

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

*Words and Music by
HUGH MARTIN and RALPH BLANE
Arranged by VICTOR LÓPEZ*

YOUNG JAZZ ENSEMBLE

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor	1st Trombone
1st E \flat Alto Saxophone	2nd Trombone
2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone	3rd Trombone (Optional)
1st B \flat Tenor Saxophone	4th Trombone (Optional)
2nd B \flat Tenor Saxophone	Guitar Chords
E \flat Baritone Saxophone (Optional)	Guitar (Optional)
1st B \flat Trumpet	Piano
2nd B \flat Trumpet	Bass
3rd B \flat Trumpet	Drums
4th B \flat Trumpet (Optional)	

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute (Optional)
Tuba (Optional)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone T.C. (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 2nd Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This wonderful holiday standard works very well for the younger player. The melodic contours provide natural dynamics and the phrasing should be legato as marked. As the brief solos occur, soloists may take liberties and embellish or simply play as written. Any embellishment should be tasteful and kept within the lyrical style of the arrangement. This simple and familiar melody provides a good opportunity to discuss embellishment as a type of improvisation. In addition to the discussion and the demonstration of melody, rhythm, and harmony, you may want to make students aware that even minor embellishment of the written melody or rhythm can often enhance a solo.

At measure 21, the saxophones should play with a full sound with good support, giving this unison section accurate intonation. Regarding releases, a good suggestion is to dictate to the ensemble when to release sustained notes. Try having the students mark their parts with “off on 4” or “-4” for example. This chart will produce a good solid ensemble sound with minimum rehearsal time. Please enjoy!

—Victor López



**Victor
López**

Victor López is a highly acclaimed educator, composer, arranger, and adjudicator. He holds music degrees from the University of Florida and Florida International University, with an Ed.D. in Educational Administration and Supervision. He has served as director of bands at the middle and senior high school levels and as an administrator in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. He has recorded and performed with various artists and has appeared in numerous music videos. He has over 450 compositions/arrangements published as an exclusive composer, arranger and clinician for Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc.

CONDUCTOR
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Tempo: SLOWLY ♩ = 74

Section: 5 A TEMPO

SOLO

CHORDS: B^b, A^b/B^b, Cm7, F7(9), B^b, Gm7, Cm7, F7, B^b, Gm7, Cm7, F7, B^b, Gm

DRUMS: CLOSED HI-HAT, LIGHT FILL

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