



Track 35 & 36 on the CD

Cotton Eyed Joe

This tune comes from the Appalachian Mountains in the United States of America. It is also known as "hillbilly" music. In this melody, you play the open 'A' string at the same time as playing the melody on the 'D' string. This technique is known as "Double Stopping" or using 2 strings to play 2 notes at once. Fingers are not indicated in this piece as you should become familiar with the notes by now.

Notice the 2 quavers before the first barline. This is called an "anacrusis" or upbeat. You will notice that there are only 3 beats in the last bar. This is because of the upbeat.

Do not play these quavers too loud. Instead, you should accent the first beat as indicated by the accent mark. > Accent the first beat in each bar and enjoy.

Melody

The musical notation for the melody of "Cotton Eyed Joe" is presented in four staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff begins with an anacrusis of two eighth notes (D4 and F#4) followed by a barline. The first full bar starts with an accent mark (>) over the first eighth note (D4). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some double-stopping chords. The second and fourth staves conclude the piece with a double bar line. The third staff features a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes.

The ensemble part is on the next page. You can use the ensemble part to play a duet, or with other instruments, you can play with a whole "hillbilly" band.

SAMPLE