

SCORE

JAZZ COMBO SERIES

ROCCO'S RIFF

COMPOSED BY JAMES KASS

Difficulty Level: Moderate (2.5)

INSTRUMENTATION

Part 1:
 Trumpet 1 Piano
 Alto Sax 1 Guitar
 Part 2:
 Trumpet 2 Bass
 Alto Sax 2 Drums
 Part 3 (opt.):
 Trombone 3
 Tenor Sax 3

SOLOS

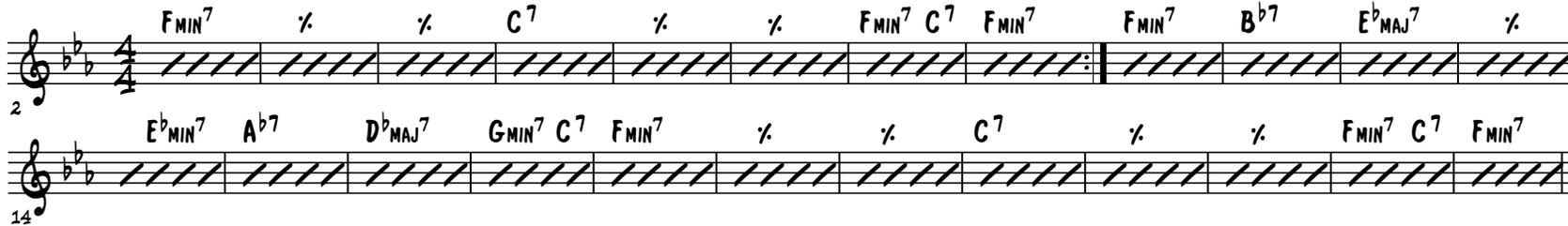
Trumpet, Alto Sax, Trombone
 (written, with chords)

BRASS HIGH RANGE

Trumpet 

Trombone (optional) 

SOLO CHANGES
 Concert Key



DIRECTOR NOTES

Rocco's Riff is a minor swing tune in A-A-B-A form, which is an 8-bar "A" section repeated, a "B" bridge section with different chord changes, and a reprise of the "A" section. It is written as an up-tempo tune, but can be played at slower tempos, also.

The melody is a chromatic minor riff that, while challenging, should lay pretty well under the fingers for trumpet and alto sax. The trumpet parts can be doubled by additional tenor saxophones if desired. The Trombone 3 and Tenor 3 parts are optional but will help fill in background harmonies, particularly at the "B" section.

PIANO: If you have a bass player, the piano should ignore the bass clef and just play the treble clef or double it up an octave with the other hand.

GUITAR: The fret diagrams show voicings that focus on the higher strings, which are easier to play and cut through the band better than typical 6-string chords.

DRUMS: Make sure to emphasize the *stop-time* rhythmic figures at letter C. The guitar, piano and bass have this rhythm, also. This should be played during the melody only, not solos.

SOLOS: The changes are in F minor. For beginning improvisers, the scales used for solos may be simplified to just two: for the "A" section, soloists can stick with the F minor scale (i.e. Eb major); for the "B" section, soloists can the F minor scale for four measures and then switch to Eb minor (i.e. Db major) for four measures, before going back to F minor for the remaining "A" section. More simply put, soloists may use an Eb major scale throughout the solo, except for the last four bars of the "B" section, where they would use a Db major scale instead.

I suggest copying the *Jazz Solo* for each soloist and encourage students to memorize and play the parts of it that sound best to them. For students just starting out with jazz, they may opt for just playing the *Jazz Solo* in its entirety without improvising.

You may make a duplicate copy of this music for backup purposes, but only for the original band or school for which it was purchased. Distributing copies of this music to parties other than the purchaser denies compensation to the artist(s) and discourages the development of more music.