

Lullaby

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Moderato

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in A major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. The first measure starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The notation shows a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes, with a final quarter rest in the fourth measure.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. This section includes guitar-specific notation such as fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 3, 4) and fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4) for the right hand. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a quarter rest in the eighth measure.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. This section continues the melodic line with various rhythmic values and includes guitar-specific notation like fret numbers and fingerings. The melody concludes with a quarter rest in the twelfth measure.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes, incorporating guitar-specific notation. The piece ends with a quarter rest in the sixteenth measure.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The tempo marking **molto rit.** (very slow) is introduced at the beginning of this section. The notation includes guitar-specific notation and concludes the piece with a final quarter rest in the twentieth measure.

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Musical notation for measures 1-4. Chords: A, A, A, A. Dynamics: *mp*.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Chords: A, A, A, E7.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Chords: E7, E7, E7, A.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Chords: D, A, E7, A.

17

D

A

E7 **molto rit.**

A

T 5 7 7 0 2 2 3 2 0

A 0 7 7 6 2 4 2 1 2

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Practice Tip Sheet

The Big 5:

1. Reduce work with posture and high dynamic energy
2. Troubleshoot - Everything should be easy
3. Breathe
4. Trust yourself to play accurately and musically inspired (instead of judging)
5. Always play as a gift to yourself and others

The Main Practice Areas:

1. Technique - Abilities, Movements, Chords, Scales, Patterns, Exercises, etc.
2. New Notes - One new piece of music at a time
3. Tricky Spots - Detailing small sections of pieces
4. Repertoire Maintenance - Pieces you already know
5. Sight-Reading practice - note recognition/playing; clapping/counting rhythms

The 7 Steps to Learn Any Piece:

1. Make small sections
2. Know all the notes and musical markings
3. Clap and count the rhythm aloud
4. Play the right hand alone, counting aloud
5. Play the left hand alone, counting aloud
6. Play hands together, taking corrective pauses (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together in rhythm, with slow metronome

Musical Starting Points:

1. Know which notes are melody (probably stems up), and play the others quieter
2. Connect all melody notes smoothly (no gaps)
3. When a musical line or melody goes up in pitch, get quieter
4. When a musical line or melody goes down in pitch, get louder
5. Don't let the high notes stand out (any note higher than those before and after)

Practice Tips:

1. Before slowing down or speeding up (rubato) master it at a steady pace.
2. For tricky spots, state out loud exactly what the problem is, in every detail.
3. Memorize every piece (even if you don't, you'll learn it faster if you try)
4. Have a purpose behind each repetition (blind repetitions are lazy practice).
5. Video yourself for performance practice and to hear what is and is not working.

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