

THE MEMPHIS BLUES

According to music historians, *THE MEMPHIS BLUES* is the first blues tune ever actually notated. In 1913 the "Father of the Blues", W.C Handy, published this as sheet music arranged for piano. The first few choruses of this new version stay close to the original, but as the chart unfolds some more contemporary elements are added. (The original sheet music from 1902 is kept in the music archives at Duke University.)

W.C. HANDY

ARRANGED BY ROBERT WOODS

EASY BLUES FEEL (♩ = 108)

5

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- ALTO SAX 1
- ALTO SAX 2
- TENOR SAX 1
- TENOR SAX 2
- BARITONE SAX
- TRUMPET 1
- TRUMPET 2
- TRUMPET 3
- TRUMPET 4
- TROMBONE 1
- TROMBONE 2
- TROMBONE 3
- TROMBONE 4
- GIITAR (with saxophone accompaniment starting at measure 5)
- PIANO
- BASS (labeled "AS WRITTEN")
- DRUMS (including HI-HAT and FILL)

The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 108 beats per minute. It features a variety of musical notations including dynamics (e.g., *mf*), articulation (accents), and performance instructions like "WITH SAXES" and "AS WRITTEN". The drum part includes specific notation for hi-hat patterns and fills.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI SAX

TRUMPET 1

TRUMPET 2

TRUMPET 3

TRUMPET 4

TROMBONE 1

TROMBONE 2

TROMBONE 3

TROMBONE 4

GIUITAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI SAX

TRUMPET 1

TRUMPET 2

TRUMPET 3

TRUMPET 4

TROMBONE 1

TROMBONE 2

TROMBONE 3

TROMBONE 4

GIUITAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

60/1353H
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19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

The musical score is arranged in a standard ensemble format. The top section includes woodwinds: ALTO 1 & 2, TENOR 1 & 2, and BARI SAX. Below these are the brass instruments: TRUMPET 1-4 and TROMBONE 1-4. The bottom section features the rhythm section: GUITAR, PIANO, BASS, and DRUMS. The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The guitar part includes chord diagrams for F7, Bb9, and F7. The piano part includes a C13 chord at the end of the page. The drums part shows a consistent pattern of eighth notes.