

# 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.

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

# Brian Boru's March

Traditional

Andante ♩ = 80

The score is written in 6/8 time and consists of eight staves of music. Each staff begins with a measure number (5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25) and includes guitar chord diagrams for Am, G, C, and F. The melody is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piece includes first and second endings, indicated by '1.' and '2.' with repeat signs. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 80.

5

9

13

17

21

25

Beginner

# Brian Boru's March

Traditional

Andante ♩ = 80

Am

G

Am

Am

G

Am

Am

C

G

Am

Am

G

Am

Am

G

F

Am

G

Am

Am

The image displays a guitar tablature for the piece "Brian Boru's March". It is a beginner-level score in a traditional style, marked "Andante" with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. The music is written on a six-string guitar with a standard tuning (E2-A2-D3-G3-B3-E4). The score is divided into measures, with fret numbers (0-5) and string numbers (1-6) indicated. Chord diagrams are provided for Am, G, C, and F. The piece consists of 24 measures, with a double bar line at the end of measure 24. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests, along with slurs and ties. The key signature is one flat (F major/D minor).

# Brian Boru's March

Andante  $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written in 6/8 time and consists of seven staves of music. Each staff includes a melody line and guitar chord diagrams. The chords are: Am (x02020), G (000323), G6 (000324), C6 (x02020), F (xx0232), and F (xxx232) with a 5fr (5th fret) marking. The score includes first and second endings. The first ending is marked with '1.' and the second ending with '2.'. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

# Brian Boru's March

Andante ♩ = 80

Am Am G G Am

1. 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 3 1 | 0 0 0 0 3 1 | 0 0 0 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 3

T 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 3 1 | 0 0 0 0 3 1 | 0 0 0 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 3

A 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

6 Am Am G Am Am C6

6 1 3 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3

T 1 3 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3 | 1 2 2 2 2 0 3

A 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

12 G Am C Am

12 0 1 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 1 3 1 2 2 2 2

T 0 1 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 0 3 1 3 1 2 2 2 2

A 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

B 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

18 Am Am Am Am Am G G G G

18 1 0 5 2 1 0 5 2 1 0 5 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

T 1 0 5 2 1 0 5 2 1 0 5 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

A 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

23 Am F F F Am G6 Am Am

23 1 0 5 2 1 0 5 2 1 3 0 3 1 2 2 2 2 0 1 2 2 2

T 1 0 5 2 1 0 5 2 1 3 0 3 1 2 2 2 2 0 1 2 2 2

A 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 2 2 2 2

B 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0