

Flatpicking Guitar Magazine

Free Monthly Lesson

July 2017

Sailor's Hornpipe

Arranged by Mickey Abraham

Hello and welcome once again to flatpicking guitar magazine's free lesson portion of our monthly newsletter. This month's tune is a classic in the truest sense of the word. Not only is "Sailor's Hornpipe" a well-known tune in the world of old-time fiddling but it's also the theme song to the famous "Popeye" cartoon.

Although the melody to "Sailor's Hornpipe" is recognizable and easy to hum it's actually a tricky little melody to pick on the guitar. Back when I first learned it I remember thinking how awkward some of the fingerings were for a tune that sounds so simple.

First, in measure 2, there is an octave jump from the C note on the B string down to the C note on the A string. Not many tunes do this. Next, in measure 8, you will encounter the third fret of the low E string followed by the third fret of the A string. Whether you quickly move your ring finger or smooch down your ring finger to play these two notes it's still not my ideal motion. Finally, in the B section in measures 11-13, you will encounter three string cross-picking. Cross-picking patterns combined with single string passages tend to be more challenging than staying locked into one right hand technique. It's really amazing how many cool techniques show up when flatpicking "Sailor's Hornpipe" on the guitar.

I'm confident you will find this arrangement challenging and rewarding. Make sure to click on the included lesson mp3 to hear the chords and melody in action. As always, should you have questions or comments on the e-lesson just drop me a line at michabraham@comcast.net

Sailor's Hornpipe

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1 C D G

Musical notation for measures 1-5. The treble clef staff shows a 4/4 time signature. Measure 1 has a whole rest. Measure 2 starts with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4. Measure 3 has a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Measure 4 has a quarter note C5, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4. Measure 5 has a quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. The bass clef staff shows the fretting: measure 1 has a whole rest; measure 2 has a quarter rest followed by a quarter note 1; measure 3 has a quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 2; measure 4 has a quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 1; measure 5 has a quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 1.

6 C F G C C

Musical notation for measures 6-10. The treble clef staff shows a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5, quarter note C5, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3, quarter note A3, quarter note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3, quarter note D3, quarter note C3. The bass clef staff shows the fretting: measure 6 has a quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 7 has a quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 8 has a quarter note 3, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 9 has a quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 3, quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 3; measure 10 has a quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 3.

11 C F D G

Musical notation for measures 11-14. The treble clef staff shows a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5, quarter note C5, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3, quarter note A3, quarter note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3, quarter note D3, quarter note C3. The bass clef staff shows the fretting: measure 11 has a quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 1, quarter note 0; measure 12 has a quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 13 has a quarter note 4, quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 4, quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 2; measure 14 has a quarter note 0, quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0.

15 C F G C C

Musical notation for measures 15-19. The treble clef staff shows a quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5, quarter note C5, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3, quarter note A3, quarter note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3, quarter note D3, quarter note C3. The bass clef staff shows the fretting: measure 15 has a quarter note 1, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 16 has a quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 17 has a quarter note 3, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0; measure 18 has a quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 3, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 3; measure 19 has a quarter note 2, quarter note 3, quarter note 3, quarter note 2, quarter note 0, quarter note 3, quarter note 3.