

**FIRST
YEAR
CHARTS**
FOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE



The First Noel

TRADITIONAL
Arranged by PETER BLAIR

INSTRUMENTATION

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Conductor | 1st Trombone |
| 1st E \flat Alto Saxophone | 2nd Trombone (Optional) |
| 2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone | 3rd Trombone (Optional) |
| 1st B \flat Tenor Saxophone | Guitar Chords |
| 2nd B \flat Tenor Saxophone (Optional) | Guitar (Optional) |
| E \flat Baritone Saxophone (Optional) | Piano |
| 1st B \flat Trumpet | Bass |
| 2nd B \flat Trumpet | Drums |
| 3rd B \flat Trumpet (Optional) | |

Optional/Alternate Parts

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

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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 *ritardando* 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 $\text{♩} = 96$

Score for THE FIRST NOEL, featuring various instruments and a large watermark.

INSTRUMENTS: C FLUTE (OPTIONAL), B♭ CLARINET (OPTIONAL), 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 (OPTIONAL), PIANO, BASS, DRUMS.

WATERMARK: Preview Only. Legal Use Requires Purchase.

DRUMS: Includes cues like "LIGHT COMES, AD LIB.", "FILL", and "HI-HAT/RIM KNOCKS".

PIANO: Includes chord voicings such as B♭maj7, A♭maj9, Gmi9, and Eb7.

MEASURES: 1 through 9.

10

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

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

FILL

The image shows a page of a musical score for 'The First Noel'. It includes staves for Flute, Clarinet, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1, 2, and 3, Trombone 1, 2, and 3, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page. The score includes musical notation, chord symbols (e.g., Bbmaj7, Cm9, Bb/D, Gm7, Cm7, F9, Bbmaj9, Cm7, Dm7, Ebmaj7, A7(9#)), and a 'FILL' instruction at the end of the drum line. The page number '10' is in the top left, and measure numbers 10 through 18 are at the bottom.

19

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

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Chord progression: Gmi7, D/F#, Gmi/F, Ebmi7, Bb/F, Bbmaj9, Bbmaj9/A, Gmi7, C15, Cmi7, Ebmi/F, Bbmaj7

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27

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

27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

FILL

LIGHT COMES, AD LIS.

(43)

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for 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, and DRUMS. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamics. A large red watermark reading "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid diagonally across the page. A "SOLO" marking is present above the ALTO 1 staff. Chord symbols like Gmi9, Cm7/F, Bbm7, F#m9, Gmi9, E/F, and As Weitten are visible. The page number (43) is in a box at the top right. Measure numbers 36 through 44 are at the bottom.

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

51

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45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

Chord progression: Cm7, F9, Bbm9, Cm7, Dm7, Ebm7, Gm7, D/F#, Gm/F, Ebm7, Bb/F

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

55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63

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59

CHM. ROLL

LIGHT FALL

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The First Noel'. It features a conductor's part at the top, followed by staves for Flute, Clarinet, two Altos, two Tenors, Baritone, three Trumpets, three Trombones, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score includes melodic lines, chords, and rhythmic patterns. A large red watermark 'Legal Use Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the page. Measure numbers 55 through 63 are indicated at the bottom. Specific performance instructions like 'CHM. ROLL' and 'LIGHT FALL' are present in the drum part.

SLIGHT RALL.

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for 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, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark: "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

Measure numbers: 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73.

Chord markings: Bb7, Abmaj9, Gmi9, Cm7/F.

Performance markings: LIGHT COMES, AD LIS., Pco.

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