

# Jake Dester's Charlie Parker Transcriptions

## Bebop Articulation Key:

### Unaccented



A note with no articulation marking is tongued neutrally like “Dah”.

### Accent



A note with an accent can be thought of as having a “T” attack, like “Tah”.

### Staccato



A note marked with a staccato is short and can be thought of as “Dot”.

### Scoop



A scoop = lip up to the notated pitch while simultaneously fingering from a grace note a half-step below. For the sake of singing the line, you can think “Dwah” (or “Twah” if it's accented).

### Ghost Notes



*this example:  
“Dah-L-ah-L”*

A note (or group of notes) in parentheses is ghosted, meaning you put your tongue on the reed, but the sound of the pitche(s) still come(s) through, think an “L” sound as in “doodle”.

## Slurs



A slur covering a group of notes means that the notes within that slur are not tongued. In the instance that you have ghost notes followed by non-ghosted notes (as shown above), you are not re-attacking the non-ghosted note(s), but rather just taking your tongue off of the reed making a sound like “La”.

## Marcato



A marcato articulation can be thought of as “Tot”.

## Legato



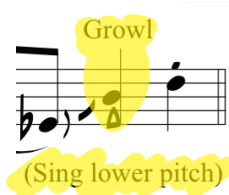
A legato marking means that the note has a neutral “Dah” articulation and has its full rhythmic value. I often use this to specify that a quarter note is not to be played short.

## Accented Staccato



Sometimes I have notated an accent and staccato on the same note. This can also be thought of as “Tot”.

## Growl



Occasionally, Bird will “Growl”. This effect is made by singing while playing a given pitch. Where I could tell what note Bird is singing, I notated it. Where I couldn’t tell: your guess is as good as mine, but I think he’s often singing the pitch he’s playing. It is also possible, especially with B’s (and potentially B-flat, C, and C-sharp) in the staff that he is fingering the note an 8ve below and getting an overtone effect.

## Lip Down/Lip Fall



A note followed by a downward curve means that it is lipped down in pitch.

## False Fingering



A plus sign indicates a “false” fingering. Bird often does this on D’s in the staff, basically using the high D fingering without the 8ve key.

## “X” Notehead



When a note has an “X” for a note-head, that means that the note was cracked or didn’t come through with fullness of tone. It could also be that a lower pitch was fingered, but an overtone sounded; it’s hard to distinguish.

## Overtone



When a note has a secondary note beneath it with a diamond-shaped note-head, that means that the lower pitch is fingered, but the higher pitch is sounding.