

Written for the Highland Junior High School Jazz Band, Gilbert, AZ,
Chip Durham, Director

Slim Chickens

By Kris Berg

INSTRUMENTATION

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

Optional/Alternate Parts

B \flat Clarinet
Vibraphone
Tuba (Doubles Bass)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone Horn T.C./B \flat Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone Horn T.C./B \flat Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 2nd Trombone)

YOUNG
JAZZ
ENSEMBLE

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Slim Chickens is a funky soul chart with a groove that should remind you of the great Lee Morgan jazz tune “The Sidewinder,” released on the Blue Note record label in 1964. Check out this great jazz standard. Just like that tune, the key to this chart is laying back, grooving, and having fun.

Saxes start the groove. Without being loud, they should “bite” the figures. The melody begins at m. 15 in the bones, tenors, and guitar. This interpretation should be easy-going and, of course, in tune. Backgrounds come in on the repeat. Be sure the melody is played with confidence on beat 4 in m. 28.

The tenor solo at m. 33 is essentially a blues progression with a different turnaround of a ii–V sequence. The solo section could be extended for more solos if desired. Measure 45 is the first dynamically big section, where the brass has some big hits and the saxes join in a counter line. Be sure everyone is playing clean and tight in this section. Solid attacks that are played precisely together will make the hits really stand out. A big, long fall off at m. 58 occurs, and the band sends the trombone into the next solo section. Again, more soloists could be added here if desired. Regarding the fall off, stress to the horn players that the fall should be played together, with the lead trumpet setting the duration and speed of the fall. It should be a fairly long fall.

Measure 70 is the big shout section with everyone at 80-percent volume (always save a little juice). At m. 78 things drop way down in volume—make it dramatic. Be sure to exaggerate this for maximum effect, as the ensemble will gradually build up to m. 86. At m. 93 the band recaps the melody as the chart heads for the big finish. Check out that $\frac{2}{4}$ bar—it’s easier than you think!

A comment about articulation: staccatos are short, of course, but not too short or clipped. The rooftop or *marcato* accent (▲) is detached and accented—think “daht.”

Hope you enjoy Slim Chickens! I sure loved writing it.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at www.krisbergjazz.com.

—Kris Berg



**Kris
Berg**

Kris Berg is the director of jazz studies at Collin County Community College, TX. He received his masters and bachelors degrees in jazz studies from the University of North Texas. Under his direction, the Collin jazz ensembles have appeared in Nassau, Bahamas, and festivals throughout the U. S. Mr. Berg is the founder/director of the Collin Jazz Fest and the Texas All-Star Jazz Camp. Mr. Berg’s charts have been performed and recorded all over the world, and he is currently active as an artist/clinician for Yamaha Corporation of America.

CONDUCTOR
47512S

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SLIM CHICKENS

Rock ♩ = 140-150 ('80s BLUE NOTE GROOVE)

C FLUTE (OPTIONAL)

1st E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND E♭ ALTO SAXOPHONE

1st B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND B♭ TENOR SAXOPHONE

E♭ BARITONE SAXOPHONE (OPTIONAL)

1st B♭ TRUMPET

2ND B♭ TRUMPET

3RD B♭ TRUMPET

4TH B♭ TRUMPET (OPTIONAL)

1st TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE (OPTIONAL)

4TH TROMBONE (OPTIONAL)

GUITAR (OPTIONAL)

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAXI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

PLAY END TIME ONLY

ME²

(W/TENOR)

(W/TENOR SAXES)

H.H.

2



CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

Musical score for 'SLIM CHICKENS' featuring various instruments and a conductor part. The score is written for a full orchestra and includes a conductor part. The instruments listed are:

- FLUTE
- ALTO 1
- ALTO 2
- TENOR 1
- TENOR 2
- SARI.
- TPT. 1
- TPT. 2
- TPT. 3
- TPT. 4
- TBN. 1
- TBN. 2
- TBN. 3
- TBN. 4
- GTR.
- PNO.
- BASS
- DRUMS

The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Use Requires Purchase". The page number is 17, and the measure numbers are 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24. The conductor part is written in a grand staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns and melodic lines, with some instruments playing sustained notes and others playing more active parts. The drums play a steady, rhythmic pattern throughout the piece.

33

Musical score for various instruments including Flute, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1 (with G15 SOLO and C15 markings), Tenor 2, Bari, Trumpets 1-4, Trombones 1-4 (with PLAY END TIME ONLY markings), Guitar (with MUTED marking), Piano, Bass, and Drums (with RIDE CYM. marking).

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

CONDUCTOR

FLUTE

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

41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

PLAY END TIME ONLY

END SOLO

(w/ BASSES.)

CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for FLUTE, 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, GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark: "Preview Legal Use Requires Purchase".

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

FLUTE *PLAY END TIME ONLY*

ALTO 1 *me*

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1 *PLAY END TIME ONLY*

TPT. 2 *PLAY END TIME ONLY*

TPT. 3 *PLAY END TIME ONLY*

TPT. 4 *PLAY END TIME ONLY*

TBN. 1 *C15 B15 A15 D15 G15* *END SOLO*

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS *FILL LAST TIME* *FILL*

65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

70



Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for FLUTE, 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, GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

Measures 73 through 80 are indicated at the bottom of the page. Measure 73 includes a "FILL" instruction. Measure 78 includes a "H.H." instruction. Dynamic markings such as *mf* are present throughout the score.

This musical score is for the piece "Slim Chickens" and is page 11 of the conductor's edition. It features a variety of instruments and voices. The vocal parts include Flute, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-4, and Bass. The instrumental parts include Guitar, Piano, and Drums. The score is written in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). A large red watermark "Preview Only - Legally Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page. The drum part includes specific performance instructions such as "FILL" and "RIDE CYM." and is marked with measure numbers 81 through 88.

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for FLUTE, 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, GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark: "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

Measures 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96 are indicated at the bottom of the page.

DRUMS: RIDE Cym.

CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

Musical score for conductor, featuring various instruments and vocal parts. The score includes parts for Flute, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is marked with a large red watermark: "Preview Legal Use Requires Purchase". The page number 18 is centered at the top. The title "SLIM CHICKENS" is in the top right. The conductor part is on the left. The instruments are listed on the left side of the score. The score is written in 4/4 time. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score is divided into measures 97 through 104. The drums part includes a fill mark at the end of measure 104.

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

CONDUCTOR

SLIM CHICKENS

Musical score for 'Slim Chickens' featuring various instruments and voices. The score includes parts for Flute, 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 sharp (F#). A large red watermark 'Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for FLUTE, 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, GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark: "Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase".

119

120

121

122

123

124

125