



# Free Guitar Ensemble Music

arranged by Derek Hasted

## The Mermaid - Sea Shanty

*Arrangement © Derek Hasted - downloaded from [www.derek-hasted.co.uk/free](http://www.derek-hasted.co.uk/free)*

*Sea Shanties - working songs - invariably have a well-defined melody and rhythm. And that makes them ideal for a novice Ensemble group. My Ensemble Workshop has three Hornpipes and a number of Shanties in our 130-piece Play List.*

*This is "The Mermaid" - a nonsense song about a ship going down. Like much traditional music, there are as many variations to the melody & words as there are people who know the song!*

*Try to clip the quavers (eighth notes) a little short, and leave the longer notes fully sustained. This will give a lighter and better articulated sound.*

*If you have the skill, take the top part up an octave - the piece will take on a whole new light.*

*If you have only 3 players, keep the tune & bass, and dispense with one of the two inner parts.*

*If you have more than 4 players, add extra people to the top part, because this is one of my few arrangements where the tune is not the highest line, and can be lost behind the accompaniment. (There is no room with 4 Guitars to have each part in the first position and keep the "accompaniment" parts below the tune).*

*Find me on the web...*

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1

First system of musical notation (measures 1-4) for 'The Mermaid - Sea Shanty'. It features four staves in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation includes various rhythmic patterns such as eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

5

Second system of musical notation (measures 5-8). The notation continues with similar rhythmic patterns and includes a double bar line at the end of measure 8.

9

Third system of musical notation (measures 9-12). The notation continues with similar rhythmic patterns and includes a double bar line at the end of measure 12.

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13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score is written for four staves, all in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 13 begins with a half rest on the first staff, followed by a half note G4. The second staff has a quarter note F#4, an eighth note G4, and a quarter note A4. The third staff has a quarter note B4, an eighth note A4, and a quarter note G4. The fourth staff has a quarter note F#4, an eighth note G4, and a quarter note A4. Measure 14 continues with similar patterns. Measure 15 features a half note G4 on the first staff, followed by a half note F#4. The second staff has a quarter note E4, an eighth note D4, and a quarter note C4. The third staff has a quarter note B3, an eighth note A3, and a quarter note G3. The fourth staff has a quarter note F#3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note A3. Measure 16 concludes with a half note G4 on the first staff, followed by a half note F#4. The second staff has a quarter note E4, an eighth note D4, and a quarter note C4. The third staff has a quarter note B3, an eighth note A3, and a quarter note G3. The fourth staff has a quarter note F#3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note A3.

17

Musical score for measures 17-19. The score is written for four staves, all in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 17 begins with a half note G4 on the first staff, followed by a half note F#4. The second staff has a quarter note E4, an eighth note D4, and a quarter note C4. The third staff has a quarter note B3, an eighth note A3, and a quarter note G3. The fourth staff has a quarter note F#3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note A3. Measure 18 continues with similar patterns. Measure 19 concludes with a half note G4 on the first staff, followed by a half note F#4. The second staff has a quarter note E4, an eighth note D4, and a quarter note C4. The third staff has a quarter note B3, an eighth note A3, and a quarter note G3. The fourth staff has a quarter note F#3, an eighth note G3, and a quarter note A3.