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Christmas Carols



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EACH YEAR I GATHER FRIENDS AND
FAMILY TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON
IN SONG. NOTHING GIVES ME MORE
PLEASURE THAN GREETING MY GUESTS
WITH SONGBOOKS CONTAINING THE
LYRICS OF MY FAVORITE CHRISTMAS
CAROLS, AS WELL AS CUPS OF MY
VERY BEST EGGNOG. CHEERS!

~ Martha Stewart

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This 19th-century Austrian carol has been translated into more than 100 languages, and it rang out above German and British trenches during the Christmas Truce of World War I.

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Originally titled “One Horse Open Sleigh,” this holiday favorite was the first Christmas carol to be made into a record, in 1902.

07 THE FIRST NOEL

This solemn carol may date back more than 400 years to Cornwall, England.

09 DECK THE HALLS

Set to an old Welsh tune, this song’s lyrics are believed to be strongly influenced by Charles Dickens’s *A Christmas Carol*.

10 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

These lyrics, hailed by poet Oliver Wendell Holmes as some of “the finest and most beautiful ever written,” were penned by a Massachusetts minister in 1849 and set to music a year later.

11 UP ON THE ROUSETOP

Written in 1866 by Ohio composer Benjamin Russell Hanby, this carol strengthened the image of Saint Nick as a jolly chimney-climbing gift bearer.

13 WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

This simple folk song was a mainstay of musicians in 16th-century England and could be heard echoing through the streets during the holidays.

15 THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Published in England in 1780, this singsong carol extends the festivities beyond Christmas, celebrating each day leading up to the Epiphany.

17 MARTHA’S CLASSIC EGGNOG RECIPE

Spiked with rum, bourbon, and Cognac for extra cheer, this rich eggnog makes any holiday gathering merry.

SILENT NIGHT

p 1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night. All is calm,
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night. Shep - herds, quake
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night. Son of God,

all is bright 'Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child.
 at the pure sight. Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's the light, Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild, *mf* Sleep in heav - en - ly
 Heav'n - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu - ia!" Christ the Sav - iour is
 With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy

peace, *pp* Sleep in heav - en - ly peace!
 born, Christ the Sav - iour is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth!

JINGLE BELLS

mf

Dash-ing thro' the snow In a one-horse o-pen sleigh, O'er the fields we go,

This system contains the first vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the same key signature and time signature. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed below the vocal staff.

Laugh-ing all the way; Bells on Bob-tail ring, Mak-ing spir-its bright, What

This system contains the second vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues in treble clef. The piano accompaniment continues in grand staff. The lyrics are split across the vocal staff.

fun it is to ride and sing A sleigh-ing song to-night.

This system contains the third vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line concludes in treble clef. The piano accompaniment concludes in grand staff. The lyrics are split across the vocal staff.

f
Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, Jin - gle all the way, Oh what fun it is to ride In a

mf

This system contains the first two staves of music. The vocal line (top staff) begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a dynamic marking of *f*. The lyrics are "Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, Jin - gle all the way, Oh what fun it is to ride In a". The piano accompaniment (bottom staff) starts with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs), a key signature of one sharp, and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

one - horse o - pen sleigh. Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, Jin - gle all the way,

This system contains the second two staves of music. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "one - horse o - pen sleigh. Jin - gle bells, jin - gle bells, Jin - gle all the way,". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the first system.

Oh what fun it is to ride In a one - horse o - pen sleigh.

This system contains the final two staves of music. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics "Oh what fun it is to ride In a one - horse o - pen sleigh." and ends with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment also concludes with a double bar line.

THE FIRST NOEL

mf

1. The first No - el the an - gel did say, Was to
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star, Shin - ing
 3. This star drew nigh to the north - west O'er
 4. Then en - ter'd in those Wise Men three, Fell

cer - tain poor shep - herds in be - yond as they lay; In
 in the East, it - yond them far, And
 Beth - le - hem it took its rest, And
 rev - 'rent - ly up - on their knee, And

fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep On a
 to the it did both it gave stop great and stay And
 of - fer'd there in His pre - sence, Right
 Their

cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 so it con tin - ued both day and night.
 gold ver the and place myrrh where and Je - sus in - cense.

This system contains the first line of the song. It features a vocal line in G major with lyrics and a piano accompaniment in G major. The piano part consists of a simple harmonic accompaniment with a bass line that includes some chromatic movement.

Refrain:

f No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el,

This system contains the first line of the refrain. It features a vocal line in G major with lyrics and a piano accompaniment in G major. The piano part consists of a simple harmonic accompaniment with a bass line that includes some chromatic movement.

ff Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

This system contains the second line of the refrain. It features a vocal line in G major with lyrics and a piano accompaniment in G major. The piano part consists of a simple harmonic accompaniment with a bass line that includes some chromatic movement.

DECK THE HALLS

f

1. Deck the halls with boughs of hol - ly, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 2. See the blaz - ing Yule be - fore us, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 3. Fast a - way the old year pass - es, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Strike the harp and join the cho - rus, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Hail the new, ye lads and lass - es, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay ap - par - el, Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
 Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure, Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
 Sing we joy - ous all to - geth - er, Fa la la, la la la, la la la.

Troll the an - cient Yule - tide car - ol, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 While I tell of Yule - tide treas - ure, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Heed - less of the wind and weath - er, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

p 1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furl'd;
 3. O ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4. For lo! the days are has - t'ning on, By proph - ets seen of old,

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;
 And still their hea - ven - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world;
 Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow;
 When with the ev - er cir - cling years, Shall come the time fore - told,

mf "Peace on the earth, good will to men From heaven's all - gra - cious King,"
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing;
 Look now, for glad and gol - den hours Come swift - ly on the wing,
 When the new hea - ven and earth shall own The Prince of Peace their King,

pp The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
 And ev - er ov - er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
 O rest be - side the wea - ry road And hear the an - gels sing.
 And the whole world send back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

UP ON THE HOUSETOP

1. Up on the house - top rein - deer pause, Out jumps good old
 2. First comes the stock - ing of lit - tle Nell; Oh, dear San - ta,
 3. Next comes the stock - ing of lit - tle Will; Oh, just see what a

San - ta Claus; Down through the chim - ney with lots of toys,
 fill it well; Give her a dol - lie that laughs and cries,
 glor - ious fill! Here is a ham - mer and lots of tacks,

All for the lit - tle ones, Christ - mas joys.
 One that will op - en and shut her eyes.
 Al - so a ball and a whip that cracks.

Refrain:

Ho, ho, ho! who would - n't go! Ho, ho, ho!

The first system of the refrain features a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line consists of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piano accompaniment uses block chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

who would - n't go! Up on the house - top, click, click, click,

The second system continues the refrain. The vocal line includes a melisma on "go!" and a triplet of eighth notes for "click, click, click". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and a steady bass line.

Down through the chim - ney with good Saint Nick.

The third system concludes the refrain. The vocal line ends with a quarter note on "Nick". The piano accompaniment features a final chord and a simple bass line.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

f

1. We wish you a mer - ry Christ - mas, We
 2. Please bring us some fig - gy pud - ding, Please
 3. We won't go un - til we get some, We
 4. We wish you a mer - ry Christ - mas, We

wish you a mer - ry Christ - mas, We wish you a mer - ry
 bring us some fig - gy pud - ding, Please bring us some fig - gy
 won't go un - til we get some, We won't go un - til we
 wish you a mer - ry Christ - mas, We wish you a mer - ry

Christ - mas And a hap - py New Year!
 pud - ding, Please bring it right here!
 get - some, Please bring it right here!
 Christ - mas And a hap - py New Year!

Refrain:

mp Glad tid - ings we bring To you and your

mp

This system contains the first two lines of musical notation. The top line is a vocal melody in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The bottom line is a piano accompaniment in two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics 'Glad tid - ings we bring To you and your' are written below the vocal line. The piano part features a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

kin; Glad tid - ings for

This system contains the next two lines of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'kin; Glad tid - ings for'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support.

Christ - mas, And a hap - py New Year!

This system contains the final two lines of musical notation. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics 'Christ - mas, And a hap - py New Year!'. The piano accompaniment provides a final harmonic resolution.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

mf

1. On the first day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me A par - tridge in a pear tree. 2. On the sec - ond day of

mf

Christ-mas my true love sent to me Two tur - tle doves And a par - tridge in a pear tree. 3. On the third day of Christ-mas my

mf

true love sent to me Three French hens, Two tur - tle doves And a par - tridge in a pear tree. 4. On the

mf

fourth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me Four cal - ling birds, Three French hens, Two tur - tle doves, And a

par - tridge in a pear tree. 5. On the fifth day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me *f* Five gold - en rings,

mp Four cal - ling birds, Three French hens, Two tur - tle doves, And a par - tridge in a pear tree. *f*

p *mf*

6. On the sixth	} day of Christ-mas my true love sent to me	Six geese a - lay - ing,	} Five gold - en rings,
7. On the sev-enth		Sev-en swans a - swim - ming,	
8. On the eighth		Eight maids a - milk - ing,	
9. On the ninth		Nine lad - ies danc - ing,	
10. On the tenth		Ten lords a - leap - ing,	
11. On th'e-lev-enth		Elev-en pip - ers pip - ing,	
12. On the twelfth		Twelve drum-mers drum - ming,	

mp Four cal - ling birds, Three French hens, Two tur - tle doves, And a par - tridge in a pear tree. *f*

p *mf*

MARTHA'S CLASSIC EGGNOG

A version of this recipe for Martha's signature eggnog first appeared in the Entertaining book. She makes it every Christmas, without fail.

- 6 large eggs, separated
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup superfine sugar
- 2 cups whole milk
- 3 cups heavy cream,
plus more for garnish
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup bourbon, preferably Maker's Mark
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup dark rum, preferably Mount Gay
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup Cognac, preferably Rémy Martin
Grand Cru
- Freshly grated nutmeg, for sprinkling

1. Beat yolks in a very large bowl until thick and pale. Slowly beat in sugar. Whisk in milk and 2 cups cream. Mix in bourbon, rum, and Cognac. Cover, and refrigerate for up to 1 day.

2. Just before serving, beat whites until stiff peaks form. Fold whites into eggnog. Whisk remaining 1 cup cream until stiff peaks form, and fold into eggnog. (Alternatively, you can fold half the whipped cream into eggnog, and top with remaining half.) Sprinkle with nutmeg. Serves 12.

Note: This recipe contains eggs that are not cooked.

