

IT DON'T MEAN A THING

"It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)" is a 1931 composition by Duke Ellington, with lyrics by Irving Mills, now accepted as a jazz standard.

[Verse]

**What good is mel-o-dy,
what good is mu-sic
if it ain't pos-ses-in' some-thing sweet?**

**It ain't the mel-o-dy,
it ain't the mu-sic,
there's some-thing else that makes the tune com-plete -**

[Main body of song]

**It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.**

**It don't mean a thing, all you got to do is sing,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.**

**Makes no diff-'rence if it's sweet or hot,
just give that rhythm ev-'ry-thing you got.**

**Oh, it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.**

[Key Change and 16 x Bar Instrumental]

**Makes no diff-'rence if it's sweet or hot,
just give that rhythm ev-'ry-thing you got.**

**Oh, it don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah,
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah,**

[softer]

**doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.**

[louder]

**doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.
doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah, doo-wah.**

[spoken exclamation]

Y_E_A_H!