

The Stars and Stripes Forever! was made the official march of the U.S. in 1987. John Philip Sousa, the famous American composer who wrote the march, became the director of the U.S. Marine Band when he was just 25. He remained there until 1892, leaving to form his own group, called The Sousa Band. This concert band, the most celebrated one in history, lasted for forty years until Sousa's death in 1932.

The Stars and Stripes Forever!

Lively

John Philip Sousa (1854–1932)

Arr. Allan Small

2nd time RH 8va

First system of musical notation (measures 1-4). The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The right hand (RH) plays chords with fingerings: 5 3, 3 1, 2 1, 3 1, 2 1, 3 1. The left hand (LH) plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment with fingerings: 3, 1, 5. The dynamic marking is *mf*. A slur covers the final two chords of the system.

Second system of musical notation (measures 5-8). The right hand (RH) plays chords with fingerings: 5 3, 4 2, 2 1. The left hand (LH) continues the eighth-note accompaniment with fingerings: 5, 1, 2. A slur covers the final two chords of the system.

Third system of musical notation (measures 9-12). The right hand (RH) plays chords with fingerings: 3 1, 2 1, 3 1, 2 1, 3 1. The left hand (LH) continues the eighth-note accompaniment. A slur covers the final two chords of the system.

Fourth system of musical notation (measures 13-16). The right hand (RH) plays chords with fingerings: 2, 5 1, 2 1, 5 1. The left hand (LH) continues the eighth-note accompaniment with fingerings: 5, 2. A slur covers the final two chords of the system.