

# The Funky Melon

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Alto sax

Funk ♩ = 104

The musical score is written for Alto saxophone in a funk style. It begins with a tempo of 104 beats per minute. The key signature consists of two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The score contains 16 measures of music. Chord symbols D7, G7, and A7 are used throughout. Measure 13 is marked with A7, measure 14 with G7, measure 15 with D7, and measure 16 with G7. The piece ends with the instruction 'To Coda'. Dynamic markings include accents (^) and slurs.

D.C. al Coda

♩ Coda

In contrast to swing music, the eighth notes in funk music are played straight (as long as you are in common time).

The difficulty with funk is knowing which notes to play short, which notes to play long, and which notes to emphasize. This is where articulation becomes the controlling factor.

The same rules for house tops apply as in swing. However, in "The Funky Melon" we begin to see staccato markings as well. Staccato notes are played short and to the point with a "dit" sound and relatively little emphasis. Remember, house tops are tongued, short, and loud with a "da" sound. Let's use measures 13-16 as an example of both. Be sure to listen to the demonstration on the CD for comparison.

### IMPORTANT:

This etude was taken from "**Introductory Etudes In Jazz Comprehension**", **Book 1** in the "**Complete Jazz Styles**" series. Included in the book are 12 jazz etudes in a variety of styles with a CD providing demonstrations and rhythm section play-a-longs for each selection. Visit the web site [www.randyhunterjazz.com](http://www.randyhunterjazz.com) to download a promotional mp3 copy of both the play-a-long and sax demo of this etude. This book is also available for purchase at the web site (Retailer inquiries are welcome). It is available for other instruments as well.