

Alfred's Growing Band Series

Ride of the Valkyries

Richard Wagner / Arr. by Mark Williams

The “Ride of the Valkyries” is a segment from Richard Wagner’s opera *The Valkyrie*, although the theme threads through the entire epic four-opera cycle *The Ring of the Nibelungs* which premiered in 1876. “The Ride of the Valkyries” represents the night ride of the warrior maidens (Valkyries), daughters of the god Wotan.

The work presents an ideal opportunity to build brass range and endurance in a non-threatening environment (unison/octaves, much bugling without change of fingering or slide position). Tempos should be chosen carefully to maintain the stormy atmosphere, without making the heroic theme sound rushed. The original score contained complex dotted 9/8 rhythms, which were converted into 3/4 rhythms to make the music easily playable by students. This was done with the utmost care in order to maintain the integrity of the music. Now your students can enjoy one of the great masterworks by one of the greatest European composers.

INSTRUMENTATION

1 — Conductor Score	2 — 2nd F Horn
10 — Flutes (Piccolo)	3 — 1st B♭ Cornet
2 — Oboe	3 — 2nd B♭ Cornet
2 — Bassoon	3 — 3rd B♭ Cornet
4 — 1st B♭ Clarinet	3 — 1st Trombone
4 — 2nd B♭ Clarinet	3 — 2nd Trombone
4 — 3rd B♭ Clarinet	2 — Baritone T.C.
1 — E♭ Alto Clarinet	2 — Baritone B.C.
2 — B♭ Bass Clarinet	4 — Tuba
2 — 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone	1 — Mallets (Chimes and Bells)
2 — 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone	2 — Percussion (Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Crash Cymbals, Sus. Cymbal, Triangle)
2 — B♭ Tenor Saxophone	
1 — E♭ Baritone Saxophone	
2 — 1st F Horn	1 — Timpani

