

You Gotta Sing!

Teaching notes (free version)

This sheet is an example of the teaching notes you get with every song available at Total Choir Music. Our aim is to make preparing and rehearsing music as easy and stress-free as possible for choir leaders everywhere.

Origin

You Gotta Sing is a contemporary song written by Australian composer and choir leader Vicky Jacobs. It was written with community choirs in mind.

Text

The message of this song is very simple - singing is good for you and makes you feel great!

Conducting the piece

At the suggested speed of 120 beats per minute, you will probably find it most comfortable to beat 4 in a bar. If you want to take it a little faster, you could try going into 2 in a bar.

This short version of You Gotta Sing is at the same speed all the way through, but you could experiment with adding a *rallentando* (gradual slowing down) at the end.

Structure

This song follows a familiar pattern that you will find in many popular songs: chorus/middle 8/chorus.

The second chorus is exactly the same as the first, making the song extremely easy to learn.

Things to look out for

You Gotta Sing is written in two easy parts. The range of both parts is accessible for most singers, but those with higher voices will probably prefer to sing Part 1 and those with lower voices Part 2.

Notice the direction at the top of the score that says 'swing'. This means that although the song is written in 4/4 time, it's sung as though it were in 12/8. This is done so that score is easy to follow and less cluttered. If you're unfamiliar with this concept, listen to the demo while you look at the score. Notice how each group of two quavers is sung as though it were a triplet.

There is some *syncopation* in this song. That means that the melody uses off-beat rhythms. Syncopation is often easier to 'feel' than to read, so if you're unsure about it, listen to the rehearsal tracks and the demo.

The only marked dynamic is the crescendo at the very end of the song, but you might want to experiment with changes in dynamics, for example a crescendo on 'join the choir'.