

Introduction

This book provides songs for beginner and intermediate guitar players. The beginner versions consist of just the basic melodies, lyrics, and chords while the intermediate versions add harmony to create solo guitar arrangements. Having both versions in the same book allows you to observe the thinking process involved when taking a basic melody and adding harmony to create a solo guitar arrangement. The illustration below shows a comparison between beginner and intermediate versions. Notice the melody didn't change at all in the intermediate version. The only changes made were adding harmony on the first beat of each measure. The harmony is simply the chords that accompany the melody. The chord diagrams are written above each measure. Keep in mind the melody note is always the highest note. When playing the melody be sure not to strike the strings that are higher in pitch.

The image displays two musical staves. The top staff, labeled 'Beginner', shows a melody line in 3/4 time with lyrics 'A mazing grace how sweet the sound that'. Above the staff are four chord diagrams: C, C7, F, and C. The bottom staff, labeled 'Intermediate', shows the same melody line and lyrics, but with a bass line and chords (C, C7, F, C) added to the first beat of each measure. Arrows point from the C chord diagrams in the intermediate version to the C notes in the melody line.

Notice the C note is the highest note on the intermediate version. C is also the highest note of the F chord. In both instances C is the melody note as it is in the beginner version. The melody note (C) should be the highest in pitch.

Although the songs are arranged for players that use a pick exclusively, they also work well with players that are accustomed to playing fingerstyle.

The chord diagrams show the specific voicings (exact notes) of each chord.

Chapters one and three are written in standard notation for players wishing to improve their notation reading skills. Chapters two and four are written in tablature. Chapter five uses easy chord charts and lyrics for strummers that are interested in strumming while they sing.

There are several songs in the beginner chapters that aren't in the intermediate chapters. These songs sound good as they are and after achieving the proper tempo you will be at the intermediate level.

The CD that accompanies the book has a slow version and a fast version for most of the songs. They are recorded in split-track stereo. In the beginner chapters the metronome and rhythm guitar are heard from the left speaker. The melody is in the right speaker. If you wish to play the melody while listening to the metronome and rhythm track without the recorded melody then pan the balance to the left. If you wish to listen to the melody only then pan to the right. If you desire to hear the entire recording the balance should be centered. On the intermediate tracks there is no rhythm guitar. The metronome is on the left and the guitar is on the right.

Beginner

Auld Lang Syne

Traditional

(New Year's Eve Song)

Adagio ♩ = 75



Should auld ac-quin-tance be for-got and nev - er brought to mind? Should



ould ac-quin-tance be for-got and auld lang syne? For



all lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne! We'll



take a cup of kind - ness yet, for auld lang syne!

Beginner

Auld Lang Syne

(New Year's Eve Song)

Traditional

Adagio ♩ = 75

The tablature is presented in four systems, each with three staves (T, A, B) and a treble clef. The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Adagio' with a quarter note equal to 75 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The piece consists of 13 measures. Chord diagrams are provided above the staff for each measure: C (measures 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13), G (measures 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12), F (measures 10, 12), and Adim7 (measures 11, 13). The tablature includes fret numbers (0-5) and fingerings (1-3) for the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 13.

Intermediate

Auld Lang Syne

Traditional

(New Year's Eve Song)

Adagio ♩ = 75

Chord diagrams: C (x02321), G (x02033), C (x02321), F (xx0232), Adim7 (xx0232)

5

Chord diagrams: C (x02321), G (x02033), F (xx0232), C (x02321), Adim7 (xx0232)

9

Chord diagrams: C (x02321), G (x02033), C (x02321), F (xx0232), Adim7 (xx0232)

13

Chord diagrams: C (x02321), G (x02033), F (xx0232), C (x02321), C (x02321)

Intermediate

Auld Lang Syne

(New Year's Eve Song)

Traditional

Adagio $\text{♩} = 75$

Measures 1-4: Chords C, G, C, F, Adim⁷. Tablature shows fingerings for strings T, A, B.

Measures 5-8: Chords C, G, F, C, Adim⁷. Tablature shows fingerings for strings T, A, B.

Measures 9-12: Chords C, G, C, F, Adim⁷. Tablature shows fingerings for strings T, A, B.

Measures 13-16: Chords C, G, F, C, C. Tablature shows fingerings for strings T, A, B. The piece ends with a double bar line.