

# 20 Christmas Carols for Solo Tenor Saxophone: A Festive Repertoire for Saxophonists



## 20 Christmas Carols For Solo Tenor Saxophone Book 2: Easy Christmas Sheet Music For Beginners

by Michael Shaw

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As the festive season approaches, it's time to spread the joy of Christmas music far and wide. For tenor saxophonists, there's no better way to celebrate than with a repertoire of beloved carols arranged for their instrument.

In this article, we present a collection of 20 enchanting Christmas carols meticulously arranged for solo tenor saxophone. These pieces are perfect for performances at holiday concerts, church services, or intimate gatherings. Each arrangement captures the spirit of the season, offering saxophonists of all levels a delightful way to share the festive cheer through their music.

## A Journey Through Christmas Melodies

1. **Silent Night:** With its serene and contemplative melody, this timeless carol sets the perfect mood for a peaceful Christmas Eve.

Tenor saxophone Bb

**Silent Night**

Franz Gruber

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2. **Jingle Bells:** A lively and energetic tune that will put everyone in the holiday spirit. Perfect for adding a touch of festive fun to any

performance.

**Jingle Bells**

James Lord Pierpont (1839-1908)  
arr. by Svenedalansen

The musical score consists of two staves: Alto Saxophone (top) and Tenor Saxophone (bottom). The score is in common time. The Alto Saxophone part starts with a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Tenor Saxophone part begins at measure 5. Measure 5 shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 6-9 show a continuous eighth-note pattern. Measure 10 begins a new section labeled 'A' with a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 11-14 continue the 'A' section. Measures 15-18 show a continuous eighth-note pattern. Measure 19 begins a new section labeled 'B' with a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 20-23 continue the 'B' section. The score ends with a final section starting at measure 24.

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3. **Deck the Halls:** A cheerful and spirited carol that celebrates the joy of decorating and preparing for Christmas.

Tenor saxophone Bb

Deck The Halls

Traditional Welsh Carol

The sheet music consists of three staves of musical notation for tenor saxophone in Bb. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The melody is simple, featuring mostly quarter notes and eighth notes. The lyrics are provided below the notes. The music is attributed to a traditional Welsh Carol.

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4. **The First Noel:** A traditional English carol that tells the story of the birth of Jesus. Its haunting melody evokes a sense of wonder and

reverence.

Tenor saxophone Bb

The First Noel

English carol

The sheet music consists of three staves of tenor saxophone music. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. It features eighth-note patterns with various dynamics like forte (f), piano (p), and mezzo-forte (mf). The second staff continues with the same key signature and time signature, showing more eighth-note patterns. The third staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature, continuing the musical line. The music is annotated with lyrics in parentheses above the notes: 'The First Noel' at the top, 'fables.mamanbook.com' diagonally across the middle, and 'English carol' at the end of the first staff. The bottom right corner of the page contains the text: 'Free Christmas tenor saxophone sheet music by Capotasto Music' and a website URL: 'http://www.capecapito.com'.

5. **O Come, All Ye Faithful:** A majestic and uplifting carol that invites everyone to join in the celebration of Christ's birth.

Tenor saxophone Bb

O Come, All Ye Faithful  
Adeste Fideles

John Francis Wade

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6. **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing:** A triumphant and glorious carol that proclaims the arrival of the Savior. Its soaring melody fills the heart

with joy and anticipation.

Tenor saxophone Bb

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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7. **O Holy Night:** A lyrical and deeply moving carol that captures the awe and wonder of the Christmas story. Its haunting melody touches the

soul and inspires a sense of peace and reflection.

Tenor saxophone

**O Holy Night**

Adolphe Adam

12/8

C F C G C F# (Em) A (Am) C G Am Em B (Bm)

Dm Am C/G G/F C/E F

C/G C G/F C/E F

C/E F C/G G C

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8. **Away in a Manger:** A tender and heartwarming carol that depicts the humble beginnings of Jesus' birth. Its gentle melody evokes a sense of

comfort and security.

Tenor saxophone Bb

Away In A Manger

Jingle Bells

The sheet music consists of three staves of musical notation for tenor saxophone in Bb. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff begins with a bass clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff begins with a bass clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music includes lyrics: "Away in a manger, no bed have I, but a straw my pillow, and a blanket my coat." The notes are primarily quarter notes and eighth notes, with some sixteenth-note patterns. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The title "Away In A Manger" is centered above the first staff, and "Jingle Bells" is written in the top right corner of the page. The website watermark "fables.mamanbook.com" is repeated diagonally across the page.

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9. **We Wish You a Merry Christmas:** A cheerful and festive carol that sends well wishes and blessings for a joyful holiday season.

[www.ChristmasMusicSongs.com](http://www.ChristmasMusicSongs.com)



## We Wish You a Merry Christmas

In the key of D  
(concert C)

Tenor Sax Arrangements  
by Kyle Coughlin

Traditional English Folksong

Sheet music for Tenor Saxophone in D major (concert C). The music consists of six staves of musical notation. Chords are indicated above the staff. The first staff starts with D. The second staff starts with F# and includes chords Bm, D, G, Em, A7, D. The third staff starts with D and includes chords A, E, A. The fourth staff starts with D and includes chords D, G, Em, A7, D. The fifth staff starts with F# and includes chords Bm, D, G, Em, A7, D. The sixth staff ends with a double bar line.

[www.ChristmasMusicSongs.com](http://www.ChristmasMusicSongs.com)



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10. **God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen:** A traditional English carol with a haunting melody that tells the story of the shepherds visiting the

newborn Jesus.

Tenor saxophone Bb

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

English Carol

The sheet music consists of three staves of musical notation for tenor saxophone. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff starts with a bass clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff starts with a bass clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music includes lyrics: "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" and "Hark! The herald angels sing." The notes are primarily eighth and sixteenth notes, with some quarter notes. The piece concludes with a final cadence.

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11. **It Came Upon a Midnight Clear:** A serene and contemplative carol that reflects on the peace and hope brought by the birth of Jesus.

# It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

Words by Edmund Hamilton Sears  
Music by Richard Storrs Willis

Moderately

The musical score consists of four staves of music for a voice and piano. The top staff shows a piano part with chords B♭, E♭, C♯, F♯, B♭, and E♭. The lyrics for the first verse are:

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that gladd'ning song of old,  
which the harps of gold,  
all the earth good-

The second staff shows a piano part with chords B♭, B♭/E♭, B♭/E♭, B♭, and E♭. The lyrics continue:

and up on the mid-night clear, that glad-new song of  
old, from ages long past, near the earth, so

The third staff shows a piano part with chords B♭, C♯, F♯, B♭, and E♭. The lyrics continue:

touch their harps of gold. Peace on the earth, good-

The fourth staff shows a piano part with chords G major (G, B, D), G major (G, B, D), F major (F, A, C), G major (G, B, D), C♯, F, and E♭. The lyrics end with:

all from heaven's all gloom. The

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12. **Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming:** A German carol with a beautiful and intricate melody that symbolizes the Virgin Mary and the birth of Jesus.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST' EIN ROS' ENTSPRungen  
from Michael Praetorius

The sheet music consists of four staves of musical notation for voice and piano. The lyrics are written below each staff. The first staff begins with "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming". The second staff begins with "Of Jesu's birth". The third staff begins with "It came, a rosy red". The fourth staff begins with "When Whate'er half spent". The piano accompaniment features simple chords and bass notes.

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13. **The Holly and the Ivy:** A traditional English carol that celebrates the greenery and symbolism of the Christmas season.

## The Holly and the Ivy

Registration I:  
Rhythm: Note

16th-Century English Carol

The musical score consists of four staves of music for a single instrument, likely a harp or guitar. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a '3' over a '4', and a 'F' (B-flat). The lyrics are: 'The Holly and the Ivy, and the I- x - Ivy, When Only one back, self'. The second staff begins with a 'C' (G), and the lyrics are: 'grows on old steel old tree in the wood, the And by the'. The third staff begins with a 'F' (B-flat), and the lyrics are: 'sweet, The ring old tree um, And the following of the'. The fourth staff begins with a 'C' (G), and the lyrics are: 'tree play in the of the merry we, sweet'.

14. **Ding Dong Merrily on High:** A joyful and energetic carol that announces the arrival of Christmas morning.

Tenor saxophone Bb

Ding Dong, Merrily On High

Traditional French Carol

The sheet music consists of three staves of musical notation for tenor saxophone in Bb. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features eighth-note patterns with various rests. The second staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are labeled with their corresponding musical names: F, C, B, C, F, S, F, C, B, C, F, B, G, C, F, B, C, F. The music is a repeating melody with a slight variation in the middle section.

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15. **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks:** A traditional English carol that tells the story of the shepherds witnessing the birth of Jesus.

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## While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

for Choir & Brass

### Trombones

Moderato

Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Music: Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Arr. Michael Rondeau

The musical score for Trombones consists of two staves of music. The top staff is for Trombone and the bottom staff is for Bass Trombone. The music is in common time. Various dynamics and markings are present, including 'Moderato' tempo, '100', 'Viv.', 'S', '24 (end)', 'Viv.', 'X (end)', and 'X'. The score is set against a background watermark that reads 'fables.mamanbook.com'.

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16. **The Twelve Days of Christmas:** A cumulative and humorous carol that lists the lavish gifts received on each day of the Christmas season.

**Twelve Days of Christmas**

Traditional

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top staff is for the piano, marked 'Piano' and 'Moderato'. The vocal part begins on the second staff with the lyrics 'On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me'. The third staff continues the lyrics 'A partridge in a pear tree'. The fourth staff begins with 'On the second day of Christmas my true love gave to me Two turtle doves and a'.

Piano  
Moderato

On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me  
A partridge in a pear tree  
On the second day of Christmas my true love gave to me Two turtle doves and a

par - tridge in a pear tree On the third day of Christ - mas my

17. **Good King Wenceslas:** A traditional English carol that tells the story of a kind-hearted king who ventures out on a cold winter's day to bring

gifts to a poor peasant.

The musical score for "Good King Wenceslas" is presented in a three-part setting. The top part, labeled "Tenor Saxophone," consists of two staves: the upper staff in common time and the lower staff in 2/4 time. The middle part, labeled "Piano," features a single staff with both treble and bass clefs, also in common time. The bottom part, labeled "T. Soprano," has a single staff in common time. The score includes lyrics in a traditional Gothic script. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained chords and rhythmic patterns. The soprano and tenor parts sing the melody, with the soprano providing the primary vocal line and the tenor offering harmonic or melodic support. The piece concludes with a final cadence and a repeat sign.

18. **In the Bleak Midwinter:** A reflective and haunting carol that explores the themes of hope and redemption during the winter solstice.

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## In the Bleak Midwinter

Registration: 3  
Rhythm: 8 Beat or Pops

Poem by Christina Rossetti  
Music by Gustav Holst

1. In the bleak midwinter  
2. - 4. (See additional lyrics)

8  
F  
A  
B  
C  
A  
G  
F  
G  
A  
G  
B  
C  
A  
G  
B  
A  
G  
F  
G  
A  
G  
F

8  
F  
A  
B  
C  
A  
G  
F  
G  
A  
G  
B  
C  
A  
G  
B  
A  
G  
F  
G  
A  
G  
F

8  
F  
A  
B  
C  
A  
G  
F  
G  
A  
G  
B  
C  
A  
G  
B  
A  
G  
F  
G  
A  
G  
F

19. **I Saw Three Ships:** A traditional English carol that combines nautical imagery with the Christmas story.

1 Saw Three Ships

Traditional English  
arr. B. C. Dyer

The musical score consists of three staves, each representing an Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.). The top staff has a tempo marking of quarter note = 120. The vocal line begins with a melodic line consisting of eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The middle staff continues the melody with eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff begins with a melodic line consisting of eighth notes and sixteenth notes.

20. **Joy to the World:** A triumphant and celebratory carol that proclaims the joy and salvation brought by the birth of Jesus.

Alto saxophone Eb

## Joy To The World

George F. Handel arr. Lowell Mason

The sheet music consists of four staves of musical notation for alto saxophone in Eb. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a half note F, followed by a quarter note C, a half note F# (with a sharp sign), a quarter note B, a quarter note E/C, a quarter note C, a half note F, a quarter note B, a quarter note E/C, and a half note C. The second staff begins with a half note F. The third staff begins with a half note F, followed by a quarter note B, a half note F, a quarter note B, a quarter note E/C, a quarter note C, and a half note F. The fourth staff begins with a half note F.

Free alto saxophone sheet music at  
<http://www.capotastomusic.com>

## Embrace the Spirit of Christmas

These 20 Christmas carols offer tenor saxophonists a rich and diverse repertoire to explore. Each arrangement captures the essence of the season, inviting listeners to experience the joy, peace, and wonder of Christmas through the expressive sound of the saxophone.

As you delve into these pieces, let their melodies inspire you to create your own interpretations. Embrace the spirit of Christmas and share the joy of music with your audience. Whether you're performing at a festive concert or adding a touch of holiday cheer to a family gathering, these carols will undoubtedly bring warmth and happiness to all who hear them.

So, gather your saxophone, embrace the Christmas spirit, and embark on a musical journey through these beloved carols. May your music spread joy and create lasting memories during this special time of year.

## Additional Tips for Performance

\* Practice regularly to ensure a confident and polished performance. \* Pay attention to dynamics and phrasing to bring out the emotional depth of each carol. \* Experiment with different articulations and techniques to add character and expression to your playing. \* Consider using a microphone to amplify your sound and enhance the projection of your saxophone. \*

Create a stage presence that reflects the joy and spirit of Christmas.



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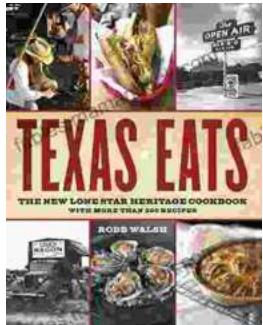
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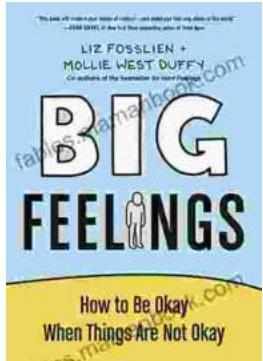
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