Instrument: Saxophone

Magazine or Journal Title: Steveduke.net

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Article Title: Mouthpiece Placement, Tuning and Tone.

Author: Steve Duke

Summary (Outline form):

* Mouthpiece placement seriously effects tone and tuning on saxophone
* Try three things to figure out correct placement
  + - * Tune low b with a tuner
        + Don’t look at the tuner and play high b –look to see where it is one tuning (Should be within 10 cents)
      * Play middle b and bend pitch as low as possible, should get at least minor third on alto and major second on tenor
      * Play the same be and bend pitch upward
      * Results are usually that the low b is flat, high b is sharp and sometimes can’t bend the pitch very far at all
      * If the pitch center is too high then all the notes will be out of tune and harder to control.
      * The tuning note in band is not the best note to tune on, so it should be one in the lower register to make the instrument in tune with itself.
      * You will be able to adjust better if you lower the pitch center of the instrument
      * You can lower the pitch center by pushing the mouthpiece in. But it is difficult to lower the pitch center.
      * Another experiment: try producing the most beautiful tone and then the ugliest.
      * The ugliest is the loudest and the lowest pitch center
      * It might be best to play a little softer and push in so the throat is looser.