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The SACRED HARP
The Best Collection of Sacred Songs, Hymns, Odes, and Anthems Ever Offered the Singing Public for General Use

1991 Revision
3. In addition to pitch, a musical tone has a second feature, called timbre (the quality of the sound). This feature is important because it helps us to distinguish between different types of sound, even if the pitch is the same. For example, the sound of a violin and a piano may have the same pitch, but their timbres are different. This is why we can recognize different musical instruments, even if we can't see them.

4. Timbre is determined by various physical properties, such as the shape and size of the instrument, the materials used, and the way the sound is produced. These properties affect the way the sound waves are generated and how they interact with the surrounding air. As a result, each instrument has a unique timbre that is characteristic of its type.

5. The combination of pitch and timbre creates the unique sound of music. This is why music can be so powerful and emotional, and why it can have a profound impact on our moods and feelings. Understanding the relationship between pitch and timbre is essential for anyone who wants to appreciate and enjoy music.