Feel the Beat!

Words and Music by John Jacobson and Roger Emerson

Available for 3-Part Mixed and 2-Part
PERFORMANCE NOTES
“Feel the Beat!” is a high-energy, original composition by John Jacobson and Roger Emerson, written in swing style. When performing swing, sing a pair of eighth notes as the first and third notes of a triplet, thus making the first note twice as long as the second note. The second note will fall on the final third of the beat, not the second half.

Choral Preparation
Be confident when singing the close-voiced harmony as found in the chorus. The individual vocal lines may sound a little odd when sung by themselves, but when sung together with accompaniment, they will produce a very “jazzy” sound. Jazz harmony often uses chord combinations other than the traditional ones we are used to hearing.

As an added feature, have a few couples swing dance during the “whack attack” section and again during the final chorus. Or, add a live student rhythm section with drums and synthesizer. Set the synthesizer to acoustic bass and have the drummer, with brushes, play: 1) foot pedal hi-hat on beats two and four, 2) straight quarter notes on the ride cymbal, 3) half-note circular motions on the snare. There is generally no need for kick (bass) drum.

COMPOSER
John Jacobson has choreographed, directed and performed in staged productions throughout the world including the Grand Opening Ceremonies for Tokyo Disneyland and portions of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. He has served as guest clinician at hundreds of festivals, workshops and reading sessions. He has written numerous musicals and song collections for children. Mr. Jacobson is creator and founder of the non-profit organization America Sings!, a choral festival that encourages community service and benefits homeless children.

COMPOSER
Roger Emerson is one of the leading choral composers in America today with over 500 titles in print and 15 million copies in circulation. After years of teaching music in the public schools and at the college level, Roger now devotes full time to composing, arranging and consulting. He is known for creating “songs kids love to sing.” He is the recipient of many ASCAP Standard Awards, and his works have been performed at the Kennedy Center, the White House and Carnegie Hall.

The VoiceTrax CD includes a full performance with vocals of the primary voicing, an instrumental only version, and individual part predominant tracks.
Feel the Beat!

For 2-Part* and Piano

Duration: ca. 2:10

Words and Music by JOHN JACOBSON and ROGER EMERSON

Fast Swing \( \left( \text{ } \text{ } = 200 \right) \)

Drum Toms a la Gene Krupa (play only in absence of drums)

Part I

If you find you're feelin' low, and you don't know
When the music overflows, from your hair down

Part II

If you find you're feelin' low, and you don't know
When the music overflows, from your hair down

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* Available separately:
3-Part Mixed, 2-Part, VoiceTrax CD
where to go;  
get up off your seat and feel the beat.

where to go;  
get up off your seat and feel the beat.

E♭ D7  
Gm  
Gm/F  
E♭ D7

When you want to 
When you don’t know

Gm  
Gm/F  
E♭ D7  
Gm  
Gm/F

run and hide;  
listen to the rhythm down deep inside.

run and hide;  
listen to the rhythm down deep inside.

E♭ D7  
Gm  
Gm/F  
E♭ D7

FEEL THE BEAT! – 2-Part
Got to move your feet and feel the beat.

Take a chance, come dance and feel the beat.

Gm Gm/F E\(^\flat\) D7 Gm

Feeling the beat

Cm9 F9(\#5) Bbmaj9 Gm7

from your head down to your feet.

Feel the beat.

Cm9 F9(\#5) Bbmaj9 G9 Cm9 F9(\#5) Bbmaj9

FEEL THE BEAT! – 2-Part
FEEL THE BEAT! – 2-Part
FEEL THE BEAT! – 2-Part

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!

Ev’rybody clap your hands!
*Whack Attack is 8 beats:
1. Clap, 2. Pat R leg, 3. Pat L leg, 4. Clap,

FEEL THE BEAT! – 2-Part
Keep your clap patterns going

Feel the beat

Keep your clap patterns going

Feel the beat

Keep your clap patterns going

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FEEL THE BEAT! – 2-Part