

Composer's notes – What's in the Bag?

Style & History

'What's in the Bag?' is written in a funk style. Funk was developed by African-American musicians, who infused soul, jazz and R&B into a new type of dance music. Funk songs often have long sections of just one chord, with riffs (short musical ideas) played over the top. Getting the articulation correct for this style of tune is crucial for a convincing performance.

Listen to **James Brown's** 'Get Up' or 'Papa's got a Brand New Bag' – excellent examples of this genre. Also have a listen to the **Miles Davis** tune 'So What' and you may notice some rhythmic similarities with this first tune.

Harmony

At the solo section (letter H), take the approach of a long, slow build up over 16 bars. Initially, play in between the backing figures that you can hear on the

backing track. Any of the riffs used for the head can be used anywhere in the solo section. Construct your own riffs using the pentatonic scale below:



As well as the pentatonic, a blue note can be occasionally introduced. But don't hold it for a long duration – use it

as a 'passing' note to a 'safe' chord (5th or 7th of the chord).



Rhythm

At letters C and F there is a counter melody on the backing track, don't let this throw you. Play riff 2 with plenty of confidence.

Tips & Projects

To get the correct style for this tune, you'll need to pay particular attention to the articulation of this piece strongly, more so when it's marked. Many of the notes have accents indicated, this is where they should be played. You have a look through the score and you'll see there are very few notes



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What's in the Bag?

Rob Hughes and Paul Harvey

A Vigorously ♩ = 112

Intro riff

Em⁶ Em⁹/G Em⁶ Em⁹/G Em⁶ Em⁹/G Em⁶ Em⁷



B

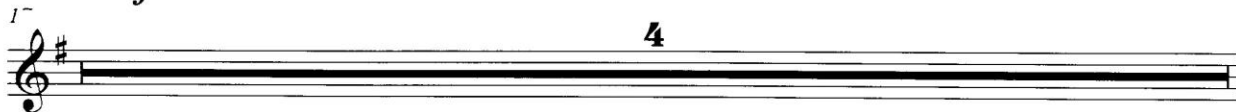
Riff 1

Em⁶ Em⁹/G Em⁶ Em⁹/G Em⁶ Em⁹/G Em⁶ Em⁷



Riff 2

Em⁶ Em⁹ Em⁶ Em⁹ Em⁶ Em⁹ Em⁶ Em⁷ Em⁶ Em



D

Intro riff

Em⁷(sus4)



E

Riff 1



Free to Solo: Clarinet/Tenor Saxophone

F **Riff 2**

33 Em^7 Bm^7 $F\#m^7$ $G\Delta^7$

f

37 Em^7 Bm^7 $F\#m^7$ Bb° **To Coda**

41 **4**

G **Riff 3**

45 Em^7 Em^9/G Em^7 Em^9/G

f

47 Em^7 Em^9/G Em^7

49 **4**

53 Em^7 Em^9/G Em^7

55 Em^7 Em^9/G Em^7

H **Solo section**

57 Em^6 Em^9/G (2) (3)

E minor pentatonic

Coda

65



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Detroit Cowboy

Rob Hughes and Paul Harvey

Punchy Motown ♩ = 145

A Intro

8

mf

13

B Head

17

f

C

Bb/C

21

F/C

C

25

C

Bb/C

29

F/C

C

C Interlude

33

F(#11add9)

mp

37

F(#11add9)

Em7

mp

41

F(#11add9)



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Free to Solo: Clarinet/Tenor Saxophone



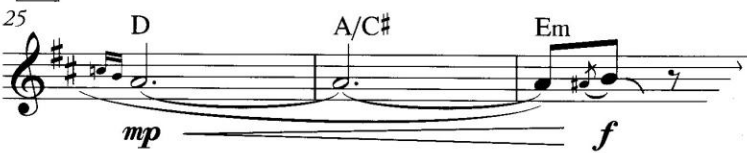
Hold On

Rob Hughes and Paul Harvey

Intro Soulful ballad $\text{♩} = 53$ **A** Head



B Chorus



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Mystery

Rob Hughes and Paul Harvey

Casual Reggae ♩ = 130

A Intro
Ebm



B Head

(Tenor sax loco)



C



D Solo 1



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