

Thriller

Rod Temperton

♩ = 120

The musical score for "Thriller" is written for a large ensemble. The tempo is marked as 120 beats per minute (♩ = 120). The score is organized into two systems of staves. The first system includes the Flute/Piccolo, B♭ Clarinet, E♭ Alto Sax., B♭ Tenor Sax., 1st B♭ Trumpet, 2nd + 3rd B♭ Trumpet, F Horn, Baritone 1-2, Baritone 3, Tuba, Cymbals, and Glockenspiel. The second system includes the Snare Drum, Tenor Drums, Bass Drum, and Percussion. The Flute/Piccolo and Glockenspiel parts are mostly rests. The woodwinds and brass instruments play sustained notes, often with slurs. The percussion section features a driving snare drum pattern, a steady bass drum, and a rhythmic cymbal pattern. The overall mood is dark and suspenseful, characteristic of the film's theme.

16

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

22

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

The musical score is written for a 12-piece band. The key signature is three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into measures 22 through 27. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Flute/Piccolo:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Clarinet:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Alto Saxophone:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Tenor Saxophone:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- 1st Trumpet:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- 2nd + 3rd Trumpet:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Horn:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Trombone:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Baritone:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Tuba:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Cymbal:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Glockenspiel:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Snare Drum:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Tom Drums:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Bass Drum:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.
- Percussion:** Measures 22-23 have eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 have sustained notes. Measures 26-27 have eighth-note patterns.

28

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

35

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

42

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

49

FL./Picc. *(tr)*

Cl. *(tr)*

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

56

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

The musical score for measures 56-62 features a variety of instruments. The woodwinds (Flute/Piccolo, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone) and brass (1st Trumpet, 2nd and 3rd Trumpets, Horns, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba) parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The percussion section includes Cymbal, Glockenspiel, Snare Drum, Tom Drum, and Bass Drum. The Snare Drum and Tom Drum parts feature complex rhythmic patterns, including rolls and syncopated rhythms. The Bass Drum part provides a steady pulse. The key signature changes from B-flat major to E-flat major at measure 60, indicated by the addition of a B-flat to the key signature.

63

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.

70

FL./Picc.

Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

1st Tpt.

2nd + 3rd Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tba.

Cym.

Glock.

S. D.

T. D.

B. D.

Perc.