

CHECK YOUR SWING

Chris Sharp

Instrumentation

Alto Sax 1	Guitar Chord Guide
Alto Sax 2	Guitar
Tenor Sax 1	Piano
Opt. Tenor Sax 2	Bass
Opt. Baritone Sax	Drum Set
Trumpet 1	Opt. Auxiliary Percussion
Trumpet 2	Tambourine
Opt. Trumpet 3	Congas
Opt. Trumpet 4	Conductor's Full Score
Trombone 1	Alternate Parts
Opt. Trombone 2	C Flute
Opt. Trombone 3	F Horn
Opt. Trombone 4	Baritone T.C.

Extra Conductor Score: \$5.00

Extra Parts: \$2.50

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Frank J. Hackinson

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The Composer

Chris Sharp is a Florida native raised in Cocoa Beach. He received a Bachelor of Music degree in theory and composition from the University of Florida, where he performed in bands under Frank Wickes and Gary Langford, and studied privately with Richard W. Bowles and Edward Troupin. He earned a Master of Music degree in studio writing and production from the University of Miami, studying with Gary Lindsay, James Progris, Alfred Reed, Ron Miller, and Whit Sidener.

Since 1984, Mr. Sharp has served as a staff arranger for Walt Disney World Creative Services, providing music for events ranging from atmosphere entertainment groups to national television broadcasts. He has also written for Universal Studios (Florida and California); Ringling Brothers Circus; high school and college bands throughout the United States; and several service bands, including the famed USAF Airmen of Note. Active nationwide as a clinician, adjudicator, and commissioned writer, Mr. Sharp's present focus is on developing material for high school and middle school concert bands, jazz bands, and small ensembles. He currently resides in Gainesville, Florida, where he is a Ph.D. candidate in composition at the University of Florida.

About the Music

Check Your Swing is a fun training piece for younger bands. Ranges and rhythmic responsibilities are conservative, allowing the focus to be placed on achieving an authentic, idiomatic swing style. The relaxed tempo should be accompanied by a strong internal awareness of the underlying triplet feel. As an additional exercise, the syllables “doo-doo-dah” sung evenly on each beat can help establish an understanding of the placement of offbeats in a swing tune. For notes that fall on the “and” of the beat, strive to accurately place them directly on the third of the implied triplet. Above all, fight the natural tendency to rush—keep it relaxed!

Slurs and articulations are provided to assist in understanding the inflections characteristic of swing style. Younger players have a tendency to cut off notes at the ends of slurs. These notes must be held their full value into the following note, especially during eighth-note lines. Rhythm parts are written out to provide appropriate rhythms and voicings for players unfamiliar with the style. Though fully orchestrated, this piece can be successfully performed with a minimum instrumentation of four saxes (AATT), three trumpets, two trombones, bass, drums, and piano.

Chris Sharp

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

Chord progression: Eb9, F9, Bb7, B7, Eb9, F7, Bb7

21

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

CHORDS APPEAR ON PART

CHORDS APPEAR ON PART

CONGAS

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

Chord progression: A^b13, E^b6, G^b7, F-11, B^b13(b9), E^b6/9, F9, B^b7, B7, E^b6/9, F7, B^b7

AS WRITTEN

TAMBOURINE

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

To CODA 

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

SOLO BREAK

CHORDS APPEAR ON PART

55 54 55 56 57 58 59 40

41

1ST TIME ONLY

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

SOLO 2ND TIME ONLY

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

CONGAS

41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

Chord symbols: F6/9 SOLO 1ST TIME ONLY, Bb7, Bb7, 807, F6/9, Bb7, 807, F6/9, D7(b9)

Chord symbols: Bb7, 807, F6/9, Bb7, 807, F6/9, D7(b9)

Chord symbols: Eb6/9, Ab7, A07, Eb6/9, Ab7, A07, Eb6/9, C7(b9)

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

Chord symbols: G-7, C7, C7(b13), F6/9, D7(b9), G-7, C7(b13), F6/9, Bb7, Bb7, F6/9, F-7, Bb7(b13), Eb6/9, C7(b9), F-7, Bb7(b13), Eb6/9, Ab7, A07, Eb6/9

Dynamic markings: m²

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Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64

65

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

TAMBOURINE

CONGAS

65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

E \flat 6/9 E \flat 9 D \flat E \flat 6/9 E \flat 9 D \flat E \flat 6/9 C7(b13) C7(b9)

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D.S.  AL CODA

Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

F9 E9 F9 Bb7(b13) Bb13 D9/E Eb9

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

(Solo) 

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

73 74 75 76



Alto Sax 1

Alto Sax 2

Tenor Sax 1

Opt. Tenor Sax 2

Opt. Baritone Sax

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Opt. Trumpet 3

Opt. Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Opt. Trombone 2

Opt. Trombone 3

Opt. Trombone 4

Guitar

Ebb9 Eb9 F-7 Gb9 F-7/Bb E9(##) Eb9(##)

Piano

Bass

Drum Set

Opt. Auxiliary Percussion

77 78 79 80