

# Big Band Textures

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Bar #

## 1. **One-part writing** - a single melody

A. Solo - one instrument

B. Unison or octaves - two or more instruments

13

i. unison or octaves

22

ii. 2, 3-, 4-part harmonization

13

iii. sectional - examples: 2 trumpets; an alto and a tenor sax

iv. mixed - example: tenor & trumpet - classic sound of hard bop, same transposition

## 2. **Backgrounds** - in addition to a primary or another melody -

A. Counter-melody - counterpoint

69

behind a soloist

B. Pad - sustained melody or chords (longer note-values)

43

often harmonized chords

23

sometimes in unison

C. Punches - short, accented chords

Pads and punches may

27

outline rhythm of melody or

20

answer phrases of original melody by being placed between phrases

32

D. Fills - written or improvised, by a horn or rhythm section

## 3. **Sectional writing** - all saxes, trumpets, trombones, or brass harmonized together

21

most fundamental technique, often used with call & response

80

A. Soli - one section featured playing a soloistic harmonization

uses standard 4-part harmonization technique

109

## 4. **Shout chorus** - entire ensemble plays harmonized line

## 5. **Rhythm section figures** - outlines rhythm of melody by through accents

29

A. All rhythms of a melody

43

B. Some rhythms of a melody - usually syncopated, may match high/low notes in phrase

drummer especially will outline rhythm of a melody or shout chorus