

# JodyJazz DV HR Baritone Model Mouthpiece

## *Sweet Highs, Booming Lows, Meaty Midrange & Extreme Versatility*

JodyJazz's winning DV HR series of hard-rubber saxophone mouthpieces wouldn't be complete without the newly introduced DV HR Baritone model. In fact, the DV HR Baritone is an absolutely essential inclusion in the line, which has become increasingly popular with jazz saxophonists and represents the first hard-rubber mouthpieces to feature JodyJazz's classic DV design. The baritone model is available in size 6, 7, 7\*, 8, 9 and 10 tip openings.

As a bari player by trade, my gut told me to go with the 9. My instincts proved to be spot-on: This mouthpiece did it all for me. On the low end of my horns (a vintage low-B-flat King Zephyr and a P. Mauriat PMB-301 with low A), I found myself producing a huge sound loaded with vibrant overtones and a commanding, husky "bark." Using a medium-hard reed, the highest notes of the baritone's natural range were remarkably easy to articulate, with plenty of resonant body that was noticeably void of any thinness or constriction that often plagues the upper registers of the big pipe. But the most rewarding territory to explore on the DV HR was the meaty midrange from low D up to top-of-the-staff G, where my baris responded with juicy tonal fatness, more than ample power and even a cello-like sweetness when circumstances called for dynamic restraint, section blending and balladic soloing.



Like the other mouthpieces in the DV HR series, the Baritone model has the patented DV secondary window design on the reed table, which adds mid and low harmonics, resulting in an authoritative tone with extra low-end presence. A long, straight, slightly high baffle gives the mouthpiece superb cutting power and strong projection — and it opens and stabilizes the altissimo register considerably.

The DV HR Baritone also features JodyJazz's newest bite-plate technology, where a slightly malleable-feeling, easy-to-grip bite plate is embedded into the beak of a hard rubber mouthpiece. This made the mouthpiece super comfortable to play and allowed for superb chops control. I could consistently impose my will upon it with more confidence, and definitely less fatigue, than my metal JodyJazz DV (size 8), another excellent mouthpiece with very similar tonal characteristics and response. The DV HR Baritone has a gold-plated brass ring on the shank, which adds mass for increased stability, enhanced body and boosted harmonics.

All in all, I found the JodyJazz DV HR Baritone to be extremely versatile and appropriate for everything from old-school big band and modern large ensemble settings to straightahead jazz

quartet gigs.

—Ed Enright

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