

YOUNG JAZZ ENSEMBLE



Written for the Highland Junior High School Jazz Band, Gilbert, AZ,
Chip Durham, Director

Slim Chickens

By Kris Berg

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor
C Flute (Optional)
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone (Optional)
1st B♭ Trumpet
2nd B♭ Trumpet
3rd B♭ Trumpet
4th B♭ Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone (Optional)
4th Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords
Guitar (Optional)
Piano
Bass
Drums

Optional/Alternate Parts

B♭ Clarinet
Vibraphone
Tuba (Doubles Bass)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 2nd Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Slim Chickens is a funky soul chart with a groove that should remind you of the great Lee Morgan jazz tune “The Sidewinder,” released on the Blue Note record label in 1964. Check out this great jazz standard. Just like that tune, the key to this chart is laying back, grooving, and having fun.

Saxes start the groove. Without being loud, they should “bite” the figures. The melody begins at m. 15 in the bones, tenors, and guitar. This interpretation should be easy-going and, of course, in tune. Backgrounds come in on the repeat. Be sure the melody is played with confidence on beat 4 in m. 28.

The tenor solo at m. 33 is essentially a blues progression with a different turnaround of a ii–V sequence. The solo section could be extended for more solos if desired. Measure 45 is the first dynamically big section, where the brass has some big hits and the saxes join in a counter line. Be sure everyone is playing clean and tight in this section. Solid attacks that are played precisely together will make the hits really stand out. A big, long fall off at m. 58 occurs, and the band sends the trombone into the next solo section. Again, more soloists could be added here if desired. Regarding the fall off, stress to the horn players that the fall should be played together, with the lead trumpet setting the duration and speed of the fall. It should be a fairly long fall.

Measure 70 is the big shout section with everyone at 80-percent volume (always save a little juice). At m. 78 things drop way down in volume—make it dramatic. Be sure to exaggerate this for maximum effect, as the ensemble will gradually build up to m. 86. At m. 93 the band recaps the melody as the chart heads for the big finish. Check out that $\frac{2}{4}$ bar—it’s easier than you think!

A comment about articulation: staccatos are short, of course, but not too short or clipped. The rooftop or *marcato* accent (▲) is detached and accented—think “daht.”

Hope you enjoy Slim Chickens! I sure loved writing it.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at www.krisbergjazz.com.

—Kris Berg



**Kris
Berg**

Kris Berg is the director of jazz studies at Collin County Community College, TX. He received his masters and bachelors degrees in jazz studies from the University of North Texas. Under his direction, the Collin jazz ensembles have appeared in Nassau, Bahamas, and festivals throughout the U. S. Mr. Berg is the founder/director of the Collin Jazz Fest and the Texas All-Star Jazz Camp. Mr. Berg’s charts have been performed and recorded all over the world, and he is currently active as an artist/clinician for Yamaha Corporation of America.

CONDUCTOR
47512S

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By Kris Berg

SLIM CHICKENS

Rock ♩ = 140-150 ('60s BLUE NOTE GROOVE)

C FLUTE
(OPTIONAL)

1ST E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

1ST B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE

E♭ BARITONE SAXOPHONE
(OPTIONAL)

1ST B♭ TRUMPET

2ND B♭ TRUMPET

3RD B♭ TRUMPET

4TH B♭ TRUMPET
(OPTIONAL)

1ST TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE
(OPTIONAL)

4TH TROMBONE
(OPTIONAL)

GUITAR
(OPTIONAL)

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

FILL

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[illegible]

CONDUCTOR

- 3 -

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BAR.

TP. 1

TP. 2

TP. 3

TP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

33

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAX.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

SOLO

PLAY END TIME ONLY

MUTED

RIDE CYM.

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

CONDUCTOR

- 6 -

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

Gtr.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

(w/Bassos.)

41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

PLAY END TIME ONLY

END SOLO

45

Legal Use Preview

CONDUCTOR

- 7 -

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

CONDUCTOR

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64

SLIM CHICKENS

CONDUCTOR

- 9 -

SLIM CHICKENS

PLAY END TIME ONLY

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

FILL LAST TIME

FILL

END SOLO

Legal Use Required

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

FILL

73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

Legal Use Requires Purchase

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

FILL

RIDE CYM.

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

CONDUCTOR

- 12 -
(92)

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

92 93 94 95 96

RIDE CYM.

CONDUCTOR

- 13 -

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104

Legal Use Requires Purchase

FILL

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

Gtr.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

105 106 107 108 109 110

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

111

112

113

114

115

116

117

118

Legal Use Requires Purchase

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

FILL

119 120 121 122 123 124 125