

A Cog In The Machine

Composed by
Amy Webb

A Cog in the Machine

Have you ever felt down on yourself -- that maybe you don't matter? That you're just a "cog in the machine?"

The phrase "a cog in the machine" means a small job in a large organization. In other words, the cog represents a person who may feel that they do not contribute much, and that they're unimportant. Nothing could be further from the truth!

Think about a battery. They're small, but without them, your smartphone won't operate. Think also about flour. If you do not add flour to a batch of chocolate chip cookies, you're going to end up with a mess and no cookies... and that's not fun for anybody.

You, as a band student, matter to your group. The ensemble doesn't sound the same without you, even if you only have a tiny part. You're a cog -- an important cog -- and for your band to be successful, you need to be there, practicing your instrument and working with your conductor to be the best you can be!

For directors:

This piece should be played, for the most part, in a very mechanical way, following every accent, every staccato to the letter. There's no room for lyricism, here, as the band is literally impersonating (in a musical way) a machine. But even the best machines run down if they're not cared for. However, the area between 61 and 74 can be a lot of fun! When the "machines" slow down, the students can slump forward in their seats, or lean back, or just look like windup dolls who've run out of gas! Then, as the piece begins to speed up, they all pop up and are ready to work again at 74. They'll love acting this out!

Enjoy!

Instrumentation:

Amy Webb

1	Conductor	4	B \flat Trumpet 1
5	Flute 1	4	B \flat Trumpet 2
5	Flute 2	2	F Horn
2	Oboe	2	Trombone 1
2	Bassoon	2	Trombone 2
6	B \flat Clarinet 1	2	Bass Trombone
6	B \flat Clarinet 2	2	Euphonium
2	B \flat Bass Clarinet	2	Baritone T. C.
2	E \flat Alto Saxophone 1	3	Tuba
2	E \flat Alto Saxophone 2	2	Timpani
2	B \flat Tenor Saxophone	2	Drum Set
2	E \flat Baritone Saxophone	2	Wood Blocks/Brake Drum
		2	Shaker/Guiro
		2	Vibra Slap/Crash Cymbal

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Get To Work ♩ = 132

The score is for a 4/4 piece in B-flat major, marked 'Get To Work' with a tempo of 132 beats per minute. It features a full orchestral and percussion ensemble. The woodwinds (Bassoon, Clarinets, Saxophones) and brass (Trumpets, Horns, Trombones, Euphonium, Tuba) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes starting in measure 5. The percussion section includes a Drum Set (Hi-Hat, Snare, Bass), Wood Block, Brake Drum, Shaker, and Guiro, all playing a consistent eighth-note pattern. The Timpani plays a simple eighth-note accompaniment. The score is divided into measures 2 through 9, with a rehearsal mark at measure 5. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *Bb* (B-flat).

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10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

Fl. 1 *f*

Fl. 2 *f*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f*

B♭ B. Cl. *mf*

E♭ A. Sax. 1, 2

B♭ T. Sax. *mf*

E♭ B. Sax.

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *f*

F Hn. *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

B. Tbn. *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

B♭ F Cm F B♭

Dr. *mf* Timp.

WB Br. Dr. *mf*

Shak. Gui. *mf*

V. Slap Cr. Cym. *mf*

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28

27 29 30 31 32 33 34

Fl. 1 *mp* *f*

Fl. 2 *mp* *f*

Ob. *mp* *f*

Bsn. *mp* *f*

B \flat Cl. 1 *mp* *f*

B \flat Cl. 2 *mp* *f*

B \flat B. Cl. *mp* *f*

E \flat A. Sax. 1, 2 *mp* *f*

B \flat T. Sax. *mp* *f*

E \flat B. Sax. *mp* *f*

B \flat Tpt. 1 *mp* *f*

B \flat Tpt. 2 *mp* *f*

F Hn. *mp* *f*

Tbn. 1 *mp* *f*

Tbn. 2 *mp* *f*

B. Tbn. *mp* *f*

Euph. *mp* *f*

Tba. *mp* *f*

B \flat *mp* *f*

Dr. *mp* *f*

WB Br. Dr. *mp* *f*

Shak. Gui. *mp* *f*

V. Slap Cr. Cym. *mp* *f*

B \flat Eb F Dm Gm/Gm/B \flat Cm F B \flat Eb Dm/F Dm Gm Dm Cm

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45

41 42 43 44 46 47

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob.
Bsn.
B \flat Cl. 1
B \flat Cl. 2
B \flat B. Cl.
E \flat A. Sax. 1, 2
B \flat T. Sax.
E \flat B. Sax.
B \flat Tpt. 1
B \flat Tpt. 2
F Hn.
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Euph.
Tba.
Dr.
WB Br. Dr.
Shak. Gui.
V. Slap Cr. Cym.

B \flat F C \flat F B \flat B \flat