

Start:
Sax on 4

Careless Whisper
Based on **Brian McKnight and Kenny G's** performance

Intro

Hr riff 1
Nylon string guitar, percussion, drums
|dm |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ | Oo-

All in
|dm |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
-oooh Ooooooh Whoooo Ooooooh

Written by George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley
This version released 2007, the original was released in 1984
Transcribed by [Mark W. Black](#)

Verse 1

N.C. |dm⁷ |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
I feel so un-sure, as I take your hand and lead you to the dance floor.

Sax echoes
|dm⁹ |gm⁹ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
As the music dies, something in your eyes, calls to mind the silver screen and all those sad goodbyes.

Chorus 1

Hr riff 2
|dm⁷ |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |
P_AI'm never gonna dance again, guilty feet have got no rhythm.

|Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
P_AThough it's easy to pretend, I know you're not a fool.

|dm⁷ |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |
P_AShould have known better than to cheat a friend, and waste this chance that I've been given.

|Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
P_ASo I'm never gonna dance again, the way I danced with yo – u.

George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley formed what eventually became Wham! when they were in high school. This is when they wrote this song, based on George's experiences.

Break 1

Keys on riff 1, sax adlibs: (Bb: em blues/pent, nat min (G). Eb: bm blues/pent, nat minor (D)
|dm |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |

Verse 2

|dm⁷ |gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
Time can never mend the careless whispers ↑ of a good friend.

Sax echoes
|dm⁹ |gm⁹ \ \ am⁷ |Bb^{ma7} |am⁷ |
To the heart and mind, ignorance is kind. There's no comfort in the truth, ↑ pain is all you'll fi -

Instrumentation: Bass, Drums, Guitars, Keys, Percussion, Piano, Soprano Sax
Vocals: Lead and BGVs.

Chorus 2

Hr riff 2

|dm⁷ | gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |
 - nd. rhythm, no

P_A I'm never gonna dance again, guilty feet have got no rhythm.

|Bb^{ma7} | am⁷ |
 No, no

P_A Though it's easy to pretend, I know you're not a fool.

|dm⁷ | gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |
 Ooooooooooooooh

P_A Should have known better than to cheat a friend, and waste this chance that I've been given.

|Bb^{ma7} | am⁷ |
P_A So I'm never gonna dance again, the way I danced with yo – u.

= new measure
 = measure end
 \ = one beat
 < = 1/2 beat early
 > = 1/2 beat late
 /X = specific bass note

Key: **dm** Meter: **4/4**
 Tempo: quarter = **76**
 Strum = **1/16th skip**
 Piano: **1/16th L- -RL-R-**
 Bass: **Double Dotted Quarter, 1/16th**

Break 2

Hr riff 1, 1st 1/2

|dm | gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ | Bb^{ma7} | am⁷ |
 Vocal - Scat - ting

Key Change: c#m (d#m for Bb instruments, a#m for Eb instruments)

|c#m⁷ | f#m⁷ \ \ g#m⁷ | A^{ma7} | G#^{sus7} \ A^{sus7} \ |
 Duet between sax and voice, adlibbin Aaaaaaaa-

Key Change: dm (em/G for Bb instruments, bm/D for Eb instruments)

|dm | gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ | Bb^{ma7} | am⁷ |
 - ah! Sax solo (**Bb: em blues/pent, nat min (G). Eb: bm blues/pent, nat minor (D)**)

Bridge

|dm⁷ \ \ >D⁷/F# | gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ |
 We could have been so good together; we could have made this last forever.

|Bb^{ma7} | am⁷ |
 But now who's gonna dance with me? Please stay.

Hr riff 1, 1st 1/2

|dm | gm⁷ \ \ am⁷ | Bb^{ma7} | am⁷ |
 Stay stay sta - y I can't pretend no more

Single notes
 Chrd/nts: **1/8th 1/16th**
 Vocal: **F - ♀, M - ♂**
 Unison• ↑ ↓
 Harmony: 2prts | 3prts
 BGV: unison | harmony
^E Upper harmony
^c Lower Harmony
 Attention
 Lyric changed
Performance Notes
A Rehearsal

Chorus 3

Hr riff 3

Key Change: ebm (fm for Bb instruments, cm for Eb instruments)

|ebm⁷ | abm⁷ \ \ bbm⁷ |
E_bB_b I'm never gonna dance again, guilty feet have got no rhythm.

|B^{ma7} | bbm⁷ | **Sax fill** |
E_bB_b Though it's easy to pretend, I know you're not a fool.

|ebm⁹ | abm⁹ \ \ bbm⁷ |
E_bB_b Should have known better than to cheat a friend, and waste this chance that I've been given.

N.C. roll chords **slowing** **Hold – John adlibs/cuts us off.**

|B^{ma7} | bbm⁷ | ebm⁹ |
E_bB_b So I'm never gonna dance again, the way I danced with yo – u.

End:
Sax cut off

Hr riff 1 C Instruments

Three staves of musical notation for C Instruments. The first staff starts at measure 25 with a rest, followed by a sixteenth-note triplet and a sixteenth-note chord. The second staff continues from measure 26 to 31, featuring eighth-note patterns and slurs. The third staff continues from measure 32 to 33, ending with a double bar line.

Hr riff 1 Bb Instruments

Sax Solo

Three staves of musical notation for Bb Instruments. The first staff starts at measure 25 with a rest, followed by a sixteenth-note triplet and a sixteenth-note chord. The second staff continues from measure 26 to 31, featuring eighth-note patterns and slurs. The third staff continues from measure 32 to 33, ending with a double bar line.

Hr riff 1 Eb Instruments

Sax Solo

Three staves of musical notation for Eb Instruments. The first staff starts at measure 25 with a rest, followed by a sixteenth-note triplet and a sixteenth-note chord. The second staff continues from measure 26 to 31, featuring eighth-note patterns and slurs. The third staff continues from measure 32 to 33, ending with a double bar line.

Hr riff 2 C Instruments

Musical notation for Hr riff 2 C Instruments, measures 16-24. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves of music. Measure 16 starts with a guitar pickup and a downbeat. The riff features eighth-note patterns with various articulations like slurs and accents. Measure 24 ends with a whole note chord.

Hr riff 2 Bb Instruments

Musical notation for Hr riff 2 Bb Instruments, measures 16-24. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). It consists of three staves of music. Measure 16 starts with a guitar pickup and a downbeat. The riff features eighth-note patterns with various articulations like slurs and accents. Measure 24 ends with a whole note chord.

Hr riff 2 Eb Instruments

Musical notation for Hr riff 2 Eb Instruments, measures 16-24. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab). It consists of three staves of music. Measure 16 starts with a guitar pickup and a downbeat. The riff features eighth-note patterns with various articulations like slurs and accents. Measure 24 ends with a whole note chord.

Hr riff 3 C Instruments

Chorus

Musical notation for Hr riff 3 C Instruments, measures 16-24. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab). It consists of three staves of music. Measure 16 starts with a guitar pickup and a downbeat. The riff features eighth-note patterns with various articulations like slurs and accents. Measure 24 ends with a whole note chord.

