

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

By Robert Booth



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FOREWARD

A good warm up before a rehearsal is vital to the players getting maximum benefit (let alone even getting through it!). As band leaders we know it, but how many students do any sort of preparation before band practice? So ideally we should start the rehearsal with a scale or two.

"I know, but who has time for this"?

I certainly empathize with this response that you may be thinking. Having been there myself though, this valuable few minutes can get the rehearsal off to a great start.

"Big Band Warm Up Scales" offers the following:

- The scale patterns are all accompanied by harmonizations in the rhythm section to add some color to the scales, as well as to involve these members in the exercises.
- Members have an opportunity to focus on "ensemble" and intonation by the clarity of such exercises.
- Graded patterns to cater for varying levels of musicians.
- Articulations to help gain some "style" in the exercise.

Rob Booth

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

Scale 1a

ROBERT BOOTH

MED SWING ♩ = 130

ALTO SAX'S *mf*

TENOR SAX'S *mf*

BARI. SAX. *mf*

TRUMPETS *mf*

TROMBONES *mf*

PIANO *f*

GUITAR *mf*

VIBRAPHONE *f*

BASS GUITAR *mf*

DRUMS *mf*

CHORDS: C⁶ E_m/B A_m7 F/G D_m⁹ G⁷ C⁶ C⁹ F⁶ A_m/E D_m7 B_b/C G_m⁹ C⁷ F⁶ E_b7 D⁹

OPT FILL..... OPT FILL.....

(OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)

SMALL FILL.....

Scale 3

FUNK ♩ = 90

1

ALTO *mf* *sim.*

TENOR *mf* *sim.*

BARI. SAX. *mf* *sim.*

TPT. *mf* *sim.*

TBN. *mf* *sim.*

CHORDS:
 C C/E Dm7 (OPT FILLS) D7 G⁹ *sim.* E7 A+7 G¹³ G+7 C F F/A Gm7 G7 C⁹ A7 D+7 C¹³ C+7 F

PNQ. *f*

(OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)
 C C/E Dm7 D7 G⁹ E7 A+7 G¹³ G+7 C F⁶ F/A Gm7 G7 C⁷ A7 D+7 C¹³ C+7 F

J. GTR. *mf*

VIB. *mf*

BASS *f*

DR. *mf* (SMALL FILL) (SMALL FILL)

Scale 5

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

ALTO *mf*

TENOR *mf*

BARI. SAX. *mf*

TPT. *mf*

TBN. *mf*

PNO. *f*

J. GTR. *mf* (OPT PLAY SCALE OR COMP)

VIB. *mf*

BASS *mf*

DR. *mf* SMALL FILL...

Chord progression: Bb, F, Ebmaj7, Abmaj7, Gm7, Cm7, F7, Bb, Em7, A7

Scale 7 b

MED SWING ♩ = 130

1

ALTO

TENOR

BARI. SAX.

TPT.

TBN.

PNO.

J. GTR.

VIB.

BASS

DR.

MED SWING ♩ = 130

SMALL FILLS...

BIG BAND WARM UP SCALES

ALTO SAX'S

ROBERT BOOTH

Scale 1a

MED SWING ♩ = 130

Musical notation for Scale 1a, Alto Saxophone part. The scale is in A major (three sharps) and common time. It consists of 15 measures. The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The notes are: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), A5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The piece ends with a double bar line.

Scale 1b

MED SWING ♩ = 130

Musical notation for Scale 1b, Alto Saxophone part. The scale is in A major (three sharps) and common time. It consists of 16 measures. The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The notes are: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), A5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The second measure starts with a *sim.* (sforzando) dynamic. The notes are: D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), A5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The piece ends with a double bar line.