

Chicken Scratch

KRIS BERG

INSTRUMENTATION

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

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute
Tuba
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone T.C. (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 2nd Trombone)
3rd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 3rd Trombone)

JAZZ
BAND
SERIES

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

“Chicken Scratch” is a funky tune in the style of Tower of Power, James Brown, or Jaco Pastorius’ Word of Mouth Big Band. It gives the trombone section several sections to shine. A general caution is to keep a careful watch on the tempo—don’t let it creep up. The groove is the priority.

Watch the articulation markings throughout. The staccato and legato markings really make a difference in the feel. The sixteenth-note runs should be legato unless otherwise marked. Over-articulating will give the chart a marching band feel that won’t groove and will probably slow down the tempo. Play the figures relaxed, but don’t let it drag.

The bass player has a few challenges and should expect to spend some time shedding this bass part. In measures 14–17 is a brief bass solo, which the bassist should take a good look at before the entire band starts to work on the chart. The sixteenths should be legato and precise, and note the ghosted notes and slurs. Note that there is no piano at measure 18, which gives the chart an open feel. The guitarist should be careful with volume here to protect the open feeling. The guitar, bass, and drums are carrying the groove.

Trombones should really punch it out in the first four measures but then back off a little when the band joins in. Direct the ensemble to bring out some of the short and dynamic punches that happen during the chart, for example in measure 27. At measure 38, be sure to balance the brass voicings under the sax melody.

The solo section at 58 can be easily opened up for more players if desired. Watch the background markings here. I revisit an idea I used in the original “Chicken” chart with one little part that always gets played while the rest of the backgrounds get played only the second time as indicated. As for solo development, suggest to the soloists to begin sparse and simple and then gradually build—teach patience.

The bass and trombone (cued for tenor saxes) soli at measure 78 should be practiced at a slower tempo and then gradually worked up to speed. It’s unison, so don’t over-blow, watch the legato and staccato markings carefully, and use the shape of the line to create natural dynamics.

I certainly hope you enjoy playing this chart as much as I enjoyed writing it.

—Kris Berg



**Kris
Berg**

Kris Berg is active as a clinician/artist for Yamaha and is the director of jazz studies program at Collin College, Dallas, Texas. A superb arranger, Kris’ charts have sold thousands world-wide. Kris received both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in jazz studies from the University of North Texas, where he directed jazz ensembles and taught big band arranging.

CHICKEN SCRATCH

FUNK $\text{♩} = 96$

1ST Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

1ST Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

E♭ BARITONE SAXOPHONE

1ST Bb TRUMPET

2ND Bb TRUMPET

3RD Bb TRUMPET

4TH Bb TRUMPET

1ST TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE

4TH TROMBONE

QUIRAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

5

1 2 3 4 5 7

CONDUCTOR

CHICKEN SCRATCH

This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is intended for a conductor. It consists of 14 measures of music. The score includes parts for the following instruments and voices:

- Vocalists:** Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone (BARI.), Tenor 1 (TPT. 1), Tenor 2 (TPT. 2), Tenor 3 (TPT. 3), and Tenor 4 (TPT. 4).
- Instrumentalists:** Trombone 1 (TON. 1), Trombone 2 (TON. 2), Trombone 3 (TON. 3), Trombone 4 (TON. 4), Guitar (GTR.), Piano (PNO.), Bass, and Drums (DRUMS).

The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The vocal parts feature melodic lines with various rhythmic values, including eighth and sixteenth notes. The instrumental parts provide harmonic support, with the piano part including specific chord markings: G13, G13, A13, A13, and Bb13. The bass part has a rhythmic pattern with a 3/8 time signature indicated. The drum part features a complex, syncopated rhythm. A large red watermark reading "Preview Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the entire score. A circled number "14" is located in the top right corner of the first measure.

CONDUCTOR

18

- 3 -

CHICKEN SCRATCH

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BAR. (Baritone), TRP. 1-4 (Trumpets), TBN. 1-4 (Tubas), GTR. (Guitar), PNO. (Piano), BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only" and "Purchase Required".

MELODY: *mf* FUNKY - NOT TOO BUSY

ACCENT: *acc*

TEMPO: *sim.*

MEASURES: 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is intended for a conductor. It spans 28 measures. The instrumentation includes:

- Vocalists:** Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Soprano 1, 2, 3, & 4.
- Woodwinds:** Flute 1 & 2, Clarinet 1 & 2, Saxophone 1 & 2.
- Brass:** Trumpet 1 & 2, Trombone 1 & 2.
- Other Instruments:** Guitar (Gtr.), Piano (Pno.), Bass, and Drums.

The score features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes. A large red watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page. Measure numbers 22 through 28 are printed below the drum line.

This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is intended for a conductor. It features a variety of instruments and vocal parts. The vocalists include Alto 1 and 2, Tenor 1 and 2, and Baritone. The instrumental ensemble consists of Trumpets 1-4, Trombones 1-4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. A large red watermark, "Preview Only - Legally Use Requires Purchase," is overlaid diagonally across the page. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* and *f*, and articulation marks like accents and slurs. The drum part includes a "TIME" signature. Measure numbers 29 through 35 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

CONDUCTOR

38

CHICKEN SCRATCH

This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is marked as page 6. It is written for a conductor and includes parts for various instruments and vocalists. The score begins at measure 38. The vocalists (Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone) have melodic lines with lyrics. The brass section consists of four trumpets (TPT. 1-4) and four trombones (TBN. 1-4). The guitar (GTR.) and piano (PNO.) parts are mostly rests, with some guitar activity in measures 38-42. The bass (BASS) and drums (DRUMS) provide a rhythmic foundation. A large red watermark "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page. Measure numbers 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 42 are indicated at the bottom of the score.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

43 44 45 46 47 48 49

TIME

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CONDUCTOR

To CODA ↗ - 8 -

CHICKEN SCRATCH

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

50 51 52 53 54 55 56

CONDUCTOR

CHICKEN SCRATCH

58

ALTO 1 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

ALTO 2 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TENOR 1 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TENOR 2 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

BARI. -4/8

TPT. 1 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TPT. 2 -4/8 SOLO END TIME

TPT. 3 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TPT. 4 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TSN. 1 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TSN. 2 -4/8 E19 SOLO 1ST TIME

TSN. 3 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

TSN. 4 -4/8 END TIME ONLY

GTR. E19

PNO. E19 COMP - FUNNY

BASS E19

DRUMS TIME

57 58 59 60 61 62 63



This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is page 10 of the conductor's edition. It features a vocal ensemble consisting of Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, and Soprano. The instrumental ensemble includes Trumpets 1 through 4, Trombones 1 through 4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The vocal parts have lyrics: "Oh", "Ah", and "Oh". The instrumental parts include complex rhythmic patterns and melodic lines. A large red watermark reading "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

CONDUCTOR

CHICKEN SCRATCH

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

BOTH TIMES

END TIME ONLY

-1/2

-1/4

-1/8

B \flat 9

E \flat 9sus

E \flat 9

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

Musical score for 'Chicken Scratch' featuring vocalists and instruments. The score includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamics. A large red watermark 'Lead Us Records' is overlaid on the score. The page number '78' is visible at the bottom left, and the page number '84' is visible at the bottom right.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARIT.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

CUE: TENS.

SOLI

78 79 80 81 82 83 84

This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is intended for a conductor. It features a variety of parts: two Alto voices (Alto 1 and Alto 2), two Tenor voices (Tenor 1 and Tenor 2), four Soprano voices (Soprano 1, 2, 3, and 4), four Trombone voices (Trombone 1, 2, 3, and 4), a Trumpet part (Trpt. 1), a Guitar (Gtr.), a Piano (Pno.), a Bass, and Drums. The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The vocal parts (Alto, Tenor, and Soprano) have lyrics written below the notes. The instrumental parts include a complex bass line, a guitar part, a piano accompaniment, and a drum part. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, and 91 indicated at the bottom. A large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Legit Use" is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

94

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

SOLO

CODE: TEN. 4

H.H.

94 95 96 97 98 99

D.S. AL CODA

CODA

This musical score is for the piece "Chicken Scratch" and is intended for a conductor. It consists of two pages of music, with the first page numbered 100-104 and the second page numbered 105-106. The score is written for a large ensemble, including vocalists and instrumentalists. The vocal parts are for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, and Bass. The instrumental parts include Trumpets 1-4, Trombones 1-4, Piano, and Drums. The score is in 4/4 time and features a variety of musical notations, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark "Learn to Use Real Music" is overlaid on the score. The first page ends with a "D.S. AL CODA" instruction, and the second page begins with a "CODA" section. The piano part includes chord symbols: G13, G13, A13, A13, B13. The drum part includes a "FILL" instruction. The score is written in a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C).

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