



# Exactly What it Is

## #2 in the Great Quotation Series

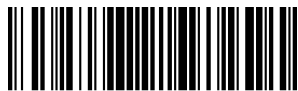
STEVE WIEST

### Instrumentation

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Full Score	1
Alto Saxophone 1	1
Alto Saxophone 2	1
Tenor Saxophone 1	1
Tenor Saxophone 2	1
Baritone Saxophone	1
Trumpet 1	1
Trumpet 2	1
Trumpet 3	1
Trumpet 4	1
Trombone 1	1
Trombone 2	1
Trombone 3	1
Trombone 4	1
Guitar	1
Piano	1
Bass	1
Drums	1

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## About the Composer



Steve Wiest is a multiple Grammy-nominated trombonist, composer, author, and cartoonist. The former soloist and writer for Maynard Ferguson, Steve went on to perform on the road with Doc Severinsen and the Old Tonight Show Orchestra as well as many other artists. Steve has numerous recordings out as a leader, the most recent of which is the debut album from the critically-acclaimed all-star horn band Vinyl Hampdin. Along with being the trombonist with the group, Wiest has composed and arranged all eleven tracks for their new recording titled "RED." Joining Steve in Vinyl Hampdin is an all-star assemblage of Grammy and Juno winners: Lisa Dodd, Frank David Greene, Ray Herrmann, Sly5thAve, Stockton Helbing, Ryan Davidson, Eric Gunnison, Art Bouton, and Gerald Stockton.

In the world of jazz education, Steve was formerly the Director of the One O'Clock Lab Band at The University of North Texas and is now Co-Chair of Jazz Studies at The University of Denver's Lamont School of Music where he teaches arranging, composition, jazz trombone and directs the award-winning Lamont Jazz Orchestra. In high demand as a clinician, composer and conductor, Wiest has directed many all-state ensembles and appeared as a guest artist and clinician all over the world.

### Exactly What it Is #2 in the Great Quotation Series

The Great Quotation Series is an opportunity for me to write something programmatically inspired by a quote of historical importance. In the case of Exactly What It Is the quote came to me from personal experience. The master trombonist and composer Slide Hampton was a mentor and hero to many people in the jazz community and happily one of my most important teachers and friends. I first met Slide during my years with Maynard Ferguson's band and was instantly captivated by his humble and giving persona. Over the years, I put together event after event to feature the great man so that I could spend time with him, and we all could learn from his mastery. As an aside, I always playfully tried to get him to accept a compliment, but due to his humble nature he would always defer graciously. One time after he won a Grammy, I thought for sure that he would accept my accolades with a simple thank you. Here's what happened:

Me: "Slide, congrats on that Grammy! It must feel wonderful at this point in your career to receive such a validation for all that you've done!"

Slide: "You know Steve, I do feel very excited these days, because now I know Exactly What It Is that I need to practice."

And once again, I learned from Yoda.

### Rehearsal Tips

*Exactly What It Is* is essentially a triplet-based straight-ahead swing ballad that is informed by Slide Hampton's masterpiece *Frame for the Blues*. Just like that chart, it is a slow swinger that builds to a climactic shout chorus. What is different here are the many moods that I set up along the way. Slide used this approach in other pieces that he wrote (his EPIC arrangement of *Shiny Stockings* comes to mind) and in the case of *Exactly What It Is* the solos are spread out between Alto, Trumpet, and Trombone throughout within little vignettes. At the fermata section beginning in M35, the band should approach each whole note as a forte piano to set the stage for the soloist who can then play the written line rubato. Each soloist can feel free to embellish the rubato line in this section or improvise something better!

This slow tempo is quite a challenge for every level of musician. The best way to play it successfully is to be aware of the triplet subdivision of each quarter note pulse. If you think triplet throughout, then you can nail the swing feel and stay perfectly in time. A little too much either side of that pulse and the swing feeling is lost. For the Drums, I prefer the use of the famous Mel Lewis "sacred cymbal" (Zildjian 22" inch Swish Knocker China with rivets) to get that wonderful Thad Jones groove. Such a Cymbal choice works great as a ride behind a Saxophone, to break things up, or at the shout chorus.

Play the roof top articulations fat with separation ala the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra. Enjoy!



Jazz Solo Practice Tracks can be found and used by going to [excelciamusic.com](http://excelciamusic.com) and searching for the title of this piece.



[steve-wiest.com](http://steve-wiest.com)



[excelciamusicpublishing](http://excelciamusicpublishing)

# Exactly What it Is

#2 in the Great Quotation Series

STEVE WIEST  
(ASCAP)

Ballad (even eighths) ♩ = 65

3

The musical score is arranged for a jazz ensemble. It features staves for Alto Sax 1 & 2, Tenor Sax 1 & 2, Baritone Sax, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drum Set. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. A large '4' is printed on the left side of the saxophone and trombone staves. A 'Solo' marking is present above the Trumpet 1 staff in measure 3. The guitar part includes chord changes: Fmaj7, Fm7, Bb7, Ebmaj7, and Ab13. The piano part includes the instruction 'Comp. rhythms throughout'. The drum set part includes the instruction 'Time (sticks)'. A large diagonal watermark 'Excelcia Music Publishing' is overlaid across the score.

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

11 Swing eighths

A. Sax. 1  
 A. Sax. 2  
 T. Sax. 1  
 T. Sax. 2  
 B. Sax.  
 Tpt. 1  
 Tpt. 2  
 Tpt. 3  
 Tpt. 4  
 Tbn. 1  
 Tbn. 2  
 Tbn. 3  
 Tbn. 4  
 Gtr.  
 Pno.  
 Bass  
 Drums

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

15 19

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax. 1

T. Sax. 2

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drums

Solo

Ab13 Gm C7b9 Fmaj7 Fm Bb7 Ebmaj7 Dm7b5 G7b9 Cmaj7 Bb13

Ab13 Gm C7b9 Fmaj7 Fm Bb7 Ebmaj7 Dm7b5 G7b9 Cmaj7 Bb13

Ab13 Gm C7 Fmaj7 Fm Bb7 Ebmaj7 Dm7b5 G7b9 Cmaj7 Bb13

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

23

27

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax. 1

T. Sax. 2

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drums

Solo

Lightly

As written

Light time on Cymbals

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

31

A. Sx. 1

A. Sx. 2

T. Sx. 1

T. Sx. 2

B. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drums

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Fm7 Bb13/F Ebmaj7/Bb Ab13 Dm/G Dmin(maj7)/G Abm Db7#9b5 Gm7b5 C7#9

Fill

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

35

Musical score for 'Exactly What it Is - Full Score' featuring various instruments and sections. The score includes parts for A. Sax. 1 & 2, T. Sax. 1 & 2, B. Sax., Tpt. 1-4, Tbn. 1-4, Gtr., Pno., Bass, and Drums. Performance instructions such as 'Solo, rubato' and 'On cue' are present. Chord symbols for guitar are provided below the guitar staff.

**Chord Symbols:**

- Gtr. (Top Staff): Gbm7b5, Fm7, C<sup>6</sup>9/E, Eb13, Dmin(maj7), Dbmaj7#11
- Gtr. (Bottom Staff): Gbm7b5, Fm7, C<sup>6</sup>9/E, Eb13, Dmin(maj7), Dbmaj7#11

**Performance Instructions:**

- A. Sax. 1: Solo, rubato (measures 35-36), On cue (measure 37), Solo, rubato (measures 38-39), On cue (measure 40)
- Tpt. 1: Solo, rubato (measures 37-38), On cue (measure 39), Solo, rubato (measures 40-41), On cue (measure 42)
- Tbn. 1: Solo, rubato (measures 35-36), On cue (measure 37), Solo, rubato (measures 38-39), On cue (measure 40)

**Drum Part:** Sticks (measures 40-41)



Exactly What it Is - Full Score

42 Swing eighths

46 Suddenly soft

With Saxes

Cmaj7#11 Bb13 Cmaj7#11 Ab13 Gm Em7b5 A7#9 Dm7 Bm7b5 E7#9

Cmaj7#11 Bb13 Cmaj7#11 Ab13 As written

A. Sax. 1

A. Sax. 2

T. Sax. 1

T. Sax. 2

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Tpt. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Tbn. 4

Gtr.

Pno.

Bass

Drums

50

A. Sax. 1  
 A. Sax. 2  
 T. Sax. 1  
 T. Sax. 2  
 B. Sax.  
 Tpt. 1  
 Tpt. 2  
 Tpt. 3  
 Tpt. 4  
 Tbn. 1  
 Tbn. 2  
 Tbn. 3  
 Tbn. 4  
 Gtr.  
 Pno.  
 Bass  
 Drums

With Tpts.  
 Am7 D7#9 Gm7 C7#9 Am7 D7#9 Gm7 C7#9  
 Am7 D7#9 Gm7 C7#9 Am7 D7#9 Gm7  
 Straight ahead

2/4

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

55 Double time feel (bossa nova)

59

(End double time feel)

The musical score is arranged for the following instruments:

- Saxophones:** A. Sax. 1 & 2, T. Sax. 1 & 2, B. Sax.
- Trumpets:** Tpt. 1, 2, 3, 4
- Trombones:** Tbn. 1, 2, 3, 4
- Guitar:** Gtr.
- Piano:** Pno.
- Bass:** Bass
- Drums:** Drums

The score features a large '4' indicating a 4/4 time signature. Chord symbols are provided for the Trombone and Guitar parts, including Ebmaj7#11 and Db13. The Drums part shows a specific rhythmic pattern in the first measure of the section.

Exactly What it Is - Full Score

63 Even eighths Swing eighths

A. Sax. 1  
A. Sax. 2  
T. Sax. 1  
T. Sax. 2  
B. Sax.  
Tpt. 1  
Tpt. 2  
Tpt. 3  
Tpt. 4  
Tbn. 1  
Tbn. 2  
Tbn. 3  
Tbn. 4  
Gtr.  
Pno.  
Bass  
Drums

63 64 65 66 67 68 69