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If you're an Alto or Tenor Sax player looking for a fun, classic piece to learn, you should try "Careless Whisper" by George Michael."Careless Whisper" is a classic pop song written by George Michael that has been covered by artists all over the world.It's a great song to learn how to play because of its sexy sax solo!With a few tips and practice, you'll be playing this classic like the Sexy Sax Man!Although it has been covered by many saxophone players since its release in 1984, the original instrumental track with George Michael is still just as powerful and captivating today as it was then.Let's take a look at how you can play this timeless tune on your alto or tenor sax.Playing the SoloThe solo melody line of "Careless Whisper" is fairly straightforward and not too difficult to learn.I think it may even be easier than learning the part that George Michael sings.Watching the video that I made above can easily help you learn how to play the solo in this song without saxophone sheet music.This will work for either alto sax or tenor sax, however on tenor sax you would need to transpose if you wanted to play in the same key of the original recording of Careless Whisper by George Michael.You will also need to know how to play grace notes (an ornamentation or embellishment on a note that gives it extra flavor and character).Reading Sheet MusicThe first step in learning how to play "Careless Whisper" by George Michael on alto sax or tenor sax is to understand how to read sheet music.The notes are written out the staff—the five lines with four spaces between them—and each line or space represents a different pitch.You can easily find sheet music online, but it's important to make sure that the key signature matches whether you play alto sax or tenor sax.I went through the trouble of finding downloadable sheet music for the alto and tenor saxophone.Alto Sax Sheet MusicCareless Whisper Alto Sax Sheet MusicTenor Sax Sheet MusicCareless Whisper Tenor Sax Sheet MusicFingerings and PostureOnce you've found the right sheet music for your alto or tenor sax, it's time to start practicing!Make sure that you have a comfortable posture when playing; keeping your back straight and your arms relaxed will help you produce the best sound possible.Additionally, it's important to pay attention to fingerings: each note requires specific fingerings in order for it to sound correct.You can find fingering charts online or ask your teacher if you need help understanding which keys should be pressed down in order to play each note correctly.Improving Your Tone Quality To get the most out of this song, make sure you focus on improving your tone quality while playing it.A big part of achieving good tone quality is fully filling your lungs with air before playing your alto or tenor sax.Make sure you sit up straight with your shoulders relaxed so that your breathing is unrestricted—this will help ensure that all parts of your body are working together harmoniously when producing sound from your instrument.Additionally, use different articulations such as slurring and tonguing in order to bring out different colors in each phrase or section—this will help make your performance match closely with the original recording!Playing Techniques for Alto or Tenor SaxIn order to play "Careless Whisper" correctly on alto or tenor sax, there are several techniques that must be mastered first.One important technique is vibrato, which is when a player shakes their finger off the key of their instrument while playing a note in order to create a more expressive sound.Another important technique is tonguing, which involves pronouncing each note with short bursts of air as if speaking through your instrument.Finally, legato playing is also essential; this involves playing each note smoothly and without any distinctive breaks between them.Once these techniques have been mastered, learning how to play "Careless Whisper" should come naturally! Just like Sexy Sax Man!Careless Whisper Alto Sax Sheet MusicCareless Whisper Tenor Sax Sheet MusicPractice Makes Perfect(The last step in learning how to play "Careless Whisper" on alto saxophone is practice!Start by playing slowly and making sure that every note sounds clear and accurate before gradually increasing speed.With time and dedication, there's no doubt that "Careless Whisper" will soon become one of your favorite songs to perform!Learning how to play "Careless Whisper" by George Michael on alto saxophone and tenor sax isn't difficult but it does require practice and dedication.With the right resources—such my tutorial video for alto sax and tenor sax, having access to quality sheet music, and mastering important playing techniques—you can soon be playing George Michael's hit song perfectly!So don't hesitate; start practicing today!Careless Whisper Alto Sax Sheet MusicCareless Whisper Tenor Sax Sheet MusicAlto Saxophone Sheet Music and Saxophone Lessons (SOLOS)Autumn Leaves: Solo by Cannonball AdderleyAjaBaker StreetBad To The BoneBirks WorksBlue MoonBrass MonkeyCan't You Hear Me KnockingCareless WhisperDeacon BluesDo Ya Think I'm Sexy?DominoEdge of GloryGet RightHarlem Nocturne as played by Sonny StittHow To Play Careless Whisper on Alto and Tenor SaxI Can't Go For ThatJust The Way You AreLast Friday NightMistyMidnight CityMoneyMr. SaxobeatMy HouseNever Tear Us ApartNew ThangOnly God Can Save Our SoulsOne Step BeyondProblemPick Up The PiecesPink Panther Theme SongRip This JointSomewhere Over The RainbowShe Works Hard For The MoneySweet VirginiaTake FiveTalk DirtyTequila!There Will Never Be Another YouThief by OokayThrift ShopTurn The PageUs And ThemWalk On The Wild SideWorth ItWho Can It Be Now?We No Speak Americano sax hall of fame Feb 24, 2019 George Michael's 1984 hit 'Careless Whisper' has surely got one of the most iconic and famous sax lines of all time. In this video I'll give you clear and simple instructions how to play it on alto sax, and you can download a free PDF here with the music written out for alto AND tenor sax. This lesson is part of my Hall Of Fame series, where I teach you how to play the world's most iconic sax lines. I show you all the fingerings nice and slowly, then all the note names a bit faster, then the whole thing at full speed. You can then download the free PDF for each lesson with the music written out for alto AND tenor sax. And because I'm a bit OCD and love this stuff so much you can be sure that the notes and rhythms are all 100% CORRECT! Here are the topics covered in this lesson, with video time stamps (min:sec). Clicking on the time stamp will take you straight to that portion of the video on youtube (in a separate tab). Enjoy! Full Time stamps for the video and a complete transcript are at the bottom of the blog. Who plays sax on George Michael's 'Careless Whisper'? (1:01) the sax part on Careless Whisper was played by UK saxophonist Steve Gregory before Gregory recorded it many other saxophonists were tried and rejected What saxophone was used for 'Careless Whisper' by George Michael? (1:19) Careless Whisper was played on tenor sax, but... the track was pitched down a semitone to record, then sped back up again, giving the sax a unique timbre that doesn't really sound like tenor or alto because most people play alto, and because of the pitching device described above (putting it in a tricky key for tenor) this lesson will give the notes for alto (*=2nd octave, **=3rd octave). The tenor notes can be found in the free PDF here. What are the notes for the sax solo on 'Careless Whisper'? (2:11) for this lesson the whole sax solo is broken down into 4 phrases. For alto sax, ALL the notes are taken from a D major scale... the notes for phrase 1 (2:11) are - [rip up to] C#* B* F#* D* C#* B* F#* D* the notes for phrase 2 (2:55) are - A* G* D* B A* G* D* the notes for phrase 3 (3:20) are - G* F#* D* B G the notes for phrase 4 (3:34) are - F# G A B C# D* E* F#* [end on B 2nd time] the whole thing at full speed (with highlighted notes) (4:41) So that's it for this week, now you can play Careless Whisper! As always, take your time and practice it slowly until you've got it under your fingers. Next week it's possibly the most famous saxophone solo of all time - Baker Street! Jamie :-> Video Time Stamps 0:00 - intro playing of the hook and titles 1:01 - background on careless whisper 1:19 - why careless whisper was pitched and doesn't sound like tenor sax 2:11 - phrase 1 slowly 2:54 - phrase 2 slowly 3:20 - phrase 3 slowly 3:33 - phrase 4 slowly 4:41 - whole thing at full speed 5:19 - sign off Video Transcript Greetings I'm pro saxophonist Jamie Anderson and this is Get Your Sax Together. On this free sax lesson you're going to learn how to play the famous sax break from Careless Whisper by George Michael. This free saxophone lesson is part of my Sax Hall Of Fame series where I walk you through the RIGHT way to play your favourite iconic sax hooks. If you're enjoying the content please subscribe down below "ring the bell" to be notified of new videos and if you look in the description you'll see that there's a free pdf to accompany the lesson, so go down there check out the PDF and let's get into it! Careless Whisper was a massive 1984 hit for George Michael and contains one of the most famous sax hooks of all time. Michael knew how important the sax was to the success of the track and went through some 12 different session musicians before finally going with the Steve Gregory version that we all know and love. The line itself was played on tenor sax on the recording by Gregory but instead of playing it in D minor which is the original key of the song the engineer slowed the tape down and Steve Gregory played it in D flat minor avoiding the awkward high F sharp first note on tenor. The tape was then sped back up to the original key giving the sax line a really unique tone unlike anything else you can hear on famous sax solos - not quite tenor not quite alto but really gives a distinctive sound to the track. So if you're a tenor player and you've ever tried to copy that line and you can't quite understand why it's not sounding like the original that is probably why! To keep things simple for this video I'm going to teach you on alto sax so all the pitches I give you will be for alto sax. If you want to play it on tenor transpose it up a fourth, that's five semitones, higher. Okay let's do this! So without further ado let's break this down into four separate phrases and the first phrase starts on a D middle and you're gonna very quickly rip up a D major scale - E, F sharp, G, A, B and then finish on the C sharp. Then followed by B, F sharp, D, C sharp, B, F sharp, D. So putting together the whole first phrase then... Second phrase we start on an A, so A, G, D, B, A, G, D. So joining out the whole second phrase... Phrase 3 is going to be G, F sharp, D, B, G. So the fourth phrase we're gonna start on the low f-sharp and we're gonna make our way up a D major scale, so, F sharp, G, A, B then C sharp, D, E, F sharp, and then we quickly rip up the rest of the D major scale so G, A, B to get to the top C sharp where the phrase starts again. And we repeat the whole thing again. There's only one difference the second time round and that is at the end of the final phrase, that's phrase four, we go from the F sharp instead of ripping up to the C sharp to start again we just go back to B. And that is the whole first sax break! Okay great, now finally you can play along at full speed. So I hope you enjoyed the video today, if you find it useful please do subscribe down below and "ring the bell" for notifications, also, don't forget to go to the descriptions and get the free pdf bonus sheet. Sign up for that one and I'll see you next time for more free great sax lessons and vlogs on Get Your Sax Together. Join my mailing list to receive the latest updates and free sax lessons direct to your inbox.Don't worry, your information will not be shared and you can unsubscribe anytime, no hard feelings :-> Subscribe & Get The FREE Masterclass March 22, 2020 April 10, 2020 March 4, 2020 This is probably the most famous sax riff from 1984! Even if you were living under a rock (or weren't born) and missed this song the first time around, if you're a sax player, you'll know this tune. In this lesson, you'll learn how to play the opening riff from Careless Whisper Alto Sax Sheet Music. Even if you are pretty new to the saxophone, you can have a go at this one. Key Takeaways: The Careless Whisper saxophone sheet music is quite easy to learn, even for sax beginners. Melody sections 1 and 2 have a similar pattern. Learn to play the first half of the solo before proceeding to the second half. Grab the worksheet below to work through this lesson. GET FREE TRIAL Easy to learn This is a brilliant line to try because it's actually very repetitive, and it's quite easy to learn. Make sure you grab the PDF from our Locker. Just click the link above. Listen to the video as I play the whole thing, and then we'll break it down into sections. GET FREE TRIAL The Opening Scale Careless Whisper is in the key of B minor on an alto saxophone, so we've got F sharps and C sharps all the way through. And the first thing is that great big run that goes all the way up to a high C-sharp. This run is kind of like a D Minor scale, but we go D, E, F sharp, G, A, A sharp, B, C, C sharp. It's kind of like a scale with a little chromatic thing at the end. Again, D, E, F, G, A, A sharp (or B flat), B, C natural, C sharp. It's pretty fast! The melody section 1 It takes a bit of practice. But then you'll be able to get it nice and smooth all the way up to the C sharp. Then when the melody starts, we've got C sharp, B, F sharp, D, C sharp, B, F sharp, D. Let's try with the run-up. GET FREE TRIAL The melody section 2 The second section is a similar pattern, but it starts on A. So we've got A, G, D, B, A, G, D. Then, the next phrase starts on G. G, F sharp, D, B, G. Last section The last phrase in this first half is just like a scale going up: F sharp, G, A, B, C sharp, D, E, F Sharp. Now we're halfway through the whole solo, let's do that whole first half. See if you can play along with me. GET FREE TRIAL The second half of the solo The second half of the solo is almost identical to the first half. Again, we've got just a short run because we were going from the F sharp this time up to that C sharp. I think you could just play B, C, and C sharp. Then we're back to the melody section again. C sharp, B, F sharp, D, C sharp, B, F sharp, D, C sharp, D, A, G, D, B, A, G D, G, F sharp, D, B, G. Then the long scale again, starting on F sharp: F sharp, G, A, B, C sharp, D, E, F Sharp. The only difference is that the last note. We finish with a B. So we do a little run up to the B using A, A sharp (or B flat), then B. Now try putting it all together! This melody is a hit with our Sax School members too. Check out our student Rick Herman who learned it, then played it for his cows! GET FREE TRIAL Want more lessons like this? Start today with Sax School! New saxophone lesson added into our Members Area - the captivating riff from the George Michael song "Careless Whisper". Like it or hate it, learning how to play Careless Whisper on alto sax is something that ALL saxophone students must do. It's an iconic song, a huge song and the Careless Whisper sax riff is just like eating your vegetables: it will do you good to learn it - and you might even enjoy it How to play Careless Whisper on Alto Sax Having the Careless Whisper sax line under your belt will make you a better saxophonist. And that is what we are all about here at HowToPlayTheSax.com - helping YOU become a better sax player ! This song has also been requested by a few of our members and my one-on-one students. Again, it didn't take too much twisting of my arm to film this and add it to the growing list of available saxophone lessons for our members. The sax line from Careless Whisper is not that hard. Even if you've been playing your sax for less than a few months, then chances are extremely high that you will be able to schmaltz your way into the hearts of thousands of adoring Careless Whisper sax fans with relative ease ! I've broken it down into small bit-sized chunks to make it easier, plus given some tips on how to hit the high opening C# note at the start of the Careless Whisper sax riff on your alto saxophone. Log in to the Members Area and check it out !! Not a member yet ? Join us and get access to the always increasing library of saxophone lessons and PDF cheat sheets. If you would like simple step by step instructions to help you learn how to play the sax (and possibly be just a little bit smooth and groovy like George Michael), all neatly organised in the one convenient location, all provided by an experienced saxophone teacher who can help you to play the music that you want to play quickly and easily, then check out our saxophone lessons membership options. Get started on your saxophone journey today ! Remember - I can help you learn How To Play The Sax YES - I want to Have Fun, Play Sax, Be Awesome and Repeat !