

GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMEN

TRADITIONAL

ARRANGED BY ALBERT O. DAVIS
FOR FULL ORCHESTRA

Instrumentation

1 Full Score	1 F Horn 1	2 Timpani/ Chimes/ Bells
1 Flute 1	1 F Horn 2	2 Suspended Cym./ Tom-tom/ Snare Drum
1 Flute 2	1 F Horn 3	2 Tambourine/ Crash Cymbals/ Bass Drum
1 Oboe 1	1 F Horn 4	2 Triangle/ Wood Block
1 Oboe 2	1 B, Trumpet 1	9 Violin 1
1 B, Clarinet 1	1 B, Trumpet 2	8 Violin 2
1 B, Clarinet 2	1 B, Trumpet 3	7 Viola
1 B, Bass Clarinet	1 Trombone 1	6 Violoncello
1 Bassoon 1	1 Trombone 2	5 Double Bass
1 Bassoon 2	1 Trombone 3	
	1 Tuba	

LUDWIG *Masters*
PUBLICATIONS

ABOUT THE ARRANGER

Albert Oliver Davis was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He held degrees from Arizona State University and did additional studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music and Case Western Reserve University. A former music educator, he arranged for the Arizona State Marching Band, the Air Force North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) Band, and the Ohio State University Marching Band. Davis wrote numerous musical comedies, band arrangements, and original band compositions during his career. He was one of the developers of the First Division Band Method, used widely in public schools since 1963. There are over 400 works in print under his own name and the pseudonym Eric Hanson.

PROGRAM NOTES

A traditional English carol, *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* is one of the oldest extant carols, sung at least as early as the 16th century. The first recorded appearance is in *Three New Christmas Carols* around 1760. The traditional melody in the minor mode and first appeared in print in *Facetia* (1829) by William Hone.

PERFORMANCE SUGGESTIONS

Articulation should not be too heavy, especially the *staccato* markings. Avoid clipping the tone and concentrate on light and detached. Take time to tune the fifths at the opening. This will yield great dividends in the area of intonation and tone quality. Balance and blend must be built around the melody. When working on this, remember that at measure 65 that the clarinets should be subservient to the string *pizzicato*.

GOD REST YE MERRY, GENTLEMEN

Traditional
arranged Albert Oliver Davis (ASCAP)

Moderato ♩ = 104

5

The musical score is arranged for a full orchestra. The instrumentation includes:

- Flute (1, 2)
- Oboe (1, 2)
- B♭ Clarinet (1, 2)
- B♭ Bass Clarinet
- Bassoon (1, 2)
- F Horn (1, 2, 3, 4)
- B♭ Trumpet (1, 2, 3)
- Trombone (1, 2, 3)
- Tuba
- Percussion (Timp., Sus. Cym. with brushes, Tri., W. B.)
- Violin (1, 2)
- Viola
- Violoncello
- Double Bass

The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Moderato at 104 beats per minute. The piece is marked with dynamics such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *p* (piano). A large watermark 'SAMPLE' is visible across the score.

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Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

B^b Cl. 1 2

B. Cl.

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tpt. 1 2 3

Tbn. 1 2 3

Tba.

7 8 9 10 11 12

Perc. 1 2 3 4

Vln. 1 2

Vla.

Vcl.

D. B.

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Flute (1 and 2), Oboe (1 and 2), Bass Clarinet (1 and 2), Basset Clarinet, Bassoon (1 and 2), Horns (1, 2, 3, 4), Trumpets (1, 2, 3), Trombones (1, 2, 3), and Tuba. The string section includes Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The percussion section has four staves. The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). A large watermark 'SAMPLE' is overlaid diagonally across the page. Measure numbers 7 through 12 are indicated at the bottom of the score.