UTEP Jazz Bands
Alto Saxophone

Audition Information and Guidelines

Detailed Audition Information

Please prepare your audition using the audition packet specified for your instrument specifically. Also, note any specifications for your specific instrument below.

Scales & Arpeggios

1. Only perform the scales or arpeggios that you are comfortable playing
2. ACCURACY is the primary element for judging scales; speed/ technique will be taken into consideration, but only if the scale/ arpeggio is played correctly
3. Play multiple octaves, when applicable

Blues & Improvisation

1. Please select one of the two blues options, either **Bags' Groove** or **Blues For Alice** – more advanced students who wish to demonstrate their abilities on chord progressions are encouraged to select Blues For Alice
2. Play the melody to **Bags' Groove** or **Blues For Alice** one time in the range most comfortable for you on your instrument
3. Improvise for two choruses of the form

4. If you currently do not improvise at all, please state that before you perform, and play the melody to Bags' Groove with the recording; we strongly encourage everyone to attempt an improvised solo
5. Accompaniment for practice:
    a. For **Bags' Groove** use track 7 (Blues in key of Bb concert) from Jamey Aebersold's How To Play Jazz & Improvise, Volume 1:
        i. Download here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NUw3UWhAwNHRt0Aga1kkFsFzBVHzjuQt/view?usp=sharing
    b. For Blues For Alice use track 12 (Bird Blues) from Jamey Aebersold's Nothin' But Blues, Volume 2:
        i. Download here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ADrMNWteyLI-Y09wNoHLZJVO1WAl41iG/view?usp=sharing

Ballad

1. Using the attached lead sheet for your instrument, perform the melody to I Can't Get Started, unaccompanied;
2. The melody may be embellished, but should still be clearly recognizable;
3. The primary objectives for this portion of the audition should focus on consistent time, strength of sound, and phrasing.

Big Band Excerpt

1. With the exception of anyone very new to their instrument, all students should include Big Band excerpt #1 in their audition; we strongly encourage all students to also attempt Big Band excerpt #2
2. Please pay close attention to notated tempo and style for each piece

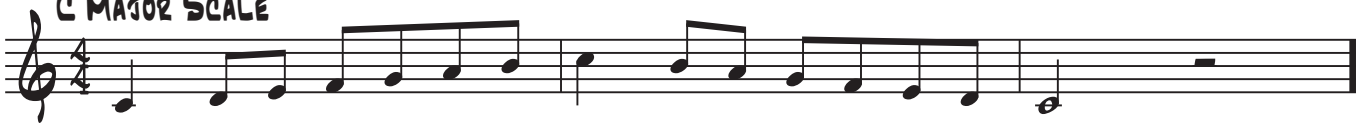
For Any Questions Contact:

1. The Jazz Band 1 Director Abel Mireles at
2. Email: jamireles7@utep.edu

Audition Scales & Arpeggios

Play multiple octaves, when possible

C Major Scale



Play as many of the following scales as possible:

C Major

G Major

$B_\flat$ Major

A Major

B Major

$D_\flat$ Major

D Major 7 Arpeggio

Play as many of the following Arpeggios as possible:

D Major 7 (DMaj7)

G Dominant 7 (G7)

A minor 7 (A-7)

E minor 7$_\flat$5 (E-7$_\flat$5)

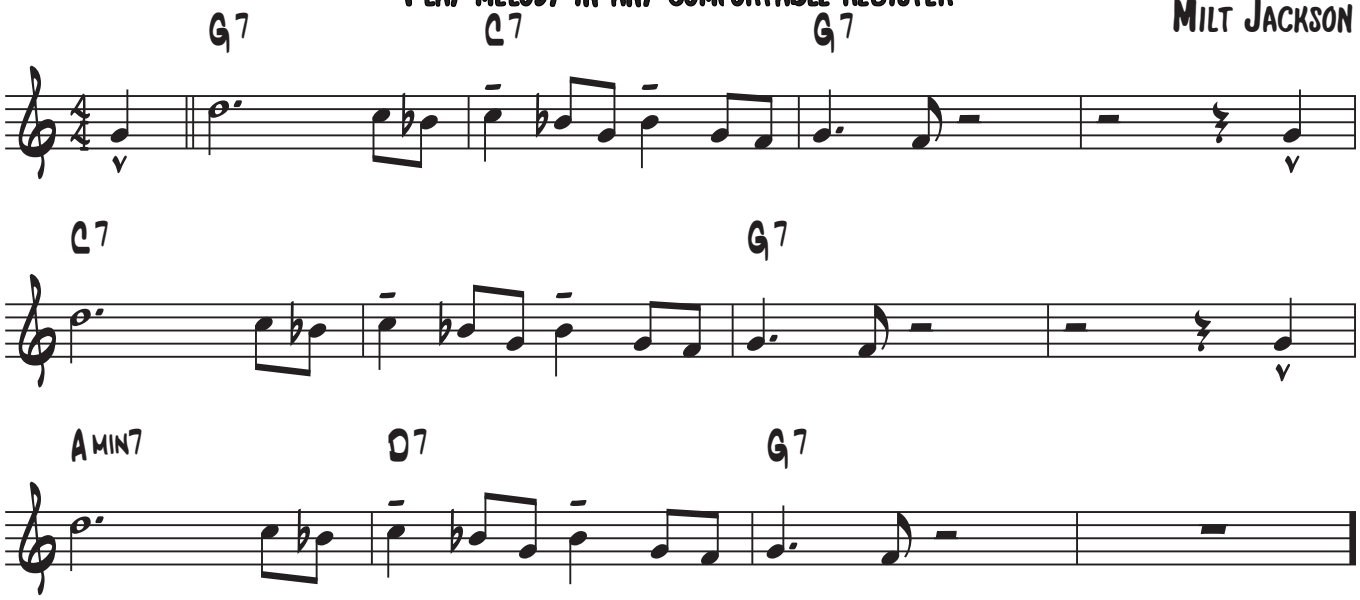
Please play only one of these two pieces for the Improv section

E♭

Bags' Groove

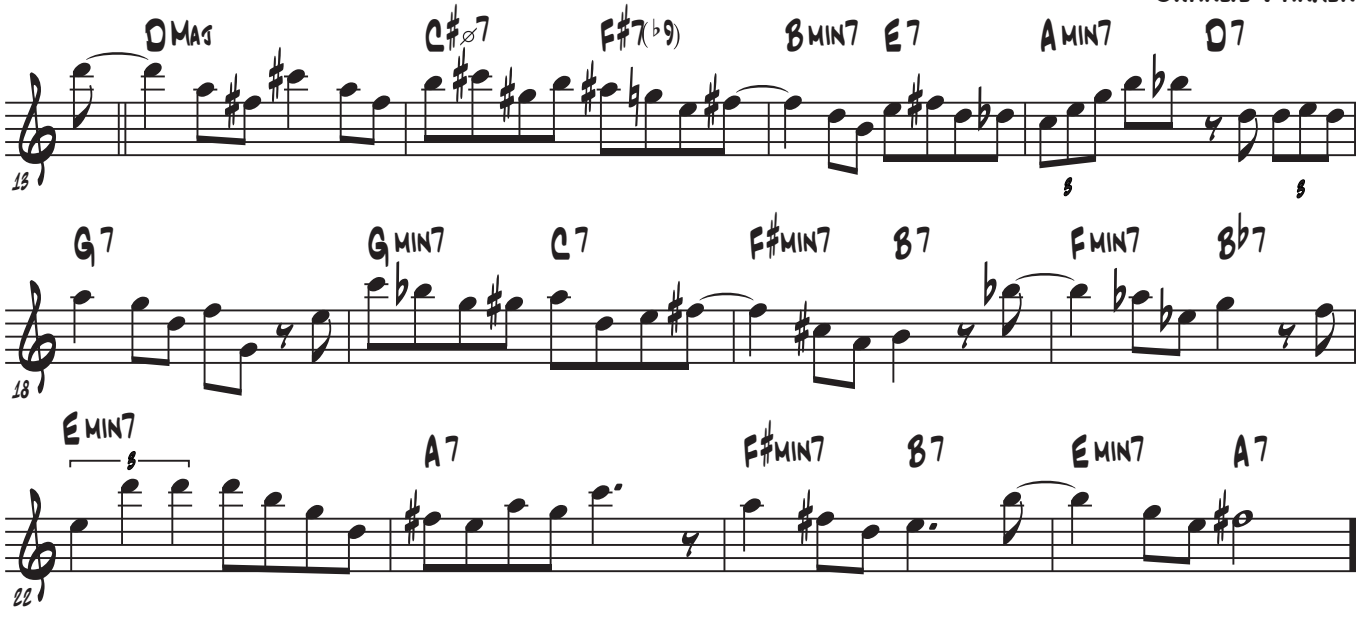
Play melody in any comfortable register

Milt Jackson



Blues For Alice

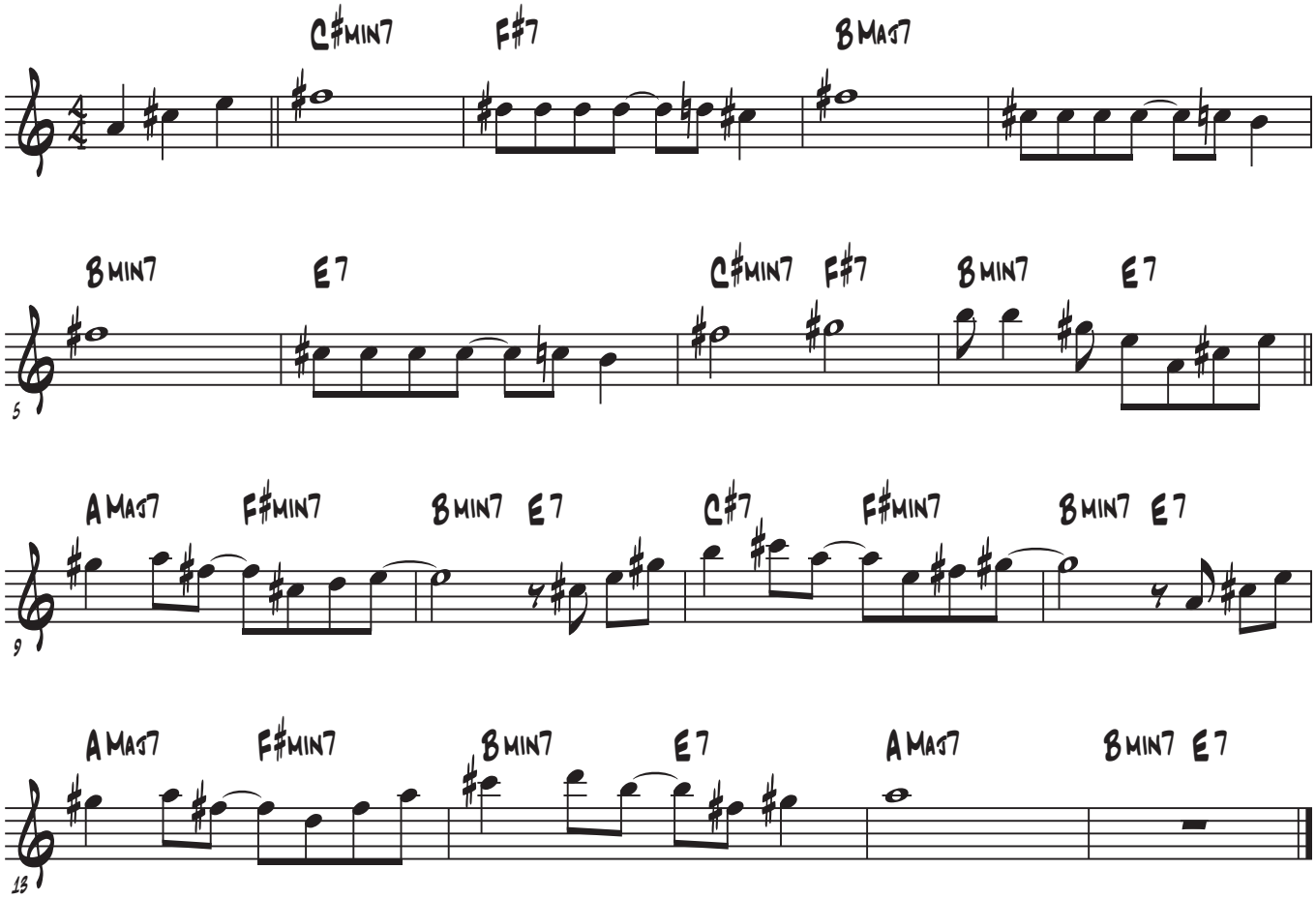
Charlie Parker



E♭

I Can't Get Started

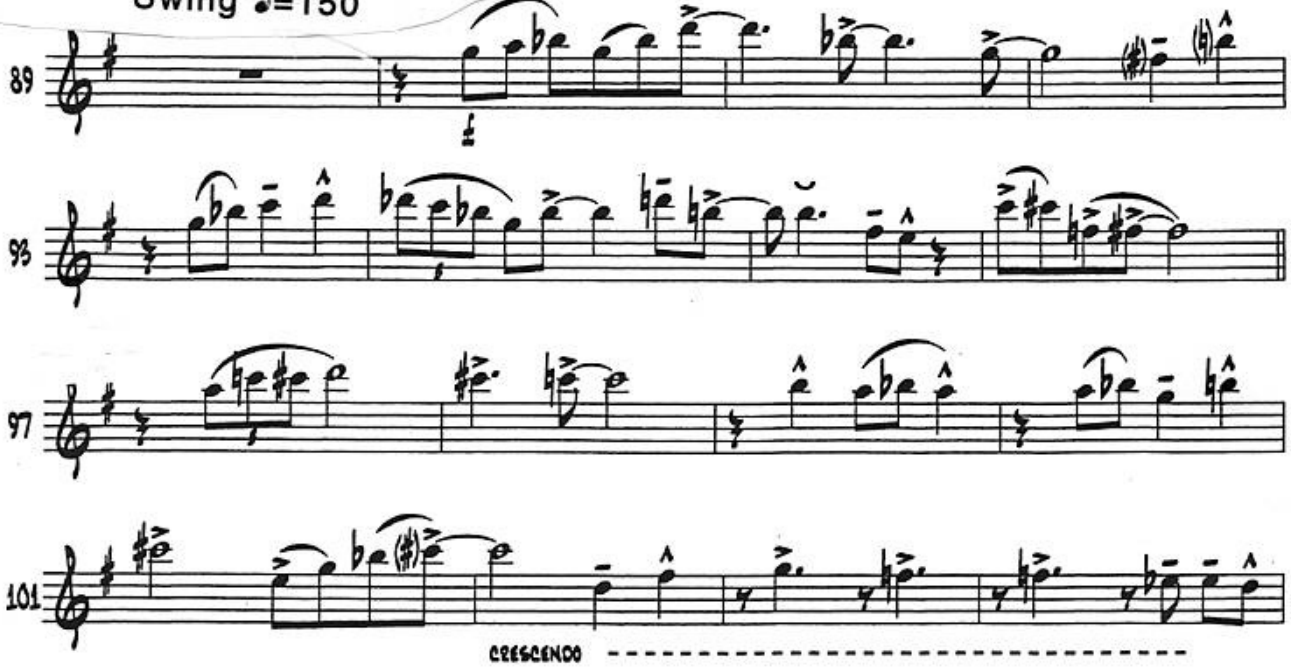
Play, as written below, the Bridge and last A of the Form

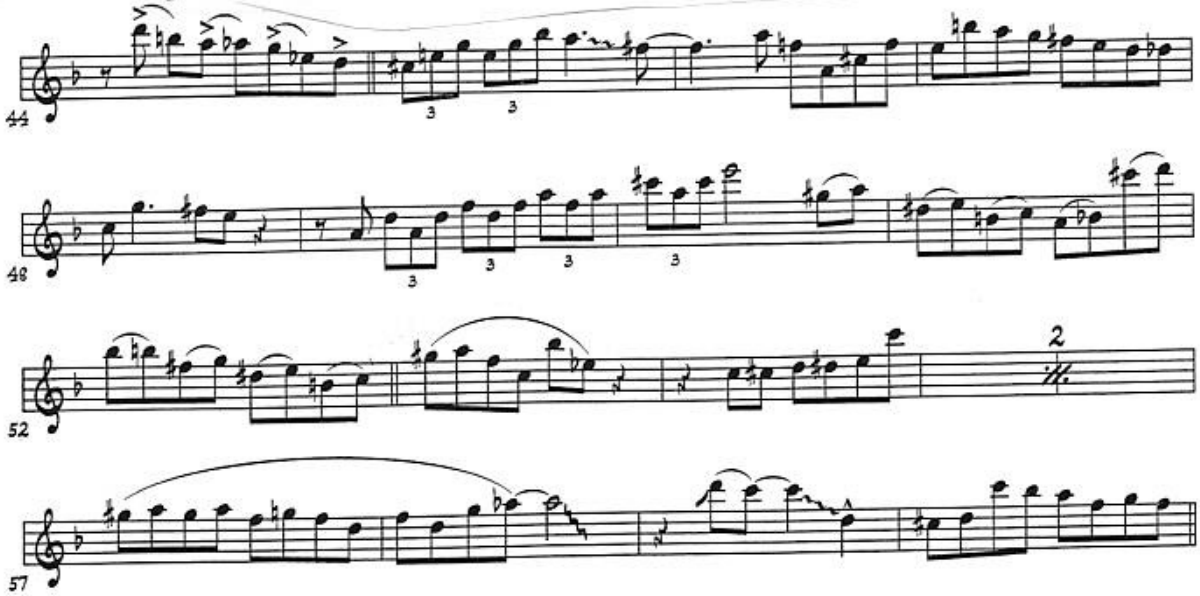


Saxophone

Big Band Excerpt #1

Swing ♩=150



Big Band Excerpt #2

Swing ♩=210