

# Rhythm Teaching Sheets for Jazz Ensemble

By Jeff Waggoner

*Waggoner Music Publishing*

I wrote these after using Stephen Melillo's Rhythm Sheets (go to [stormworld.com](http://stormworld.com) for those and many other great compositions and teaching tools) with my concert band. I've also used Doug Beach's *Swing Rhythms* (Kjos) with my beginning jazz groups. I found that some years my students needed more work on learning to identify common rhythm patterns. They are easy to use in full band rehearsal by simply setting a common pitch for the band to use to play them together. Based on my experience, I wouldn't use more than eight bars or so of new material on any given day. While it may seem that the band is "getting" it, some of the students with poorer rhythm-reading skills will fall back on their strategy of just listening to other band members for rhythm cues when they become overwhelmed. At that point, you're not gaining anything any longer!

I hope these sheets are helpful to you and your band!

# Jazz Rhythm Sheet #1

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28

29 30 31 32

# Jazz Rhythm Sheet #2

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Measure 1: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 2: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 3: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 4: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. A slur with an accent (>) is over the eighth notes in measure 3. Measure numbers 2, 3, and 4 are written above the staff.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Measure 5: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 6: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 7: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 8: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. Measure numbers 5, 6, 7, and 8 are written above the staff.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Measure 9: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 10: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 11: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 12: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. Measure numbers 9, 10, 11, and 12 are written above the staff.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Measure 13: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 14: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 15: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 16: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. Measure numbers 13, 14, 15, and 16 are written above the staff.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. Measure 17: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 18: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 19: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 20: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. Measure numbers 17, 18, 19, and 20 are written above the staff.

Musical notation for measures 21-24. Measure 21: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 22: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 23: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 24: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Measure numbers 21, 22, 23, and 24 are written above the staff.

Musical notation for measures 25-28. Measure 25: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 26: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 27: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 28: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. Measure numbers 25, 26, 27, and 28 are written above the staff. Triplet markings (3) are below the eighth notes in measures 25, 26, and 27.

Musical notation for measures 29-32. Measure 29: Quarter note G4, quarter note A4, eighth note B4, eighth note G4. Measure 30: Quarter note F4, quarter note E4, eighth note D4, eighth note C4. Measure 31: Quarter note B3, quarter note A3, eighth note G3, eighth note F3. Measure 32: Quarter note E3, quarter note D3, eighth note C3, eighth note B2. Accents (^) are above G4, A4, and E3. Measure numbers 29, 30, 31, and 32 are written above the staff.

# Jazz Rhythm Sheet #3

1 <sup>^</sup> <sup>></sup> 2 3 <sup>^</sup> 4

5 6 7 8

9 <sup>^</sup> 10 11 <sup>^</sup> <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> 12 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup>

13 14 15 16 <sup>></sup>

17 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> 18 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> 19 20 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup>

21 22 23 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> 24 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup>

25 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> 26 <sup>></sup> 27 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup> 28 <sup>></sup>

29 30 31 32 <sup>></sup> <sup>></sup>