

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

This syncopated version of the traditional English carol reflects my affection for jazz. When performed in cut time, the song reflects bebop jazz—a fast and harmonically challenging style of jazz that was born in the 1940s and developed by improvisation geniuses such as Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie.

Teaching Tips

- This piece is full of intervallic patterns. Once one chord pattern is learned, just transfer the pattern's intervals to the next chord. *Voilà*, you've got it!
- Highlight the descending step-wise pattern in the B section. Draw attention to the fact that the tenor does not follow the pattern but moves upward by various intervals.

Performance Suggestions

- Begin this piece by layering in the parts in the following order: bass, tenor and alto together, then soprano. Repeat the A section until all voices are in, and then continue on as written.
- Extend the arrangement by repeating the entire song, including the introduction as outlined above.



We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Arr. Doug Edwards

$\text{♩} = 120$

A

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Chords: C, F, Dm, G

6

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Chords: Em, Am, Am7, F, G7, C

B

10

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Chords: C, G, F, C

14

S G F G7 C

A

T 8

B

A

18 C F Dm

S

A

T 8

B

21 G Em Am Am7 F G7 C

S

A

T 8

B