

Click go the Shears

This is one of most popular bush songs - Play and sing along!

A perennially popular song, to be played, sung and accompanied by percussion. Parts 2 and 3 are simple. Useful for trying hooked bowing with some students.

Pupil 1 Vivace Trad Arr D V

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. The music is a single melodic line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff features a more complex rhythmic pattern with some beamed eighth notes and dotted rhythms. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

Think carefully about the mood and feeling of each song from now on, and write in your own expression marks to show how you want to play the tune.

Go back to page 3 to remind yourself of what the expression marks mean, and how to write them down.

Click go the Shears

Down by the pen the old shearer stands
Grasping his shears in his thin bony hands
Fixed is his gaze on a bare-bellied yo
If he gets another one, he'll make the ringer blow

Chorus

Chick go the shears boys, click, click, click
Wide is his blow, and his hands move quick
The ringer looks around and is beaten by a blow
And curses the old snagger with the bare-bellied yo.

In the middle of the floor in his cane bottom chair
Sits the boss of the board with his eyes everywhere
Notes well each fleece as it comes to the screen
Paying strict attention that it's taken off clean.

The tar boy is there, waiting in demand
With his blackened tarpot, and his tarry hands
Sees one old sheep with a cut upon its back
Here's what he's waiting for, "Tar here Jack".

Down by the bar the old shearer stands
Grasping his glass in his thin bony hands
Fixed is his gaze on the green painted keg
Glory, he'll get down on it, before he stirs a leg.

There we leave him standing, shouting for all hands
While all around him every bludger stands
His eyes are on the keg which now is lowering fast
He drinks hard, he works hard, and goes to hell at last.

Pupil 2 Vivace

Trad Arr D V

Musical score for Pupil 2, Vivace, Trad Arr D V. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff includes a 4/4 time signature. The melody is a continuous eighth-note sequence: G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5, followed by a descending eighth-note scale: G5-F#5-E5-D5-C5-B4-A4-G4.

Pupil 3 Vivace

Trad Arr D V

Musical score for Pupil 3, Vivace, Trad Arr D V. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is a continuous eighth-note sequence: G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5, followed by a descending eighth-note scale: G5-F#5-E5-D5-C5-B4-A4-G4.