

# PLAYING THE SOPRANO RECORDER

## A Soprano Recorder Music Method

### LESSON XV

#### TECHNIQUE AND FINGERING

#### Staccato Playing

A dot notated above or below a note head indicates staccato playing. Staccato notes are played in a short, crisp and separated manner. In order to achieve the correct technique for staccato playing, say “taht” for each note as you blow into the recorder. Try the staccato technique as you practice this familiar holiday melody.

#### Exercise #33 (Piano accompaniment included for this exercise.)

#### Jolly Old St Nicholas

Lyricist anonymous

Composer anonymous

Arr. by Lois Veenhoven Guderian

*Vivace* (q = ca.96-108)

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of four lines of music. The first line begins with a dynamic marking of *mp*. Each note in the melody is marked with a staccato dot (a small vertical line above or below the note head). The lyrics are: "Jol - ly old Saint Ni - cho - las, Lean your ear this way!" The second line continues the melody with staccato notes and the lyrics: "Don't you tell a sin - gle soul What I'm going to say;" The third line continues with staccato notes and the lyrics: "Christ - mas Eve will soon be here, Now, you dear old man," The fourth line concludes the melody with staccato notes and the lyrics: "Whis - per what you'll bring to me. Tell me if you can." The piece ends with a double bar line.

*mp*  
Jol - ly old Saint Ni - cho - las, Lean your ear this way!

Don't you tell a sin - gle soul What I'm going to say;

Christ - mas Eve will soon be here, Now, you dear old man,

Whis - per what you'll bring to me. Tell me if you can.

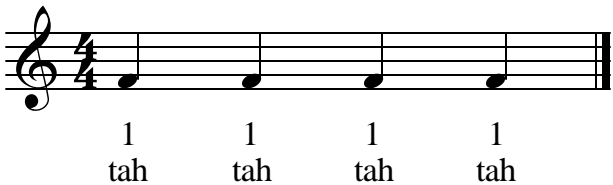
## MUSIC LESSON

### The Sixteenth Note

THE SIXTEENTH NOTE \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVES 1/4 OF A BEAT

In 4/4 time, the quarter note receives one beat. In a moderate tempo, the quarter note is a “walking” tempo note. The quarter note = one beat. (see Example 1)

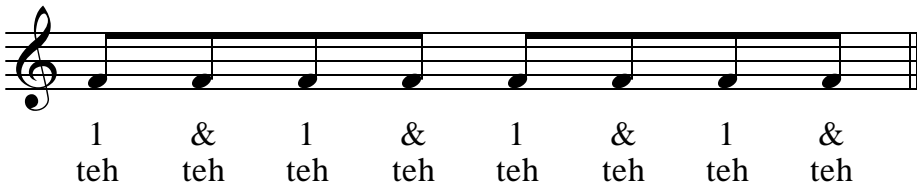
### Example 1: Quarter Notes



1            1            1            1  
tah        tah        tah        tah

When the quarter note is divided into two parts, eighth notes are created. Eighth notes, often referred to as "running" tempo notes, are faster than quarter notes. Two eighth notes = 1 beat (one eighth note equals 1/2 of a beat). (see Example 2)

### Example 2: Eighth Notes



1    &    1    &    1    &    1    &  
teh    teh    teh    teh    teh    teh    teh    teh

When a quarter note is divided into four equal parts, sixteenth notes are created. Sixteenth notes are faster than eighth notes. Sixteenth notes are "fast-running" tempo notes. Four sixteenth notes = 1 beat (one sixteenth note equals 1/4 of a beat.) When a piece contains eighth or sixteenth notes, subdivided counting works well to ensure the correct rhythm. There are several ways to count sixteenth notes. Two ways are notated below in Example 3.

### Example 3: Sixteenth Notes



1    e    &    ah    1    e    &    ah    1    e    &    ah    1    e    &    ah  
Hot - po - ta - to    Hot - po - ta - to    Hot - po - ta - to    Hot - po - ta - to

Clap and count Exercise #34. Learn to play Exercise #34 on the recorder. The sixteenth note rest (d:7 ) also receives 1/4 of a beat.

### Exercise #34

1 e & ah 2e &ah (1) e & ah 2e &ah  
Hot - po - ta - to Hotpo - tato (Hot) po - ta - to Hotpo - tato

1 e & ah 2e &ah 1e &ah 2e&ah  
Hot - po - ta - to hotpo - tato Hotpo - tato - hotpotato

1 e & ah 2e &ah (1) e & ah 2e &ah  
Hot - po - ta - to Hotpo - tato (Hot) po - ta - to Hotpo tato

1 e & ah 2e &ah 1 e &ah 2e&ah  
Hot - po - ta - to Hotpo - tato hot - po - tato Hotpotato

## LESSON XV PIECES

The following lively tune, by the nineteenth century songwriter Stephen Foster, contains several interesting rhythm patterns, including sixteenth notes. Count aloud while clapping the rhythm of *Camptown Races* in Exercise #35. Before sight reading (to play or sing a piece for the first time) the piece on the recorder, sing the song from beginning to end. This will aid you in learning the correct rhythm of the piece quickly.

**Exercise #35**


& 1 & 2 & 1 & 2& 1 &2& 1 &2 &  
The Camp - town la - dies sing this song, Doo - dah! Doo - dah! The

1 & 2 & 1 & 2& 1& 2 & 1&2&  
Camp - town race - track five miles long, Oh! doo - dah day!

1 & ah 2 & 1&2& 1 & ah 2 & 1&2 & ah  
They're gon - na run all night, They're gon - na run all day. I will

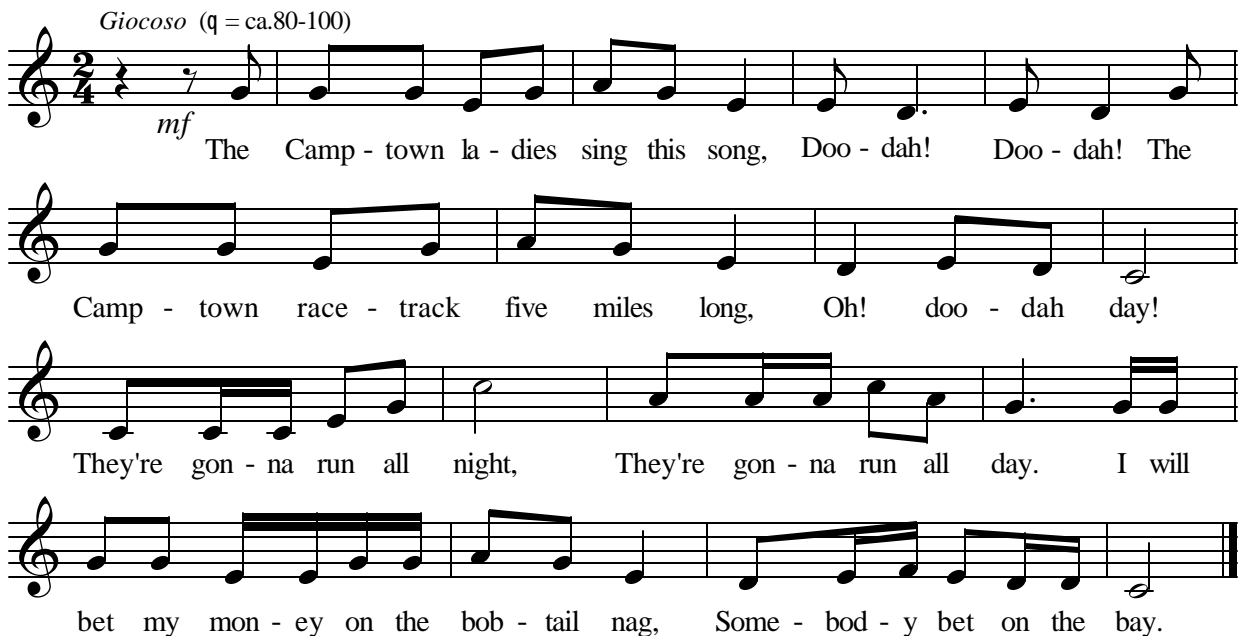
1 & 2 e & ah 1 & 2& 1 & ah 2 & ah 1&2&  
bet my mon - ey on the bob - tail nag, Some - bod - y bet on the bay.

**Camptown Races**

Words by Stephen Foster (1826-1864)  
(Camptown Races published ca.1850)

Music by Stephen Foster (1826-1864)  
Arr. by Lois Veenhoven Guderian

*Giocoso* (q = ca.80-100)



*mf*  
The Camp - town la - dies sing this song, Doo - dah! Doo - dah! The

Camp - town race - track five miles long, Oh! doo - dah day!

They're gon - na run all night, They're gon - na run all day. I will

bet my mon - ey on the bob - tail nag, Some - bod - y bet on the bay.

*Little David* is another very familiar tune from nineteenth century America. It was created by an African American during slave times. It is a spiritual. As with almost all the beautiful African American spirituals, the composers are anonymous.

*Little David* contains several of the very same rhythm patterns as the piece *Camptown Races*. Clap the rhythm and sing the song before sight reading the piece on your recorder.

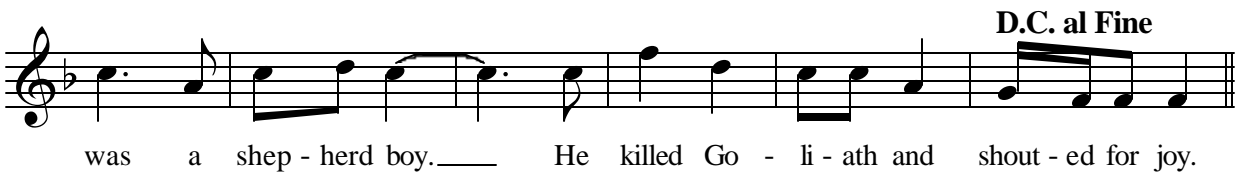
### Little David Play on Your Harp

Words traditional, author unknown

American Spiritual

*Vivace* (q = ca.88-96)

Arr. by Lois Veenhoven Guderian



### CREATIVE CORNER

Using the same rhythm of either *Camptown Races* or *Little David*, compose a completely new tune. Give your piece a title.

**Example: *Camptown Races Revisited***

& 1 & 2 & 1 & 2& 1 & 2& 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 &  
 1 & 2& 1& 2 & 1&2& 1 & ah 2 & 1&2& 1 & ah 2 &  
 1&2 & ah 1 & 2 e & ah 1 & 2& 1 & ah 2 & ah 1&2&

Use the staff below to write your new melody.

## THEORY AND TERMS FROM LESSON XV

**Sixteenth note** ( ♫ ) – A sixteenth note receives  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a beat in 4/4 time.

**Sixteenth note rest** ( ♭ ) – A sixteenth note rest receives  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a beat in 4/4 time.

**Sight reading** – To play or sing a piece for the first time.

**Subdivide** – To divide into smaller parts.

**Staccato** – To play a note in a short, separated manner. Staccato is notated by placing a dot above or below a note head.

## ASSIGNMENT

1. Practice the staccato playing technique in Exercise #33.
2. Practice clapping and counting the Exercises #34, #35.
3. Learn the **PIECES OF LESSON XV: *Camptown Races* and *Little David***.
4. Complete the **CREATIVE CORNER** Assignment
5. Learn the **THEORY AND TERMS** from **LESSON XV**.
6. Keep a chart of your practice time.

M	TU	W	TH	F	SA	SU
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