

Blue Skies

Words and Music by IRVING BERLIN

Arranged by ROGER EMERSON



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7777 W. BLUEMOUND RD., P.O. BOX 13819 MILWAUKEE, WI 53213

BLUE SKIES

SATB with Piano and Optional Rhythm Section

Educator's Notes:

Although this arrangement was originally conceived as a driving, fast swing, it could also be done effectively at a more moderate $\text{♩} = 144$. Careful attention should be paid to the "walking" bass line which gives the piece its drive. These lines should always be very connected (legato). If an electric bass is not available, the lower two octaves of an electric piano may be used and finger snaps on 2 & 4 in place of the drum part. Make sure that all eighth notes (whether they occur in vocal or instrumental parts) are treated as swinging triplets with the first note (downbeat) being twice as long as the second note (upbeat), and with the upbeat receiving the accent. Capable rhythm section players should be encouraged to "stretch out" from the written parts. The solo section at measure 37 is optional and may be either sung (adding scat syllables) or played by a B-flat instrument. In either case, it may be improvised. A legato, slightly breathy, energetic tone with a minimum of vibrato should be used by the vocalists. I hope you enjoy this Irving Berlin Standard!

R.E.

Straight Ahead Swing (♩ = ca. 192)



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Guitar *If bass is unavailable piano should play bass line 8^{vb} throughout.*

Piano

Bass *Walk*

Drums *Brushes mp ride swish H.H. H.H.*

high but in

S
A

Blue Skies _____ smil - in' at me. _____ Noth-in' but Blue.

T
B

Blue Skies _____ smil - in' at me. _____ Noth-in' but Blue.

[5]

[5]

[5]

403-02094

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Skies _____ do I see. _____

Skies _____ do I see. _____

13

Blue - birds _____ sing - in' a song. _____ Noth-in' but Blue _

Blue-birds _____ sing - in' a song. _____ Noth-in' but Blue _

13

13

birds _____ all day long. _____

birds _____ all day long. _____

F Maj⁹ Dm⁷ Gm⁷ B^b/C F (add 9) C^(b9) C7 C^{7(b9)} C13^(b9)

fill 3 3 3 3

21 *mf* Nev - er saw the sun shin - in' so bright, - nev - er saw things -

mf Nev - er saw the sun shin - in' so bright, - nev - er saw things -

mf Nev - er saw the sun shin - in' so bright, - nev - er saw things -

mf Nev - er saw the sun shin - in' so bright, - nev - er saw things -

21 F Maj⁹ B^bm⁷ Cm⁷ F Maj⁹ Gm^{7(b5)} F Maj⁹

21 *mf*

all of them gone. Noth-in' but Blue

all of them gone. Noth-in' but Blue

all of them gone. Noth-in' but Blue

all of them gone. Noth-in' but Blue

Dm7 G6/9

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Skies from now on.

Skies from now on.

Skies from now on.

Skies from now on.

F Maj7 Dm7 Gm7 B^b/C F (add9)

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optional cut to m. 52 **37** Flugelhorn Solo*

Vocal Solo*

(add own scat syllables)

optional cut to m. 52

Em⁷ A7(b9) **37** Dm Dm(Maj⁷) Dm⁷ G⁹

37

Either may be improvised if desired.

F Maj⁹ Dm⁹ Gm⁷ C⁹ F Maj⁹ G^bMaj⁷/A^b

45

D^bMaj⁷ B^b/C 45 F Maj⁹ Em⁷(b5) A⁷(b9) Dm⁷

45

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G^{6/9} F Maj⁷ Dm⁷ Gm⁹ C¹³ F Maj⁹

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61

No-tic - in' the days — hur - ry - in'

No-tic - in' the days — hur - ry - in'

No-tic - in' the days — hur - ry - in'

No-tic - in' the days — hur - ry - in'

G^b/A^b A^b/B^b 61 N.C.

61

crash

by, when you're_ in love, my! How they fly.

by, when you're_ in love, my! How they fly.

by, when you're_ in love, my! How they fly.

by, when you're_ in love, my! How they fly.

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69 *mf*
 Blue days _____ all of them gone.
mf
 Blue days _____ all of them gone.
mf
 Blue days _____ all of them gone..
mf
 Blue days _____ all of them gone..

A7(b9) 69 *mf* Dm Dm(Maj7) Dm7 G9
mf
 69 *mf*
crash *mf*
mf

Noth - in' but Blue _____ Skies _____
 Noth - in' but Blue _____ Skies _____
 Noth - in' but Blue _____ Skies _____
 Noth - in' but Blue _____ Skies _____

F Maj9
cresc.

cresc.
cresc.

* Cue note should be used only if range is a problem.

f > *cresc. to end*
 from now on!
f *cresc. to end*
 from now on!
f *cresc. to end*
 from now on!
f *cresc. to end*
 from now on!

B^b/C *f* *F Maj⁹*
cresc. to end

rim *crash* *rim* *crash* *cresc. to end*
ride *snare* *opt.*

opt.
opt.
opt.

(on cue)

Cym. roll *Tom fill (on cue)* 3

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