The Gruppetto

A four note ornament involving the principle pitch, the pitch below, and the pitch above.

[A] If the gruppetto symbol is placed after a non-dotted note, the principle pitch is held for almost full value and then the gruppetto is executed in the final half beat (or the final half of the note is the note value is less than one beat).

[B] If the gruppetto symbol is placed after a dotted note, the pitch is held almost to the full value of the note minus the dot. The first three pitches of the gruppetto are then executed with the fourth note (principle pitch) falling where the dot is.

[C] If the gruppetto symbol is placed directly over a note, the gruppetto is executed at the start of the note, however the gruppetto will begin on the pitch ABOVE the principle pitch. The principle pitch is held for the remaining duration.
Gruppetti Ornaments
(Translation: 'small group' ornaments)

[D] Accidentals above the gruppetto symbol apply to the note above the principle pitch. Below the symbol, an accidental applies to the note below the principle pitch. The key signature should also be checked to determine which pitch would normally be used. (printing errors can appear also).

[E] Other variations of the gruppetto symbol are the inverted mordent or the vertical gruppetto, which are treated rhythmically as above however the motion begins downward as opposed to upward. The lowest pitch is played first, the the principle pitch, then upper pitch, then principle.