



BARBERSHOP CLASSICS

WORDS & MUSIC

Ray Gilbert

Edward "Kid" Ory

ARRANGEMENT

Rex Reeve

and

SPEBSQSA

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.

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Muskrat Ramble

STOCK NO. 7362

Intro

1 Ra da da da da, 2 ra da da da da, 3 ra da da da da da. 4 Bm bm bm

Verse 1

5 Shuf - fl - in', 6 ram - bl - in', 7 ram - bl - in', 8 head - in' for town. 9 Hus - tl - in', bus - tl - in' an' buzz - in' a - roun', 10 Hus - tl - in',

Look at them shuf - fl - in', a - shuf - fl - in' down;— ram - bl - in', scam - bl - in', a - ram - bl - in',

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Muskrat Ramble

11 hap - pi - ly a - wait - in' at the sta - tion. Look at the
 12 Look at the train, — the num-ber
 13 Look at the

14 sev - en - o - nine, — huff in'
 15 huff - in' and puff - in' and ar - riv - in' on time. —
 16 huff in'

17 Who do you think's a - bout to 'rive? The band they call The
 18 The band
 19

Chorus 1
 20 Dix - ie - land Five. They're gon - na play that Musk - rat
 21 play that Musk - rat
 22 play that Musk - rat

Muskrat Ramble

3

23 24 25 26

Ram - ble tune — like you've nev - er heard it played. Join in the

This system contains measures 23 through 26. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). Measure 23 starts with a treble clef and a common time signature 'C'. The lyrics are 'Ram - ble tune — like you've nev - er heard it played. Join in the'. Measure 24 has a whole note chord. Measure 25 has a half note chord. Measure 26 has a quarter note chord. The bass line is written on a bass clef staff.

27 28 29 30 31

big pa-rade. — All to-geth-er now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.

This system contains measures 27 through 31. The melody continues on the treble clef staff. Measure 27 has a quarter note chord. Measure 28 has a half note chord. Measure 29 has a quarter note chord. Measure 30 has a quarter note chord. Measure 31 has a quarter note chord. The lyrics are 'big pa-rade. — All to-geth-er now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.'. Measure 29 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 30 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 31 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff.

32 33 34 35

Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', scram-bl-in', musk-rat song, come on and ramble a -

This system contains measures 32 through 35. The melody continues on the treble clef staff. Measure 32 has a quarter note chord. Measure 33 has a quarter note chord. Measure 34 has a quarter note chord. Measure 35 has a quarter note chord. The lyrics are 'Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', scram-bl-in', musk-rat song, come on and ramble a -'. Measure 32 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 33 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 34 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 35 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff.

Interlude

36 37 38 39 40

long. Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da da.

Well,

This system contains measures 36 through 40. The melody continues on the treble clef staff. Measure 36 has a quarter note chord. Measure 37 has a quarter note chord. Measure 38 has a quarter note chord. Measure 39 has a quarter note chord. Measure 40 has a quarter note chord. The lyrics are 'long. Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da da.'. Measure 36 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 37 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 38 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 39 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff. Measure 40 has a sharp sign (#) above the staff.

Muskrat Ramble

Verse 2

41 42 43 44

Shuf - fl-in', a - shuf - fl - in' down, — ram - bl-in', a - head-in' for town, —

45 46 47 48

hus - tl-in', a - buzz-in' a-round, — hap - pi - ly a-wait-in' at the sta - tion.

49 50 51 52

Look — at num-ber sev-en - o-nine, — huff-in' an' puff-in' an' 'riv-in' on time! —

53 54 55 56

Who do you think's a - bout to 'rive? The band they call The Dix-ie-land Five.

The band

Interlude

Chorus 2

57 58 59 60

Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da da. They're gon - na

61 62 63 64

play that Musk - rat play that Musk - rat Ram - ble tune like you've nev - er

65 66 67

heard it played. Join in the big pa - rade.

68 69 70 71

All to-gether now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.

Muskrat Ramble

72 73 74 75

Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', scram-bl-in', musk - rat

76 77 78 79

song, come on and ram-ble a- ra da da da da,

80 81 82 83 84

ra da da da da, ra da da da da da, doo wah!

Performance Notes

Edward "Kid" Ory, composer, author, conductor, trombonist, was born December 25, 1886 in La Place, Louisiana and died in 1973. His was the first New Orleans band to broadcast and record. He wrote "Muskrat Ramble" as an instrumental piece. Ray Gilbert, composer, author, was born September 15, 1912 in Hartford, Connecticut and died in 1976. Gilbert provided the lyrics to "Muskrat Ramble" and it became very popular around 1926. Gilbert wrote special material for a number of great performers including Sophie Tucker, and was under contract for three and a half years to Walt Disney. He wrote many hits including "Zip-A-Dee Doo-Dah" (1947 Academy Award winner), "You Belong To My Heart," "Sooner or Later," "Everybody Has a Laughing Place" and "Cuanto le Gusto."

The Four Teens, 1952 international quartet champion, and youngest quartet to ever achieve gold medal status, first brought an arrangement of "Muskrat Ramble" to the barbershop scene around 1953. The arrangement was fashioned after **The McGuire Sisters'** version. They and The Four Teens had been on the Arthur Godfrey Show together. When Don Lamont, baritone of the Four Teens, left to go to college in 1954, he was replaced by Rex Reeve, bari of the Serenaders, fourth place medalists 1952. Rex put the arrangement on paper and added a few touches. It has since undergone more editing and is hereby published by the Society.

This arrangement demands an uptempo performance. The melody bounces around; it was, after all, written for instruments, so it requires good clarity and agility in the voice. Maintain a solid beat throughout. If the tenor note is too high at the end, use the alternate voicing for the baritone and tenor.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.