

FIRST YEAR CHARTS

FOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE



The First Noel

TRADITIONAL

Arranged by PETER BLAIR

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Optional)
E♭ Baritone Saxophone (Optional)
1st B♭ Trumpet
2nd B♭ Trumpet
3rd B♭ Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone
2nd Trombone (Optional)
3rd Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords
Guitar (Optional)
Piano
Bass
Drums

Optional/Alternate Parts

C Flute
B♭ Clarinet
Vibraphone
Tuba (Doubles Bass)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The opening figure is repeated several times throughout the arrangement. Direct the ensemble to play this figure crisp, light, and with accurate articulation. The *staccato* markings are short, but not too short or clipped. Notes with *tenuto* markings should get their full values. As a “pop ballad,” the entire performance should be tasty, sensitive, and well controlled dynamically—understated is best. If you have a percussionist in addition to your drummer, bell tree and wind chimes can be added. This adds a nice timbre to the ensemble, but make sure any percussion embellishment is subtle and not overpowering.

The first chorus, beginning at measure 10, shifts the melody among all the sections. The drums should be playing eighths on a closed hi-hat with rim knocks on beat 3 for a contemporary pop/rock feel. The flute, clarinet, and vibes parts are optional, but they will add nice color if used.

At measure 34, the opening figure returns, and the drummer should play the part on different parts of the cymbals as indicated (light domes, not crashes). Alto saxophone has the solo melody at measure 43, and the piano part should be played as written in this section.

The high point in the chart is at measure 62. Be sure the chord is full and well balanced, without being over-played. The rhythmic variation in measures 66–67 might need to be conducted, as will the slight *rallentando* that ends the chart.

The rhythm section parts are written out. Guitar comping should be light and understated. For the best sound, ask the guitarist to use medium-thick picks, held loosely between the thumb and index finger. This will give the sound an acoustic quality. The guitarist’s quarter-note rhythm should perfectly mesh with the bass so that they merge into one big sound.

Enjoy!

—Peter Blair



Peter Blair

Peter Blair has an extensive and varied background in education and performance. He holds a BA in music education from Carroll University and an MA from the University of Wisconsin. He taught for twelve years at a variety of grade levels. Blair is currently an author and part of the advisory group for Lorenz Educational Press along with being an author and composer for Heritage Music Press. An accomplished composer and arranger, Blair has over 70 compositions and arrangements in print, as well as many commissions for college, high school and middle school groups throughout the United States.

CONDUCTOR
41109S

THE FIRST NOEL

Traditional
Arranged by Peter Blair

BALLAD ♩ = 96

C FLUTE (OPTIONAL)

B♭ CLARINET (OPTIONAL)

1ST E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

1ST B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE (OPTIONAL)

E♭ BARIOTONE SAXOPHONE (OPTIONAL)

1ST B♭ TRUMPET

2ND B♭ TRUMPET

3RD B♭ TRUMPET (OPTIONAL)

1ST TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE (OPTIONAL)

3RD TROMBONE (OPTIONAL)

GUITAR (OPTIONAL)

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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SOLO

Light Comes, Ad Lib.

FILL

HI-HAT/RIM KNOCKS

FILL

(WITH TRUMPETS)

mp3

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CONDUCTOR

THE FIRST NOEL

10

FLUTE

CLAR.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

Gtr.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

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Chord progression for guitar and piano:

- 10: Bbm7, Cm9
- 11: Bb/D, Gm7, Cm7
- 12: F9, Bbm9
- 13: Cm7, Dm7
- 14: Ebm7, Ab7(11)

Drum notation includes a "FILL" section at the end of measure 18.

CONDUCTOR

THE FIRST NOEL

19

FLUTE

CLAR.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

Gtr.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Chord progression: Gmi7, D/f#, Gmi/f, Ebmaj7, Bb/f, Bbmaj9, Bbmaj9/A, Gmi7, C15, Cmi7, Ebmi/f, Bbmaj7

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CONDUCTOR

THE FIRST NOEL

FLUTE 27

CLAR.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

GTR. *E^m7(b9) E^bmaj7 B^b/D E^bmaj7 A^b9(b11) B^b/F E^m7(b9) E^bmaj9 B^b/D C^m9 F7sus B^bmaj7*

PNO. *E^m7(b9) B^b/D E^bmaj7 A^b9(b11) B^b/F E^m7(b9) E^bmaj9 B^b/D C^m9 F7sus B^bmaj7 A^bmaj9*

BASS

DRUMS *FILL*

LIGHT COMES. AD LIB.

27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

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CONDUCTOR

THE FIRST NOEL

FLUTE

CLAR.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

45

SOLO

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36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44

Chords: Gmi9, Cm7/F, Bbm7, Abm9, Gmi9, E/F, Bbm7, Cm9, Bb/D, Gmi7, AS WEITEN

Drum Fills: FILL

CONDUCTOR

THE FIRST NOEL

FLUTE

CLAR.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

51

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CONDUCTOR

59 - 7 -

THE FIRST NOEL

Musical score for 'The First Noel' featuring various instruments and a conductor part. The score includes staves for Flute, Clarinet, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1, 2, 3, Trombone 1, 2, 3, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The conductor part is at the top. The score is marked with measure numbers 55 through 63. A large red watermark 'Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Chord progression for Guitar and Piano:

- 55: Bbmaj9, Bbmaj9/A, Gmi7, C15
- 56: Gmi7, C15, Cmi7, Ebmi7
- 57: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7
- 58: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7
- 59: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7
- 60: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7
- 61: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7
- 62: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7
- 63: Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7, Ebmi7, Bbmaj7

Drum notation includes 'Cym. Roll' and 'Light Fill'.

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