

## List of Characters in Oliver!

Based on the book **Oliver Twist** by Charles Dickens. Oliver is a young orphan in a large workhouse who draws a great deal of attention to himself when he asks for more at the dinner table. No one likes a greedy orphan, so Oliver finds himself sold to an undertaker. He runs away, and is taken in by a group of pickpockets who try to teach the innocent boy to be a thief. Eventually he escapes from the clutches of the crime ring and finds love, happiness, and a home.

This musical version of the classic story takes it a little more lightly than the original novel. The prostitution aspect is downplayed considerably and not all versions include the murders.

Oliver Twist (Boy Soprano, 9-13, C4 - F#5)  
A remarkably pious, innocent, charming workhouse boy. Small for his age.

**Fagin** (Baritone C3 - F4, 50+)  
A conniving career criminal. Training homeless children to pick pockets for him in return for shelter. Taught Bill Sykes but now fears him. His charm hides a cold heart.

Nancy (Alto G3 - G5, 30)  
An abused career thief, whore and former child pickpocket, but noble and likeable. Wise beyond her years.

The Artful Dodger (Soprano Bb4 - Eb5, 15, cockney accent)  
The cleverest and most charming of Fagin's pickpockets. Talks and dresses like a grown man although he is undersized.

**Mr. Bumble** (Baritone, C3 - A5, 40 - 50s)  
The pompous, self-important beadle. Preaches Christian morality, but behaves without compassion toward the paupers under his care. Chubby.

Mrs. Corney (Soprano, D4 - F5, 40 - 50s)  
The matron of the workhouse. A hypocritical, callous, domineering and demanding widow.

**Bill Sykes** (Baritone A3 - D4, 30-50)  
A brutal, menacing professional burglar brought up in Fagin's gang.

Bet (Alto, 16)  
One of Fagin's child pickpockets idolizes Nancy.

Mrs. Bedwin (Soprano, 45-60)  
Mr. Brownlow's kindhearted, motherly housekeeper.

Mr. Sowerberry (Baritone C3 - F4, 40-50)  
The undertaker to whom Oliver is apprenticed.

Mrs. Sowerberry (Soprano C4 - F5, 40 - 50)  
Mean, judgmental, henpecks her husband.

Charlotte Sowerberry (14 - 17)  
The Sowerberrys' sluttish daughter

Noah Claypole  
A charity boy and Mr. Sowerberry's apprentice. A pimply, overgrown, cowardly bully.

Mr. Brownlow (non-singing, 50+)  
A well-off, compassionate, sensible, gentleman who turns out to be Oliver's grandfather.

Street Vendors (may be doubled with other parts): Strawberry Seller (Soprano), Rose Seller (Soprano), Milk Maid (Mezzo/Alto), Knife Grinder (Baritone/Bass), Long Song Seller (Baritone).

Other Characters: Dr. Grimwig, Chales Bates, Old Sally, Old Lady, policemen, workhouse boys, Fagin's boys