It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

Solo Vocal
(SUB. Solo Tenor Sax
PART PROVIDED)

by Irving Mills &
Duke Ellington
arranged by Matt Harris

Swing (d = 168-172)

Doo wah doo wah
Doo wah doo wah
Doo wah doo wah
Doo wah doo wah
Doo wah doo wah
Doo wah doo wah
Doo wah doo wah

All you got to do is swing
doo wah doo wah
doo wah doo wah
doo wah doo wah
doo wah doo wah
doo wah doo wah
doo wah doo wah

It makes no difference if it's sweet or hot

Just give that rhythm every thing you got

It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing
do wah doo wah doo wah doo wah
do wah doo wah
Solo Vocal - Pg. 2

It Don't Mean A Thing

Doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah doo wah

It makes no difference if it's sweet or hot just give that rhythm everything you've got
It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

Solo Bb TENOR SAX
(SUBL. FOR SOLO VOCAL)

by Irving Mills &
Duke Ellington
arranged by Matt Harris

 Swing (d=168-172)
It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

1st Eb Tenor Sax

Swing (d = 168-172)

Kendor Presents...

by Irving Mills &
Duke Ellington

arranged by Matt Harris

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96
2ND Bb TENOR SAX - PG. 2

"IT DON'T MEAN A THING"

(1ST TNR. SOLO) 16

(168)

(132 (TPR. SOLO) 2

(132)

(140)

(148)

(156) SWING

96
3rd Bb Trumpet - Pg. 4

It Don't Mean A Thing

Swing

Ad Lib Any Notes

Half-Time Feel

Shake

Straight 8th's

96
It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

by Irving Mills &
Duke Ellington

arranged by Matt Harris

Kendor Presents...
It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

2nd Trombone

Swing (d=168-172)

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by Irving Mills &
Duke Ellington
arranged by Matt Harris

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It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

by Irving Mills &
Duke Ellington
arranged by Matt Harris
IT DON'T MEAN A THING
IT DON'T MEAN A THING

DRUMS - PG. 2

FILL

TNR. SOLO
IT DON'T MEAN A THING

(168)

(170)

(174)

(177)

(181)

(185)

(190)

(194)

(199)

(207)

(215)

(223)
It Don't Mean A Thing
If It Ain't Got That Swing

SWING/SALSA - DIFFICULTY LEVEL: MEDIUM ADVANCED - DURATION CA. 5:20

by Irving Mills & Duke Ellington
arranged by Matt Harris

VOCALIST
WITH BIG BAND SERIES

OUTSTANDING CLASSICS TO SHOWCASE MALE OR FEMALE VOCAL SOLOIST
in case no vocalist is available, the solo part is also provided for tenor sax

INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score
Solo Vocal
Solo Bb Tenor Sax
(sub. for Solo Vocal)
1st Eb Alto Sax
2nd Eb Alto Sax
1st Bb Tenor Sax
2nd Bb Tenor Sax
Eb Baritone Sax
1st Bb Trumpet
2nd Bb Trumpet
3rd Bb Trumpet
4th Bb Trumpet
1st Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone
4th Trombone
Piano
Guitar
Bass
Drums

EXTRA SCORES & PARTS AVAILABLE

Kendor Music, Inc.
P.O. Box 278
Delevan, New York 14042
U.S.A.
TO THE DIRECTOR

This arrangement of Duke Ellington's IT DON'T MEAN A THING IF IT AIN'T GOT THAT SWING gives the familiar 1930's standard a good salsa twist. Though the vocalist (or tenor sax, if no vocalist is available) is the primary feature, this unique chart showcases the whole band and its ability to establish a convincing Latin groove. Here are a few helpful rehearsal suggestions:

HORNS: Pay particular attention to articulations -- really bite into the short notes! Avoid the temptation to rush anticipations.

BASS: While it may feel unnatural, try to play the written part in the salsa section. If you can't make it groove with this pattern, change the bass line so you play on "one" (like a samba). Most importantly, it should feel good!

DRUMS: Use the four-bar solo before bar 163 to set up the swing feel, perhaps by splitting it evenly between the two styles -- playing the first two bars in Latin, then the last two bars in more of a swing mode.

SOLI, BARS 64-92: Trumpet, alto sax, vocalist and guitar should work on this section until their phrasing is consistently precise and together.

Finally, the rhythm section's main objective is to groove as hard as possible. Don't let the time drift carelessly between swing, salsa and the half-time feel at the end.

ABOUT THE ARRANGER

MATT HARRIS • Based in Los Angeles, Matt is in demand as a keyboardist, composer and arranger, and clinician. After completing his undergraduate degree at the University of Miami and his masters degree at the Eastman School of Music, he toured with Maynard Ferguson and Buddy Rich; both leaders performed and recorded his charts, many of which are featured in the Kendor jazz catalog. Matt recently made his recording debut as a leader on Voss Records.
IT DON'T MEAN A THING

Solo Vocal

SXS
1st Alto
2nd Alto

1st Tenor
2nd Tenor

Baritone

TPTS
1st
2nd
3rd
4th

TBNS
1st
2nd
3rd
4th

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drums

Solo Vocal

It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing.