

RIVERSIDE MUSIC

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Retail Store and Music Lessons open 6 days a week

RiverSide Music 'How To' Series

Transpose Instruments (2 of 4): Saxophone to Piano

The note you read on your music does not sound the same on all instruments. To hear the same sound on piano, tenor and alto saxophone (for example the sound 'C'), this is what you need to know.

Tenor Saxophone (B flat):

When you read/play C
you hear the same as



B flat on the piano

Piano (C):

When you read/play C
you hear C



on the piano

Alto Saxophone (E flat):

When you read/play C
you hear the same as



E flat on the piano

Tenor Saxophone: To hear C
as on the piano, you should
play UP 1 tone/step from C



Play D to hear C
as heard on the piano

Piano: To hear C
play C



Play C
on the piano

Alto Saxophone: To hear C
as on the piano, you should
play UP 4½ tones/steps from C



Play A to hear C
as heard on the piano

Rule: Play UP 1 tone/step on the Tenor Sax to hear/play the same sound as a piano (or play DOWN 1 tone/step on the Piano to hear/play the same sound as a Tenor Sax).

Rule: Play UP 4½ tones/steps on the Alto Sax for the same sound as a piano (or play DOWN 4½ tones/steps on the Piano to hear/play the same sound as an Alto Sax).

Please also see other Transposing Instrument Sheets in this series