

# MTB Grade 7

## Alto Saxophone

### Section One: Recital (60 marks)

Select three pieces from the following list (20 marks each)

As an alternative to the pieces below, candidates may perform up to 3 free choice pieces.  
For guidance on selecting and approving free choice pieces please [click here](#)

| Composer/Artist | Title                                | Book/Cat. Ref             | Publisher/ Buy Here                           |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Louis Prima     | Sing Sing Sing                       | Tomplay                   | <a href="https://tomplay.com">tomplay.com</a> |
| Jobim           | Girl from Ipanema                    | Tomplay                   | <a href="https://tomplay.com">tomplay.com</a> |
| Gerry Rafferty  | Baker Street                         | Tomplay                   | <a href="https://tomplay.com">tomplay.com</a> |
| Rae             | 1 <sup>st</sup> Movt: Toccata Latino | Alto Saxophone Sonatina   | Reedimensions RD002                           |
| Bozza           | Aria                                 | N/A                       | Alphonse Leduc AL19714                        |
| Bonneau         | Suite, Danse des Demons and Plainte  | N/A                       | Alphonse Leduc AL20303                        |
| Beaucamp        | Tarantelle                           | N/A                       | Alphonse Leduc 20466                          |
| Carmichael      | No.1 Joropo                          | Latin American Dances     | Emerson Edition 486                           |
| Harvey          | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Movt                 | Alto Saxophone Sonata     | Reedimensions RD078                           |
| Ridout          | No.2 Vivace                          | Alto Saxophone Concertino | Emerson Edition 145                           |
| Pierne          | Canzonetta                           | AL19414                   | Alphonse Leduc                                |
| Jones           | No.3 Sunlight Gold                   | Three Light Motifs        | Emerson Edition 295                           |
| Carr            | Habanera                             | Four Comedy Dances        | Kendor                                        |
| Daneels         | Aria et Valse Jazz                   | SF9412                    | Schott                                        |

Tomplay pieces often include accompaniments and can be purchased individually using the link next to each piece or via a discounted subscription for MTB teachers/learners. To learn more about Tomplay and the subscription [click here](#).

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| Composer/Artist | Title                                      | Book/Cat. Ref                        | Publisher/ Buy Here |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bennett         | 1 <sup>st</sup> Movt: Samba Triste         | Three Piece Suite for Alto Saxophone | Novello             |
| Bennett         | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Movt: Finale               | Three Piece Suite for Alto Saxophone | Novello             |
| Wilson          | Day for Baritone or Alto Saxophone & Piano | CM062                                | Camden              |
| Johnson         | Nightsong for Alto Saxophone & Piano       | GS82586                              | Schirmer            |
| Binge           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Movt: Rondo                | Concerto                             | WEIN96812           |
| Woods           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Movt: Slowly               | Sonata                               | Advance Music       |
| Rae             | No.5 Point to Point                        | 12 Modern Etudes for Solo Saxophone  | Universal UE18795   |
| Rae             | No.1 Ignition                              | 12 Modern Etudes for Solo Saxophone  | Universal UE18795   |
| Lyons           | Study No.23                                | 24 Melodic Studies for Saxophone     | Useful U55          |
| Wilson          | Monody                                     | CM099                                | Camden              |
| Buckland        | Brazilian Walk                             | Solo Saxophone Book 1                | Astute Music        |
| Vizzutti        | Funk                                       | Dynamic Dynamics                     | De Haske            |
| Gumbley         | Merry Go Round                             | 15 Crazy Jazz Studies                | Saxtet              |
| Street          | Party Time                                 | Street Beats                         | Saxtet              |
| Mintzer         | Be Bop Special                             | 14 Blues and Funk Etudes             | Alfred              |
| Bach            | Courante                                   | Suite No. 1 arr. Londeix             | Lemoine             |
| Nelson          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Movt: Largo                | Sonata for Alto Saxophone            | Advance             |
| Allen           | No.3                                       | Sonatina for Alto Saxophone          | Emerson Edition 589 |

### Section Two: Technical (25 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

#### Technical Option 1

**Technical Exercises:**

Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

[Page 4](#)

**PLUS**

**Scales from Memory:**

Perform the scales from memory required for this grade

[Page 5](#)

#### Technical Option 2

**Technical Exercises:**

Perform all the technical exercises required for this grade

[Page 4](#)

**PLUS**

**Alternative to Scales from Memory:**

Perform the alternative to scales from memory from the sheet

[Page 6](#)

### Section Three: Musicianship (15 marks)

Prepare either option 1 or 2 below

#### Musicianship Option 1

**Reading Skills:**

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

[Page 7](#)

**PLUS**

**Listening Skills:**

Sing the prepared aural tests for this grade

[Page 9](#)

#### Musicianship Option 2

**Reading Skills:**

Perform the rhythm exercises for this grade

[Page 7](#)

**PLUS**

**Duet:**

Perform the duet for this grade

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# Technical Exercises

Exercise 1 - ♩=90

Exercise 1 is a piano exercise in 4/4 time with a tempo of 90 beats per minute. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains six measures: half note G4 (*pp*), quarter note A4 (*ff*), half note B4 (*pp*), quarter note C5 (*ff*), half note D5 (*pp*), and quarter note E5 (*ff*). The second staff contains five measures: half note F5 (*pp*), quarter note G5 (*ff*), half note A5 (*pp*), quarter note B5 (*ff*), and half note C6 (*mf*). Slurs connect the pairs of notes in each measure.

Exercise 2 - ♩=80

Exercise 2 is a piano exercise in 4/4 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. It consists of two staves. The first staff has two measures of eighth-note pairs: B4-A4, G4-F#4, E4-D#4, C4-B3, B3-A2, G2-F#2, E2-D#2, C2-B1, B1-A1, G1-F#1, E1-D#1, C1-B0. The second staff has two measures of eighth-note pairs: B1-A1, G1-F#1, E1-D#1, C1-B0, B0-A0, G0-F#0, E0-D#0, C0-B-1, B-1-A-2, G-2-F#-2, E-2-D#-2, C-2-B-3.

Exercise 3 - ♩=c90

Exercise 3 is a piano exercise in 3/4 time with a tempo of 90 beats per minute. It consists of one staff with four measures of eighth-note pairs: B4-A4, G4-F#4, E4-D#4, C4-B3, B3-A2, G2-F#2, E2-D#2, C2-B1, B1-A1, G1-F#1, E1-D#1, C1-B0.

Exercise 4 - Swung quavers ♩=c132

Exercise 4 is a piano exercise in 4/4 time with a tempo of 132 beats per minute. It consists of four staves. The first staff has four measures of eighth-note pairs: B4-A4, G4-F#4, E4-D#4, C4-B3, B3-A2, G2-F#2, E2-D#2, C2-B1, B1-A1, G1-F#1, E1-D#1, C1-B0. The second staff has four measures of eighth-note pairs: B1-A1, G1-F#1, E1-D#1, C1-B0, B0-A0, G0-F#0, E0-D#0, C0-B-1, B-1-A-2, G-2-F#-2, E-2-D#-2, C-2-B-3. The third staff has four measures of eighth-note pairs: B-3-A-4, G-4-F#-4, E-4-D#-4, C-4-B-5, B-5-A-6, G-6-F#-6, E-6-D#-6, C-6-B-7, B-7-A-8, G-8-F#-8, E-8-D#-8, C-8-B-9. The fourth staff has four measures of eighth-note pairs: B-9-A-10, G-10-F#-10, E-10-D#-10, C-10-B-11, B-11-A-12, G-12-F#-12, E-12-D#-12, C-12-B-13, B-13-A-14, G-14-F#-14, E-14-D#-14, C-14-B-15.

# Scales & Arpeggios from Memory

For the examination, the candidate should be asked to perform all starred (\*\*) scales and arpeggios below, plus any two other items from memory. They should perform each scale and arpeggio either tongued or slurred as requested by the teacher. The teacher should aim for an even distribution of

Scales ♩=120 Chromatic & Arpeggios ♩=76

articulations.

F major scale



\*\* B major scale



Ab major scale - 12th



\*\* E melodic minor scale



\*\* F harmonic minor scale



G# harmonic minor scale



\*\* Dominant 7th in Eb



\*\* Diminished 7th on B



\*\* E chromatic scale



\*\* F major arpeggio



B major arpeggio



Ab major arpeggio - 12th



E minor arpeggio



F minor arpeggio



\*\* G# minor arpeggio



MTB Exams  
Alternative to Scales from Memory  
Saxophone  
Grade 7

The following do not need to be played from memory. For the examination perform all the starred (\*\*) scales and arpeggios below plus any two other items

Scales  $\text{♩}=120$  Arpeggios  $\text{♩}=76$

F major scale



\*\* B major scale



Ab major scale - 12th



\*\* E melodic minor scale



\*\* F harmonic minor scale - swung quavers



G# harmonic minor scale



\*\* Dominant 7th in Eb



\*\* Diminished 7th on B



\*\* E chromatic scale



\*\* F major arpeggio



B major arpeggio



Ab major arpeggio



E minor arpeggio



F minor arpeggio



\*\* G# minor arpeggio



# Reading Skills

Candidates should practise the six clapping exercises below as part of their preparation to take this grade.

For the exam itself, the candidate should perform all six exercises in the order below at the indicated tempi. The candidate part should be clapped and the lower part should be provided using either the MTB Reading Skills recording for this grade, which can be downloaded [here](#), or a metronome (not clapped).

♩ = 140

1

candidate

metronome

Exercise 1: 4/4 time, tempo 140. Candidate part: Measure 1 (rest), Measures 2-5 (eighth notes). Metronome part: Quarter notes throughout.

♩ = 120

2

Exercise 2: 3/4 time, tempo 120. Candidate part: Measure 1 (rest), Measures 2-4 (eighth notes), Measure 5 (quarter note). Metronome part: Quarter notes throughout.

Exercise 3: 4/4 time. Candidate part: Measure 1 (quarter note), Measures 2-4 (eighth notes), Measure 5 (quarter note). Metronome part: Quarter notes throughout.

♩ = 104

3

Exercise 4: 4/4 time, tempo 104. Candidate part: Measure 1 (rest), Measures 2-4 (eighth notes), Measure 5 (quarter note). Metronome part: Quarter notes throughout.

♩ = 90

4

3/4

3

♩ = 106

5

2/4

♩ = 86

6

4/4

3



## MTB Exams - Listening Skills (Aural tests) Grade 7

The candidate should practise all the exercises on this sheet with the accompanying Listening Skills recording as part of their preparation for the exam. The exam can be conducted either with the candidate responding to the recording or the teacher can deliver them using this sheet.

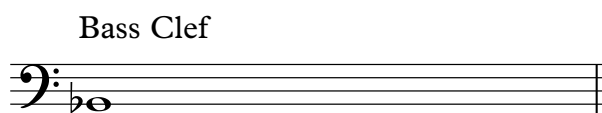
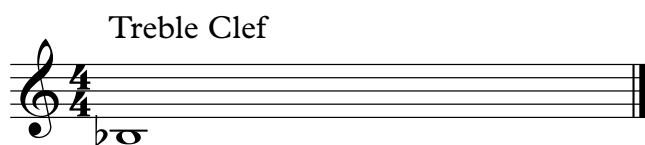
Only the teacher should have this sheet in front of them during the exam.

For each test, select either the treble or the bass clef exercises as appropriate to the range of the candidate's voice.

### Test 1 - Scales.

I shall ask you to sing an ascending major scale, after I give you the starting note.

And then I shall ask you to sing an ascending harmonic minor scale, after I give you the same starting note again.



### Test 2 - Singing back notes

I shall play a 3 note chord and then you will sing back the highest, middle, then lowest notes.

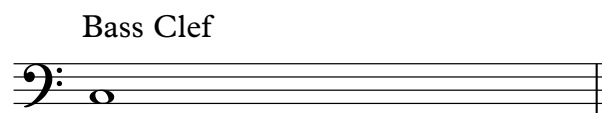
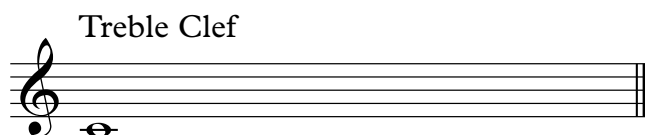
We shall do this for 4 chords.



### Test 3 - Dominant & Diminished 7ths

I shall ask you to sing the first 4 notes of an ascending dominant 7th arpeggio in root position after giving you the starting note.

I shall then ask you to sing the first 4 notes of an ascending diminished 7th arpeggio after giving you the same starting note again.



# Reel Deal

Musicianship Duets on the MTB Syllabuses are not acceptable for use as Recital pieces for the same grade.  
Musicianship Duets are Listening Skills, not another piece and consequently are set at a more straightforward technical level.

**1 Vivace**

1 2

7

13

19

25

30

*f* *ff* *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

### Syllabus Guidance

- The teacher is encouraged to speak to the candidate during the exam to put them at ease or to help them understand what is being requested. For more guidance on conducting/taking the exam [click here](#).
- The recording should not be turned off at any point during the exam until all elements of the assessment have been completed. For more recording advice [click here](#).
- For Practical Grades follow the above syllabus requirements. To learn about Performance Grade requirements please [click here](#).
- To learn more about how our exams are marked visit our Marking Criteria Page [here](#).

#### Recital Guidance - Practical & Performance Grades:

- Repeats are optional for MTB Exams, however, they are encouraged as they are often structurally important and can offer opportunities to display greater dynamic and expressive variation.
- All D.C. and D.S. marks should be observed (unless the syllabus specifies otherwise).
- The candidate should introduce each piece they are about to perform by stating its title.
- The teacher may help the candidate tune up before the exam begins. This should be done before starting the recording.
- Recorded accompaniments are acceptable as an alternative to a live accompanist. Make sure it is played on a different device to the one recording the exam.
- The composer's dynamics, phrasing etc should be observed in the pieces. Any editorial markings may be altered to allow for a personal interpretation. Where a piece contains no, or only limited, dynamic and expressive markings, the candidate is encouraged to include their own additional dynamic or expressive elements.
- Where a candidate presents Free Choice repertoire these must be of the correct grade standard. If such pieces fall below the required grade standard then examiners may reflect this in their marking. Free Choice Guidance can be found [here](#).
- Candidates wishing to submit 2 or more pieces with Jazz improvisation may do so as part of our free choice options, these will be marked by a Jazz specialist who will normally specialise in that section of instruments (i.e. Wind, Brass etc).

#### Technical & Musicianship Guidance - Practical Grades:

- The tempi given for the technical section exercises (scales from memory/technical exercises etc.) are minimum speed requirements.
- There are no unprepared elements in an MTB exam. All Technical and Musicianship elements should be practised by the candidate prior to taking the exam.
- If the Listening Skills fall outside of the candidate's vocal range, they may be transposed. However, all exercises within a test must be transposed by the same interval.
- For the duet option, the teacher part may be performed by the teacher, another pupil or any suitable player on any instrument from the same family (wind/brass/strings etc) with octave transpositions made as necessary. Alternatively, a recording can be used for the teacher part during the exam.
- Duets set in the Musicianship section cannot to be used as recital pieces.