

# PLAY A SIMPLE MELODY

*Irving Berlin*

Arranged by

*Tom Johns*

## Instrumentation

1 - Conductor's Full Score	4 - F Horn
8 - Flute	3 - Trombone 1
2 - Oboe	3 - Trombone 2
2 - Bassoon	2 - Baritone/ Euphonium
6 - B $\flat$ Clarinet 1	2 - Baritone T.C.
6 - B $\flat$ Clarinet 2	4 - Tuba
2 - B $\flat$ Bass Clarinet	1 - Xylophone
6 - E $\flat$ Alto Saxophone	6 - Percussion
2 - B $\flat$ Tenor Saxophone	Snare Drum
2 - E $\flat$ Baritone Saxophone	Bass Drum
4 - B $\flat$ Trumpet 1	Crash Cymbals
4 - B $\flat$ Trumpet 2	

T H E  
F · J · H  
MUSIC  
COMPANY  
I N C.



## The Arranger

Tom Johns received a degree in music education from the University of Kentucky. He taught instrumental music in Frankfort, Kentucky, for a number of years prior to beginning a career in music publishing. His accomplishments in the music publishing field include over 200 published arrangements and compositions for concert band, marching band, and jazz ensemble. Mr. Johns maintains an active schedule as a performer, teacher, editor, and arranger.

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## About the Music

The tempo of this arrangement is slightly less than the average march tempo; and the style is a swing or shuffle, so the eighth notes should be played with a triplet feel. At measure 5, the repeated section has a soft-shoe effect and is played lightly both times; the *staccato* notes should have a slight lift. Listen to the brushes in the snare drum part so it is not overplayed. At measure 23, the melody is heard in the low brass against a ragtime riff (reminiscent of one of Scott Joplin's classics) in the flute, oboe, and trumpet 1 parts; listen to each group as you work on balance. There are musical surprises in measures 37–38. Ask the ensemble how many simple melodies they can pick out. The flute, trumpet 1, and xylophone players should perform these measures as marked (straight eighths), without a swing triplet feel.

*Tom Johns*

# PLAY A SIMPLE MELODY

IRVING BERLIN  
Arranged by  
TOM JOHNS  
(ASCAP)

Medium Shuffle (♩ = 112) (♩ = ♩<sup>3</sup>)

The score is written for a full orchestra. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Medium Shuffle' at 112 beats per minute, with a 3-beat pattern. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is marked with a forte dynamic (*f*). A large red watermark 'Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score. The percussion part includes instructions for Snare Drum (S.D.), Bass Drum (B.D.), Crash Cymbals (Cr. Cym.), and a transition to brushes at the end of the piece.

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5

Fl. *p*

Ob. *p*  
2nd time only

Bsn. *p*  
2nd time only

1 Cls. *p*  
2nd time only

2 Cls. *p*

B. Cl. *p*  
2nd time only

A. Sax. *p*  
2nd time only

T. Sax. *p*

B. Sax. *p*

5

1 Tpts. *p*

2 Tpts. *p*

Hn. *p*

1 Tbn. *p*

2 Tbn. *p*

Bar./Euph. *p*

Tuba *p*

Xylo. *p*  
brushes

Perc. *p*  
3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

5 *p* 6 7 8

This musical score page features 17 staves for various instruments. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. (Flute), Ob. (Oboe), Bsn. (Bassoon), Cls. 1 & 2 (Clarinets), B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet), A. Sax. (Alto Saxophone), T. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone), B. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone), Tpts. 1 & 2 (Trumpets), Hn. (Horn), Tbn. 1 & 2 (Tubas), Bar./Euph. (Baritone/Euphonium), Tuba, Xylo. (Xylophone), and Perc. (Percussion). The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). It spans measures 9, 10, 11, and 12. The Percussion part features a consistent rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in groups of three (trios) across all measures. The woodwind and brass parts have various melodic and harmonic lines, with some notes marked with a 'b' in a circle. A large, diagonal red watermark reading 'Preview Only' is overlaid across the entire page, with the text 'Legal Use Requires Purchase' written below it.

13

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

13

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Tbn.

2

Bar./  
Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc.

13 14 15 16 17

1. 2.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Tbn.

2

Bar./  
Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc.

play

*p*

*mp*

play

*p*

*mp*

play

*p*

play

*p*

1. 2.

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

to sticks

3 3 3

18 19 20 21 22

23

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

1 Cls. *mf*

2 Cls. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

23

1 Tpts. *mf*

2 Tpts. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

1 Tbn. *mf*

2 Tbn. *mf*

Bar./Euph. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Xylo. *mf*

Perc. *mf*

23 *mf* 24 25 26 > 27



31

Fl. p *f*

Ob. p *f*

Bsn. *fp* *f*

1 Cls. p *f*

2 Cls. *fp* *f*

B. Cl. *fp* *f*

A. Sax. *fp* *f*

T. Sax. *fp* *f*

B. Sax. *fp* *f*

1 Tpts. p *f*

2 Tpts. *fp* *f*

Hn. *fp* *f*

1 Tbn. *f*

2 Tbn. *f*

Bar./Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

Xylo. *fp* *f*

Perc. p *f*

28 29 30 31 32

straight eighths -----

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Tbn.

2

Bar./  
Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc.

33 34 35 36 37

3 3 3

3 3

straight eighths -----

straight eighths -----

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

1  
Tbn.

2

Bar./  
Euph.

Tuba

Xylo.

Perc.

38

39 *ff*

40

41

42 dampen choke dampen choke