



BARBERSHOP CLASSICS

WORDS & MUSIC

Ray Gilbert

Edward "Kid" Ory

ARRANGEMENT

Rex Reeve

and

SPEBSQSA

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
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Muskrat Ramble

STOCK NO. 7362

Intro

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

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

Bm bm bm

Verse 1

5 Shuf - fl - in', a - shuf - fl - in' down; 6 ram - bl - in', scram - bl - in', a - 7 Shuf - fl - in', ram - bl - in',

8 head - in' for town. 9 Hus - tl - in', bus - tl - in' an' 10 buzz - in' a - roun', Hus - tl - 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' and puff - in' and ar - riv - in' on time. —
 15 huff - in' and puff - in' and ar - riv - in' on time. —
 16 huff - in' and puff - in' and ar - riv - in' on time. —

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

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

23 24 25 26

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

8

Detailed description: This system contains measures 23 through 26. The music is written for a piano in 8/8 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Measure 23 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are 'Ram - ble tune _____ like you've nev - er heard it played. Join in the'.

27 28 29 30 31

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

one and two, one and two,

8

Detailed description: This system contains measures 27 through 31. The music continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 27 has the lyrics 'big pa-rade. All to-geth-er now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.' Measures 29 and 30 have the lyrics 'one and two, one and two,'. Measure 31 has the lyrics 'one and two,'.

32 33 34 35

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

8

Detailed description: This system contains measures 32 through 35. The music continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 32 has the lyrics 'Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', scram-bl-in', musk-rat song, come on and ramble a -'.

Interlude

36 37 38 39 40

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

8

Detailed description: This system contains measures 36 through 40, which form an interlude. Measure 36 has the lyrics 'long.' Measures 37, 38, and 39 have the lyrics 'Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da.' Measure 40 has the lyrics 'Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da.'

Well,

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 - rate.

68 69 70 71

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

Muskrat Ramble

72 Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', 73 scram-bl-in', 74 musk - rat 75

76 song, 77 come on and 78 ram - ble a - 79 ra da da da da,

80 ra da da da da, 81 ra da da da da 82 da, doo wah! 83 84

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.