

TENOR SAXOPHONE

THE

# LET'S PLAY

# Band

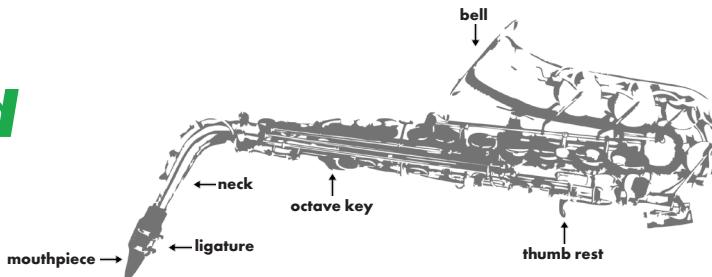
# METHOD

***Edited and Arranged by Derrick Maxey***

**Special thanks to:** Grayson Switzer, Designer, Emily Jones, Designer,  
J.J. Johnson, Percussion Contributor, Daniel Lenzer, Bassoon Contributor  
Instrument fingering font from MusicTeacherTools.com

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# Getting Started



## Assembling Your Instrument

Before assembling your instrument, put the thin end of your reed in your mouth. Loosen the neck screw and attach the neck to the body of the instrument. It should point away from the keys. Tighten the neck screw. Insert the mouthpiece gently to the neck. The opening of the mouthpiece should be facing straight down. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the cork on the neck should remain showing.

## Holding Your Instrument

(Right Hand) The instrument should rest on the side of the right thumb at the base of the nail, with the ball of the thumb resting against the body of the instrument. The right pinky finger should rest lightly on the C key with the rest of the fingers resting on the remaining buttons.

(Left Hand) The left thumb operates the octave key and should be placed diagonally so that the fleshy part of the thumb rests on the plate provided for it. The left pinky finger should rest lightly on the G# key with the remaining fingers contacting the rest of the buttons. *Fingers should remain curved naturally and should remain in contact with their key or button at all times.*

## Getting A Sound

Moisten your reed by putting the thin end in your mouth. Place the flat side of the reed up against the flat side of the mouthpiece with the thin end of the reed almost in line with the tip of the mouthpiece so only a hairline can be seen above the reed. Carefully slide the ligature down around the reed. Make sure it's loose enough to fit down below the half circle shaved into the reed. Then tighten the screws of the ligature holding the reed in place. Roll your bottom lip over your bottom teeth. Position the mouthpiece on your bottom lip so about half an inch of reed is in your mouth. Your top teeth should rest on top of the mouthpiece. Close your mouth around the mouthpiece keeping your chin down.

## Playing Position

Many athletes have learned there is a proper way to approach the plate or the free throw line for the highest probability for success; it's the same way when playing an instrument! The following strategies have been proven to ensure the highest probability of achieving the fullest and richest tone quality on your instrument:

- Keep both feet flat on the floor
- Keep your shoulders down and relaxed
- Think about sitting up straight and making yourself as tall as possible

***Bring your instrument up to you,  
don't slouch down to reach your instrument!***



## Air Support

Your instrument is a *wind* instrument. The air you put into the instrument is the key ingredient to the best possible sound. Take each breath in slowly and steadily through your mouth, not your nose. When you breathe out, keep your mouth and throat open and relaxed. Think about using "warm" air. Practice exhaling warm air onto your hand as if you were trying to fog up a window or mirror.

## Instrument Care

Wipe off any extra moisture before returning your reed to the reed case. Run your swab through the mouthpiece before returning it to the instrument case. Mouthpieces should be washed weekly with warm water. Make sure you let it air dry before returning to the case. Put the swab into the bell end of the instrument and pull through the top end.

# Let's Play!



*fermata*

“Keep holding the note until your conductor indicates for you to stop”

**REST**

For a musician, a rest isn't a break, we're always counting or watching the conductor to see when we get to play again!

**G**

REST

REST

G G G G

REST

G G G G

REST

G G G G

**F**

REST

REST

F

F

F F F F

REST

G G G G

REST

F F F F

**F**

E E REST E REST E

E E E E REST F F F F REST G G G G

**D**

D REST D REST D

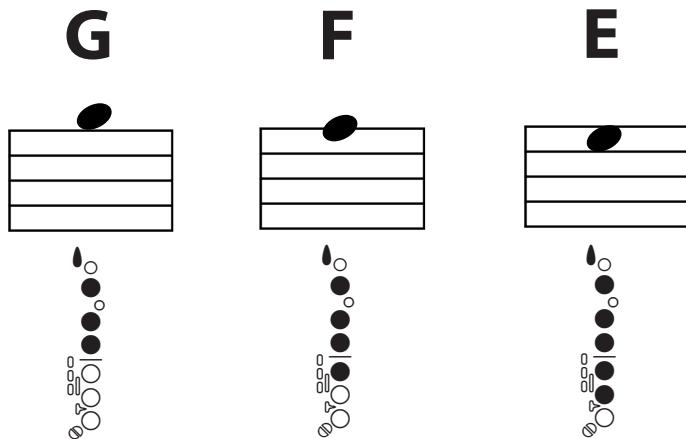
D D D D REST C C E E REST E E D D

**C**

C REST C REST C

C C C C REST C D E F REST F E D C

# Fingerings



*mf*  
mezzo forte  
“medium loud”

## music theory

 **whole note**  
sustain sound 4 beats

 **whole rest**  
count 4 beats rest

1

### Lift Off



2

### Around The Room



\* if a dynamic marking is not listed, mezzo forte is implied

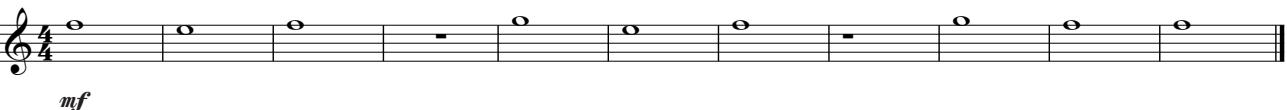
3

### Stargazing



**time signature****4**  
**4****beats in a measure**  
**quarter note** gets the beat**key signature**

an accidental can appear before the note, or at the beginning of the line in what's called the 'key signature'

**4***Oracle***5***Interstellar***6***Memory***7***Wait For It*

## Herbie Hancock

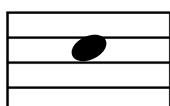
Herbie Hancock is an American pianist that during his time with the Miles Davis Quintet, started playing jazz piano like no one ever had before. He was one of the inventors of a new subgenre of jazz called "Post-Bop".



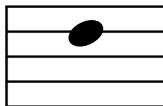
## "Watermelon Man" by Herbie Hancock

# Fingerings

C



D



mezzo piano  
“medium soft”

## music theory



**half note**

sustain sound 2 beats



**half rest**

count 2 beats rest

8

### Au Claire de la Lune

Welsh Folk Song



9

### Cardiff By The Sea

French Folk Song



mp

10

### Hot Cross Buns

English Folk Song



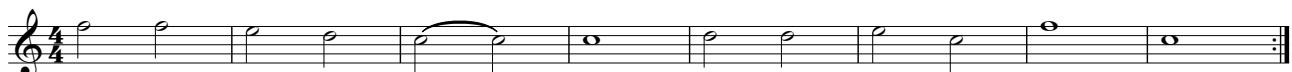
|| **repeat sign**  
go back to the beginning,  
or another repeat sign

**Ties** combines the values  
of two notes. Don't  
tongue the second note

# 11

## Country Walk

French Folk Song



# 12

## Merrily We Roll Along

Charlie Tobias



# 13

## Down By The Station

Traditional



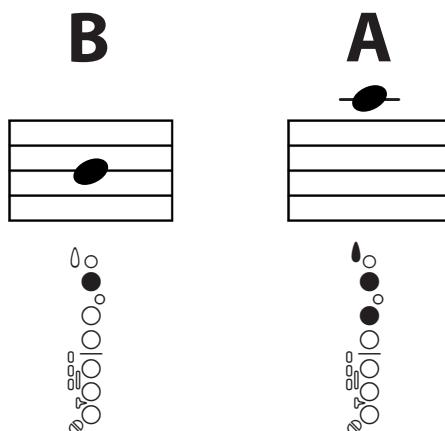
## Ola Gjeilo

Ola Gjeilo is a Norwegian composer and pianist currently residing in Manhattan. He is primarily a choral **composer**, meaning he writes pieces of music to be sung by choirs. He is best known for his works "Dreamweaver" and "The River".



## "Still" by Ola Gjeilo

# Fingerings



**breath mark**  
the best spot to take a deep  
breath through your mouth

# piano

# *music theory*



## ***quarter note***



**quarter rest**  
count 1 beat

## 14 Stodola Pumpa

## Czech Folk Song



The image shows the first 12 measures of the melody for 'The Star-Spangled Banner'. The melody is in G major (two sharps) and common time (indicated by a '4'). The lyrics are: 'O say can you see by the dawn's early light'. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. Measure 12 begins a repeat section with a double bar line and repeat dots, leading into the next section.

# 15 *Jingle Bells*

James Lord Pierpont



mf

## 16 *Go Tell Aunt Rhody*

## American Folk Song



A musical score for a single instrument, likely a woodwind or brass, in 4/4 time. The key signature is one sharp. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a dynamic of *p* (pianissimo). The second staff begins with a dynamic of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The music consists of eighth-note patterns and rests.



## fermata

*hold the note out longer*

## **1st and 2nd Endings** *some repeats indicate a different ending to*

*some repeats indicate  
a different ending to  
play for each time  
through*

# 17 *Jasmine Flower*

## Chinese Folk Song



mp

## 18 Surprise Symphony

## Joseph Haydn



A musical score for a single instrument, likely a flute or recorder. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It features a continuous line of eighth-note patterns. The second staff begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It also features a continuous line of eighth-note patterns. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The first staff ends with a fermata over the last note, and the second staff ends with a fermata over the last note.

# 19 *Mary Ann*

## Jamaican Folk Song



# *The Kronos Quartet*

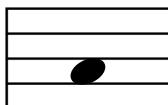
The Kronos Quartet is a string quartet based in San Francisco. A **quartet** is a musical ensemble consisting of four musicians. Kronos has been in existence since 1973 and has had over nine hundred musical pieces composed for them.



## ***“Lux Aeterna” by The Kronos Quartet***

# Fingerings

A



**pp**  
pianissimo  
“very soft”

## music theory



*cresc.*

*crescendo*  
gradually get louder



*decresc.*

*decrescendo*  
gradually get softer

20

### Also Sprach Zarathustra

Richard Strauss



21

### Ha'Kyo Jung

Korean Folk Song



22

### Rondo alla Turca

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



**2** beats in a measure  
**4** quarter note gets the beat

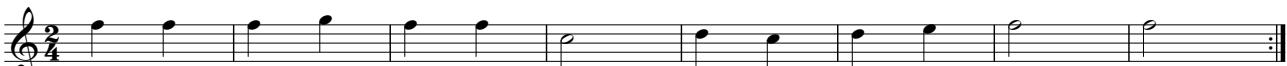
**pick up notes**



notes that happen  
before the first full  
measure

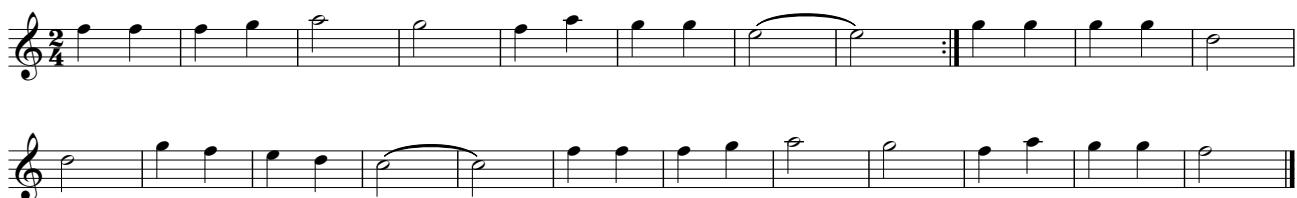
## 23 Good King Wenceslas

Finnish Folk Song



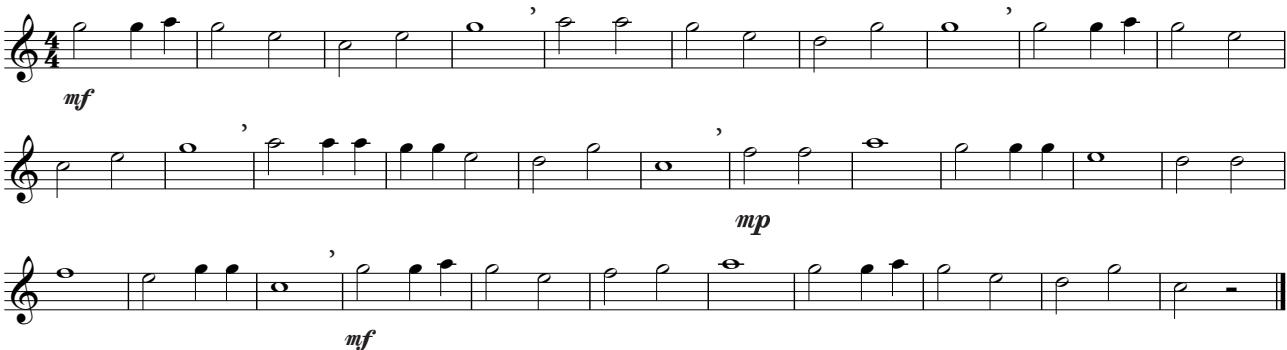
## 24 The Bridge At Avignon

French Folk Song



## 25 Up On The Housetop

Benjamin Hanby

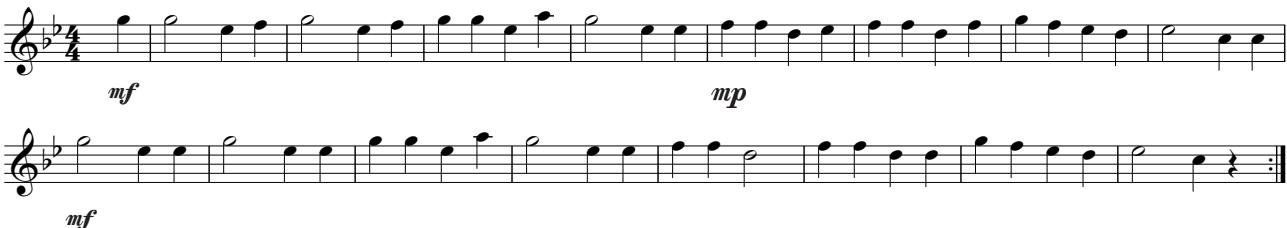


## Aretha Franklin

Aretha Franklin was a vocalist and pianist who is still regarded today as the "Queen of Soul". **Soul** is a style of music that combines elements of gospel, rhythm and blues and jazz and became popular in the U.S. in the 1950s and 60s.

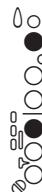
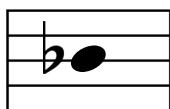
## 26 A Tisket A Tasket

American Folk Song

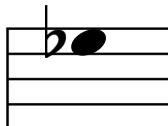


# Fingerings

**Bb**



**Eb**



**“common time”**

another way of  
indicating  $\frac{4}{4}$  time

## music theory

### “accidentals”

- ♭ flat lowers the sound of the note
- ♯ sharp raises the sound of the note
- ♮ natural cancels out a sharp or flat

**27**

*Mary Had A Little Lamb*

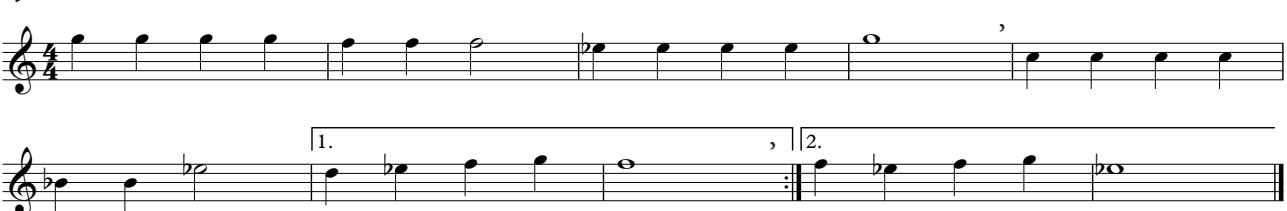
American Folk Song



**28**

*Jolly Old Saint Nicholas*

James R. Murray, words by Emily Clark Huntington Miller



**29**

*Love Somebody*

Andante

Joan Whitney, Alex Kramer



**tempo** - how fast or slow to play

<b>Andante</b>	<b>Moderato</b>	<b>Allegro</b>
slow	medium	fast

**30**

**Dredyl, Dredyl**

Israeli Folk Song



Allegro

**31**

**London Bridge**

English Folk Song



Moderato

**32**

**Amigas**

Hispanic Folk Song



\* if a tempo marking is not listed, Moderato is implied



## “Duke” Ellington

Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington was a **prolific** jazz composer, meaning he wrote a great number of jazz compositions, many which are still considered standards today. The “Duke” helped propel jazz to being regarded on the same level as classical music.



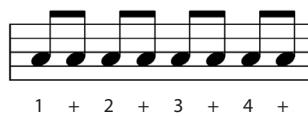
**“Mood Indigo” by Duke Ellington**

**3** beats in a measure  
**4** quarter note gets the beat

**ff**  
**fortissimo**  
 “very loud”

## music theory

### eighth notes



two eighth notes  
 fit equally into  
 each beat



**“Cantaloupe Island” by Herbie Hancock**

## 33 Old Macdonald

Allegro

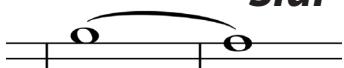
British Folk Song



## 34 Ezekial Saw The Wheel

African American Spiritual





## *Slur*

*connect two notes by  
only tonguing the  
first one*

35

## ***Bonjour Mes Amis***

## French Folk Song



36

## *Chiapanecas*

## Mexican Folk Song



37

## **Goodbye Old Paint**

Charley Willis



A musical score for 'The Star-Spangled Banner' is shown, consisting of two staves of music. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bottom staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature. Both staves feature a series of eighth and sixteenth note patterns.



# *Miles Davis*

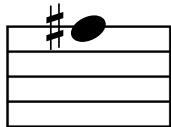
Miles Davis was an American trumpeter and bandleader that became one of the most influential figures in 20th century music. Throughout his career he continued to innovate and find new ways to play the trumpet and compose music.



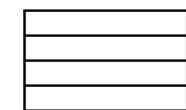
# ***“All Blues” by Miles Davis***

# Fingerings

**F#**



**Bb**



*sfz*

*sforzando piano*  
“attack the note forte  
and hold it piano”

## music theory

### dotted half note



when a dot is placed beside a note it adds half the original value to the note.  
Dotted half notes get 3 beats.

**38**

### Theme from Symphony No. 1

Johannes Brahms



**39**

### Roses

Hispanic Folk Song



**40**

### Oranges and Lemons

Allegro

English Folk Song



**articulation** - a special way to play a note

**tenuto**  
long

**staccato**  
short

**accent**  
emphasized

**41**

**"Spring" from Four Seasons**

Allegro



Sheet music for "Spring" from Four Seasons. The music is in 4/4 time, treble clef, and key of G major. Dynamics include *mp* and *sfz*. The piece consists of two parts, 1. and 2.

Antonio Vivaldi

**42**

**It Had To Be You**

Isham Jones



Sheet music for "It Had To Be You". The music is in 4/4 time, treble clef, and key of G major. Dynamics include *sfz* and *sfz*.

**43**

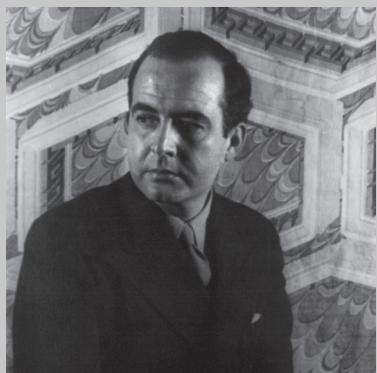
**Minka, Minka**

Allegro



Sheet music for "Minka, Minka". The music is in 2/4 time, treble clef, and key of G major. Dynamics include *f*.

Ukrainian Folk Song



## Samuel Barber

Samuel Barber was one of the most celebrated American composers of the 20th century. While many composers of the time were experimenting with new harmonies, Samuel chose notes in his compositions that more reflected a 19th-century harmonic understanding.



### **"Adagio For Strings" by Samuel Barber**



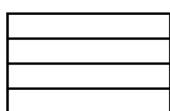
### **"Bye, Bye Birdie" by Charles Strouse**



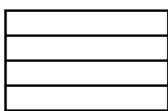
### **"Freddie Freeloader" by Miles Davis**

# Fingerings

B



C



*eighth rest*  
rest half a beat

## music theory

### **eighth note runs**



*When multiple eighth note pairs occur in a row they maintain the same rhythm and timing. Keep your air going!*

44

### **Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**

English Folk Song



45

### **"Morning" from Peer Gynt**

Edvard Grieg

Andante



46

### **Frere Jacques**

French Folk Song



47

*Academic Festival Overture*

Johannes Brahms



48

*Lo Yisa Goy*

Israeli Folk Song



49

*Skip To My Lou*

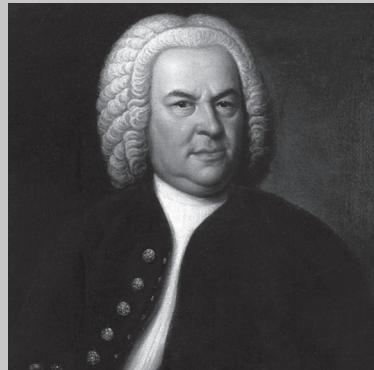
American Folk Song



50

*Sakura*

Japanese Folk Song


***Johann Sebastian Bach***

Johann Sebastian Bach was a German composer and probably the most recognizable composer of the Baroque Era. The **Baroque Era** was the musical time period in Western Music between 1600-1750 and happened right before the Classical Era.

51

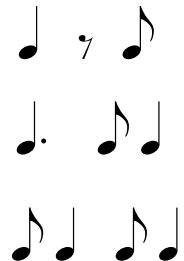
*Musette*

Allegro


***"Maiden Voyage" by Herbie Hancock***

## **"syncopated" rhythms**

*rhythms that emphasize  
the "& count" or weak beat*



*fp*  
**forte piano**  
“attack the phrase forte  
and continue at piano”

## **music theory**

### **dotted quarter note**



*Just like dotted half notes, a dotted quarter gets an extra half of the original value. Getting one and a half beats puts the note or rest after it on the "up" beat or "& count".*

## **53** *Tzena, Tzena*

Jewish Folk Song



## **54** *San Sereni*

Spanish Folk Song



## **55** *Prince Of Denmark's March*

Henry Wood



## **56** *Little Donkey*

Eric Boswell



57

*Ode To Joy*

Music score for 'Ode To Joy' in 4/4 time, key of C major. The dynamic is *fp* (fortissimo). The score consists of two staves of music.

Ludwig van Beethoven

58

*Arirang*

Music score for 'Arirang' in 3/4 time, key of C major. The score consists of two staves of music.

Korean Folk Song

59

*New World Symphony*

Music score for 'New World Symphony' in 4/4 time, key of C major. The score consists of two staves of music.

Anton Dvorak

60

*Kum Ba Yah*

Music score for 'Kum Ba Yah' in 4/4 time, key of C major. The dynamic is *Andante*. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff ends with a repeat sign and the second staff begins with '1.' above the staff.

African American Spiritual

61

*Hey Ho, Nobody's Home*

Music score for 'Hey Ho, Nobody's Home' in 4/4 time, key of C major. The dynamics are *mf*, *fp*, and *mf*. The score consists of two staves of music.

English Folk Song

**Bette Midler**

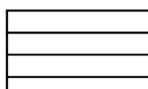
Bette Midler is an American singer and songwriter who made her motion picture debut in the 1979 film "The Rose". Her recording of the title song became a chart hit and helped propel her award-winning career in showbusiness of over half a century.



**"The Rose" written by Amanda McBroom**

# Fingerings

**D**



## D.C. al Coda

D.C. or "da capo" al Coda means to go to the beginning and then go to the Coda. After playing the measure that says "To Coda" jump to the measure with the Coda sign.

**62**

### The Charleston

James P. Johnson

To Coda



Allegro

D.C. al Coda

**63**

### Aloha Oe

Lili'uokalani



**64**

### Loch Lomond

Scottish Folk Song



65

**Maple Leaf Rag**

Allegro



Scott Joplin

66

**El Juego Chrimbolo**

Spanish Folk Song



67

**Rock A My Soul**

African American Spiritual



68

**Give My Regards To Broadway**

George M. Cohan

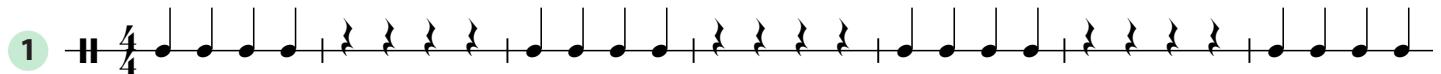
Allegro

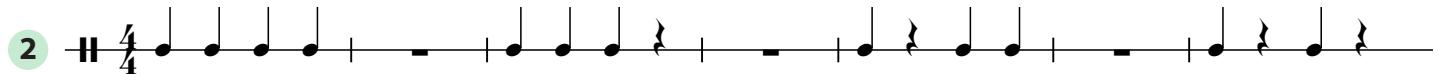
**Billie Holiday**

Billie Holiday was a celebrated jazz and swing vocalist who would influence pop singing for decades to come. Her vocal style was greatly influenced by the sounds of jazz instrumentalists.

**“God Bless The Child” by Billie Holiday**

## Rhythm Reading

1 

2 

3 

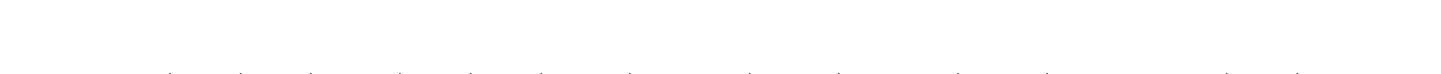
4 

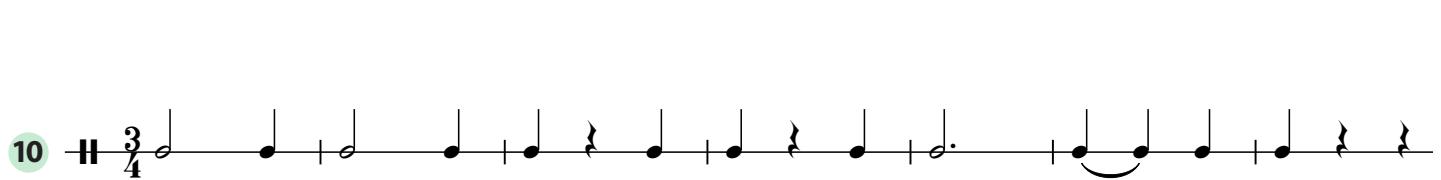
5 

6 

7 

8 

9 

10 

# 5 Note Scales

## **E Major Scale (D Concert)**

## **A Major Scale (G Concert)**

## **D Major Scale (C Concert)**

## **G Major Scale (F Concert)**

## **C Major Scale (Bb Concert)**

## **F Major Scale (Eb Concert)**

## **Bb Major Scale (Ab Concert)**

## **Eb Major Scale (Db Concert)**

## **Ab Major Scale (Gb Concert)**

## **D# Major Scale (B Concert)**

## **F# Major Scale (E Concert)**

## **B Major Scale (A Concert)**

# Tenor Sax Fingering Chart



	B	B	C	C♯ D	
<b>D</b>					
<b>F♯ G</b>					
<b>A♯ B</b>					
<b>D</b>					
<b>F♯ G</b>					
<b>B</b>					