# Music 1 – timbre terminology

The following words can be used to describe the ‘timbre’ or quality of sound of an instrument, voice or sound source when describing tone colour in an aural response.

electronic

synthetic

scratchy

artificial

buzzing

grainy

sweet

bright

clear

glittering

sparkling

shimmering

silvery

hollow

dry

percussive

sizzling

rumbling

distorted

coarse

dark

muddy

abrasive

gritty

airy

breathy

muffled

muted

light

husky

raspy

nasal

reedy

thin

murky

wheezy

twangy

piercing

metallic

brassy

blazing

squeaky

harsh

resonant

mellow

warm

smooth

full

pure

lush

majestic

strong

grand

powerful

booming

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