

SOUND OF MUSIC CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

(Age to be played does not mean you must be that age.)

Maria Rainer (Lead): Female, Adult - Soprano

A postulant at Nonnberg Abbey – Maria is a headstrong, free-spirited young woman. She is spunky, opinionated, warm, resourceful, youthful, gentle and kind with much determination.

Age to be played as: 20-30

Vocal range: B5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Belting, Yodeling, Legit

Dancing: Good dancing skills

Captain Georg von Trapp (Lead): Male, Adult – Bass Baritone

A retired Austrian naval captain. He is a widower. He's polished, yet very military in the way he runs his life; underneath, he is warm, understanding and determined. Regimented, dignified, commanding, manly, polished, noble, intelligent.

Age to be played as: 35-40+

Vocal range: D5 to F#2/Gb2

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Good dancing skills

Max Detweiler (Lead): Male, Adult - Tenor

A theatrical agent and First Secretary of Education and Culture – a personal friend of Von Trapp and a sort of uncle to his children. He is clever at his job, charming, witty, and quite pushy to get what he wants. He has a humorous personality. He enjoys the good life and those that live the good life.

Age to be played as: 40-50

Vocal range: F4 to D3

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Good dancing skills

Baroness Elsa Schraeder (Lead): Female, Adult – Mezzo Soprano

A very wealthy widow, who is president of her late husband's corporation. Elegant, sophisticated city person. Clever and canny, she has begun a flirtation with Captain Von Trapp. She is very much into making a good social arrangement.

Age to be played as: 30-45

Vocal range: F5 to D4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Good dancing skills

The Mother Abbess (Lead): Female, Mature Adult - Soprano

The Mother Abbess is an inspirational leader for all the nuns at the Abby. She is a true big-hearted mother figure, loved, adored and respected. She has a bit of hidden spunk.

Age to be played as: 40+

Vocal range: G#5/Ab 5 to B3

Vocal Technique: Operatic, Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Liesl Von Trapp (Lead): Female, Late Teen – Mezzo Soprano

At age 16, Liesl is the eldest of the Von Trapp siblings. She is innocent, naïve, coy, flirtatious, headstrong and infatuated with Rolf. She is pretty but unsophisticated and tends to think everything is wonderful. She has a maternal edge to her and cares very deeply and lovingly for her younger siblings.

Age to be played as: 16

Vocal range: E5 to B3

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Good dancing skills

Friedrich Von Trapp (Supporting): Male, Early Teen – Tenor

Frederich is 14 and is proud to be a boy. He has a tough exterior and is very much trying to be “the man” of the family; desperately needs his father.

Age to be played as: 14

Vocal range: G5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Louisa Von Trapp (Supporting): Female, Early Teen – Mezzo Soprano

Louisa is 13, clever, and full of mischief. She is the master of pranks and enjoys pulling them on others. She is quite a tomboy, has a rebellious attitude, and misses her mother a great deal.

Age to be played as: 13

Vocal range: G5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Kurt Von Trapp (Supporting): Male, Child – Countertenor/falsetto

Kurt is 10. He wants to be 11 and introduces himself as “11-almost”. He is the second boy and the middle of the children. He often tries to act manly and is outspoken against the previous governesses. He is gentle and a peacemaker.

Age to be played as: 10

Vocal range: G5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Falsetto, Yodeling, Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Brigitta Von Trapp (Supporting): Female, Child – Mezzo Soprano

Brigitta is 9. She is smart as a whip, very perceptive and always tells the truth whether you like it or not. She's an avid reader and suspicious of "Uncle Max".

Age to be played as: 9

Vocal range: G5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Marta Von Trapp (Supporting): Female, Child – Mezzo Soprano

Marta is 7. She is one of the quietest Von Trapps. She loves the color pink, is very inquisitive, smart and gentle.

Age to be played as: 7

Vocal range: G5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Gretl Von Trapp (Supporting): Female, Child – Mezzo Soprano

Gretl is 5. She is the youngest Von Trapp. She is very quiet when first introduced by her father. She is sweet, loving and wants attention. She must have the cute, adorable and endearing factor.

Age to be played as: 5

Vocal range: G5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Rolf Gruber (Supporting): Male, Late Teen – Baritone

Rolf is 17 and is the telegram delivery boy friend of Liesl. He is self important, boasting, a very pleasant young man, and somewhat aggressive but in a gentle way. Rolf has Hitler as his paternal role model and the Nazi regime as a future goal. He seems to know an enormous amount of what is going on because of his job and seems to relish his spying tactics.

Age to be played as: 17

Vocal range: E5 to C4

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Good dancing skills

Sister Berthe (Supporting): Female, Adult/Mature – Mezzo Soprano

A nun who is the Mistress of Novices. She does not think that headstrong, free-spirited postulants belong at the Abby. She is a no nonsense type, officious and very strict. She is not a supporter of Maria. She is a killjoy, self-righteous, straight-laced, prim and a bit of a prude.

Age to be played as: 30+

Vocal range: E5 to C4

Dancing: Must be able to move

Sister Margareta (Supporting): Female, Young Adult/Adult – Mezzo Soprano

A nun who is the Mistress of Postulants. She is kind and understanding. A supporter of Maria. She is positive, encouraging, concerned and has a sense of humor.

Age to be played as: 20+

Vocal range: E5 to B3

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Sister Sophia (Featured): Female, Adult – Mezzo Soprano

Sister Sophia is a nun who always stays in line. She is very dutiful and kind. She would rather take the middle road to avoid controversy.

Age to be played: 30+

Vocal range: E5 to B3

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Franz (Featured): Male, Adult/Mature Adult – Non-singing

Originally a sort of protector to Captain Von Trapp in the Navy, he is now retired into his position as valet, which he carries out with somber efficiency. He is humorless and appears harmless but underneath we discover he is secretly plotting with the Nazi party Anschluss.

Age to be played: 30+

Voice: Spoken

Dancing: Non dancer

Frau Schmidt (Featured): Female, Mature Adult – Non-singing

The Von Trapp family housekeeper, Frau Schmidt does her job efficiently but without affection. She is strong and somewhat dominating. She has been around a long time and hates the way she is treated with whistles by the Baron. It affects her dignity. She appears to be a thoroughly reliable member of the staff and respected by all.

Age to be played: 40+

Voice: Spoken

Dancing: Non dancer

Herr Zeller (Featured): Male, Adult – Non-singing

A sort of district governor appointed by the Nazi Regime to prepare the Anschluss. He is overbearing, arrogant and autocratic, self-important and pompous. Stern and unsmiling, a typical Nazi official whose primary concern is to see that everyone toes the line.

Age to be played: 40

Voice: Spoken

Dancing: Non dancer

Baron Elberfeld (Featured): Male, Adult – Non-singing

A neighbor of the Von Trapps and one of the “Old Guards” of Austria - violently opposed to the takeover of his beloved country by Nazi Germany. Can double with other roles in the ensemble. The baron attends the ball thrown by Captain Von Trapp in Elsa’s honor.

Age to be played: 30+

Voice: Spoken

Dancing: Must be able to move

Baroness Elberfeld (Featured): Female, Adult – Non-singing

A neighbor of Captain Von Trapp and wife to the Baron Elberfeld.

Age to be played: 30+

Voice: Spoken

Dancing: Must be able to move

Admiral Von Schreiber (Featured): Male, Adult – Non-singing

An important figure in the Austrian Navy and appears to be much respected by Captain Von Trapp. He has obviously agreed to be part of the new regime with Germany. He arrives to collect Captain Von Trapp and bring him to Berlin.

Age to be played: 30+

Voice: Spoken

Dancing: Non dancer

A New Postulant (Featured): Female, Teenager – Mezzo Soprano

A smart, well-dressed young girl who has a walk-on moment only – no dialogue. Can come from the nun ensemble.

Age to be played: 16+

Vocal range: E5 to B3

Vocal Technique: Legit

Dancing: Must be able to move

Saengerbund of Herwegen Trio (Featured): Male and Female – Non-singing

Three-person performance group who wins 3rd place in the Festival Concert. Can come from Dance Ensemble.

Age to be played: 18+

Voice: Non-speaking

Dancing: Non-dancer

Acting: Playful, energetic, happy

Fraulein Schweiger (Featured): Female, Adult/Young Adult – Non-singing

Female performer who wins 2nd place in the Festival Concert. Can come from the Dance Ensemble.

Age to be played: 18+

Voice: Non-speaking

Dancing: Non-dancer

Acting: Overly appreciative

Nuns Ensemble (Featured): Female, Adult, Young Adult, Teenagers – Mezzo Soprano

20-25 nuns, novices, and postulants who live in the Noonberg Abby.

Age to be played: 14+

Vocal range: E5 to C4

Dancing: Must be able to move

Austrian and Nazi Ensemble (Featured): Male and Female, Teens, Young Adult and Adults – Non-singing

Men and Women with strong dance and acting abilities to perform onstage the roles of Nazi soldiers, premier dancers in The Lonely Goatherd scene, dancing neighbors and friends who come to Captain Von Trapp's party, Salzburg citizens who attend the wedding of Maria and Georg.

Age to be played: 18+

Vocals: Non-singing

Speaking: There will be speaking throughout various scenes with Nazi's, party guests, etc.

Dancing: Strong dancers

Acting: Strong actors