

in memoriam Pete Seeger
Blue Skies

Irving Berlin (1926)

arr. Pete Seeger (1955)

based on a performance by Tony Trischka (Jan. 2014)

trans. C. Gainey (Aug. 2014)

Moderate* Swing** ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)*^{***}

The sheet music consists of four staves. The top two staves are for piano, showing chords and bass notes. The bottom two staves are for guitar, with tablature below the strings. Measure 1 starts with a piano chord followed by a guitar solo. Measures 2-3 show a piano part with sustained notes and a guitar solo. Measures 4-5 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo. Measures 6-7 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo. Measures 8-9 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo. Measures 10-11 show a piano part with eighth-note chords and a guitar solo.

* "Moderate" in that this tune has a laid back feel, despite the active texture (i.e., there is a difference between music that is fast and music that is active).

** "Swing" reflects a flexible approach to the subdivisions of the beat in performances by both Pete Seeger and Tony Trischka. For example, the triplets in mm. 6-8 are often swung, while the cascade of triplets in m. 9 is often played more or less straight. This distinction lends a dramatic touch to the end of the "B" theme of this tune. Throughout this transcription, rhythms are notated according to the most plausible (at least in my opinion) straight rhythm – a baseline against which one may develop a personalized interpretation of how this tune should swing.

*** ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$) is meant to indicate the median within a range of possible tempos for this piece. The choice of tempo is, naturally, somewhat subjective. In my opinion, however, this tune should be played no slower than ($\text{♩} = 92$) and no faster than ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 108$).

13

8

0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 4 4 | 2 0 2 0 1 0 0 2 0 1 0 2 0 3 4 | 2 2 2 2 2 2

Sheet music for guitar, measures 19-20. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The first measure (measure 19) starts with a treble clef, an 8th note, and a sharp sign. The second measure (measure 20) starts with a bass clef. Both measures feature a repeating pattern of eighth-note chords and sixteenth-note patterns. Below the staff is a tablature for a six-string guitar, showing fingerings and string numbers.

19

8

3 3 3 3 3 3
4 3 4 3 4 3
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2

3 3 3 3 3 3
4 3 4 3 4 3
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2
2 0 2 2 0 2
0 2 0 2 0 2

Sheet music for guitar, measures 28-30. The key signature changes from G major to B-flat major at measure 28. Measure 28 starts with a treble clef, a sharp sign, and a '8' below it. The first six measures show a repeating pattern of eighth-note chords. Measures 29 and 30 begin with a bass clef, a flat sign, and a '1/2' above them. Measure 29 consists of a single eighth-note chord. Measure 30 begins with a bass note and continues with a series of eighth-note chords. The tablature below shows the corresponding fingerings for each note. Measure 28: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3. Measure 29: 8-5-0-8-5-0-8-5-0-8-5-0-0. Measure 30: 5, 5, 5, 3-0-0-2-3-2-3-2-0-2-0.

Sheet music for guitar, measures 31-32. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The first measure starts with a grace note followed by eighth-note pairs. The second measure begins with a sixteenth-note pattern. The third measure starts with a sixteenth-note pattern. The fourth measure starts with a sixteenth-note pattern.

Measure 31: Grace note, eighth-note pairs (B, A), eighth-note pairs (G, F#), eighth-note pairs (E, D), eighth-note pairs (C, B).

Measure 32: Sixteenth-note pattern (B, A, G, F#), sixteenth-note pattern (E, D, C, B), sixteenth-note pattern (B, A, G, F#), sixteenth-note pattern (E, D, C, B).

The image shows a page of sheet music for a six-string guitar. The top staff is in treble clef, common time, and has a key signature of one sharp. The measure number 34 is at the beginning. The music consists of two staves. The top staff contains a melodic line with eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns, with grace notes indicated by small stems. The bottom staff shows the corresponding fingerings for the guitar strings, with '3' indicating a three-fret move. The music continues from the previous page, with the first few measures showing a sustained note followed by a series of eighth-note pairs.

Sheet music for guitar, measures 36-40. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The music consists of two staves: a treble clef staff above and a guitar neck staff below. The treble clef staff shows eighth-note patterns. The guitar neck staff shows fingerings (1, 2, 3) and string numbers (0, 2, 4, 3, 2, 1) corresponding to the notes in the treble clef staff.

Measure 36:

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

Measure 37:

3	3	3	3	3	3
4	3	4	3	4	3
2	0	2	0	2	0
0	2	0	2	0	2
2	2	3	2	2	3
0	2	0	2	0	2

Measure 38:

3	3	3	3	3	3
4	3	4	3	4	3
2	0	2	0	2	0
0	2	0	2	0	2
2	2	3	2	2	3
0	2	0	2	0	2

Measure 39:

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

Measure 40:

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

Sheet music for guitar, measures 39-40. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The music consists of two staves: the top staff shows the melody and chords, and the bottom staff shows the guitar tablature. Measure 39 starts with a eighth-note bass note followed by eighth-note chords. Measure 40 begins with a sixteenth-note bass note, followed by eighth-note chords.