
Walk	Tsamaya
Warm(ing) up	Ithutafatsa
Whisper	Sebaseba
Whole tone	Nnote e e botlalo
Woodwind	Diletswa tse di budulelwang tsa legong
Workshop	Thutano
Yawn	Edimola