



**Belwin JAZZ**

a division of Alfred

**I CAN'T GET STARTED**

Music by **VERNON DUKE**  
Words by **IRA GERSHWIN™**  
Arranged by **VICTOR GOINES**

**INSTRUMENTATION**

<b>Conductor</b>	<b>1st Trombone</b>	<b>Optional Alternate Parts</b>
<b>1st E<math>\flat</math> Alto Saxophone</b>	<b>2nd Trombone</b>	
<b>2nd E<math>\flat</math> Alto Saxophone</b>	<b>3rd Trombone</b>	
<b>1st B<math>\flat</math> Tenor Saxophone</b>	<b>4th Trombone</b>	
<b>2nd B<math>\flat</math> Tenor Saxophone</b>	<b>Guitar Chords</b>	
<b>E<math>\flat</math> Baritone Saxophone</b>	<b>Guitar</b>	
<b>1st B<math>\flat</math> Trumpet</b>	<b>Piano</b>	
<b>2nd B<math>\flat</math> Trumpet</b>	<b>Bass</b>	
<b>3rd B<math>\flat</math> Trumpet</b>	<b>Drums</b>	
<b>4th B<math>\flat</math> Trumpet</b>		

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# I CAN'T GET STARTED

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## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The classic trumpet solo by Bunny Berigan on “I Can’t Get Started” is standard listening repertoire for trumpeters. This song was Berigan’s theme where he demonstrated his big sound and virtuosity. Listen to the original recording for an education in trumpet tone, style and phrasing.

This arrangement captures some of that style with a more contemporary flair and harmony. The first statement of the melody should be played as written then the second chorus may be embellished or improvised but always keep the lyrical style and phrasing in mind. The trumpet soloist does not have to play fast, high, or loud to make this solo come alive; the most important aspect is that it be played warmly from the heart and with a smooth melodic style.

After the fermata in measure 4, let the trumpet soloist establish the ballad tempo with the pick up notes into measure 5. The trombone section will want to spend some time with measures 11 and 12 to lock in the pyramid figure. The brass tutti in measure 53 should be strong but don’t overpower the melody as played by the saxes. The rooftop accents (^) are detached but not staccato, think “daht.” The overall feel is straight eighth notes but the sixteenth notes at the beginning and at measure 67 played by the saxes can be slightly swung. The repeated section in measures 67–68 can be extended if desired.

The rhythm section parts are written out but more experienced players may embellish as desired. I caution piano and guitar players to focus on listening to each other to avoid overplaying or what I refer to as comping clutter. Take turns or alternate sections to play; always err on the side of playing less rather than more. At this tempo, it is easy for the rhythm section to push ahead so caution the players to listen to the time. As with any ballad, all players should use their internal clock and subdivide the beats mentally into eighth notes to ensure accurate time.

—Victor Goines

CONDUCTOR  
24870S

# I CAN'T GET STARTED

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WALKING BALLAD ♩ = 70-74

1st Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

1st Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

Eb BARITONE SAXOPHONE

1st Bb TRUMPET

2ND Bb TRUMPET (SOLO)

3RD Bb TRUMPET

4TH Bb TRUMPET

1st TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE

4TH TROMBONE

GIUITAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

5 A TEMPO

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(21)

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GRG.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

HARMON MUTE

87(#9)

E#19

D%

C#15(#11)

A7(#9)

F#19

B15

E#19

B15

E%

A7(#11)

E%

A15(#11)

C

Bb15(#11)

A7(#9)

D#19

C%

Bb15(#11)

G7(#9)

C%

E#19

A15

E#19

A15

D%

G7(#11)

D%

G15(#11)

C

Bb15(#11)

A7(#9)

D#19

C%

Bb15(#11)

G7(#9)

C%

E#19

A15

E#19

A15

D%

G7(#11)

D%

G15(#11)















ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69

VAMP

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The musical score is arranged for a full band and vocal ensemble. It begins at measure 62 and ends at measure 69. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts (Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone) have lyrics that are partially obscured by the watermark. The instrumental parts include Trumpet (1-4), Trombone (1-4), Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score features various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page, reading 'Legal Use Requires Purchase'.

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