# Table of Contents

Index of Songs / CD Tracks .............................................. 3  
About the Instructor .................................................. 4  
A Little Dulcimer History ............................................. 5-6  
Dulcimer Anatomy ....................................................... 7  
Holding The Dulcimer / Strings / Picks .......................... 8  
Hand Position / Fingerings / Strumming ......................... 9  
Tuning The Dulcimer .................................................... 10  
The Dulcimer Fretboard ............................................... 11  
Introduction To Tabulature ......................................... 12  
Notes and Counting .................................................... 13  
Let’s Practice ........................................................... 14  
Backup Chords / Practice ........................................... 22-23  
DAD Chords and Shapes ............................................ 40  

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS  
I would like to thank my beautiful wife, Jeanne, for her support and encouragement. I would also like to thank my parents, Don and Jean Haas, and my grandparents, George and Ruth Hanford who passed down a love for music. Thanks also to Ralph Lee Smith and Josie Wiseman for allowing me to take pictures of historical dulcimers in there collection. Finally, I would like to thank Bob Webb for his help in assembling this workbook.

COPYRIGHT © 2003 DAVE HAAS  
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, or stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise without written permission of the Author.
# Index of Songs / CD Tracks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boil Them Cabbage</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boil Them Cabbage (Chords)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cripple Creek</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fre’re Jacques</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fre’re Jacques (Arpeggios)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go Tell Aunt Rhody</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Cat On A Tennessee Farm</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ode To Joy</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Joe Clark</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Joe Clark (Chords)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Row, Row, Row Your Boat</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Gifts</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tender Shepherd (Arpeggios)</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This Old Man</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Jolly Fishermen</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Saints Medley (Backup Chords)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>- -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When The Saints Go Marchin’ In</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiskey Before Breakfast</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildwood Flower</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hand Position / Fingering / Strumming

FINGERING TIPS

In order to produce the best sound with your dulcimer it is important that notes are played accurately. The tips below should help you get up to speed.

• Place your fingers wide apart over your strings. This will increase the sustain of the notes.

• Slide your fingers from the outside of the strings to the melody string. This will make it easier to play chords across all the strings.

• To find the correct fret position, pop your hand up slightly. Imagine a tennis ball in the palm of your hand. Your fingers should be curved. You will find the correct fret position.

• Use your ring and pinky fingers for extra fingers above the dulcimer. This technique will provide you two extra fingers above the dulcimer.

• When moving from note to note always ask yourself, “What is the easiest and shortest path to the next?” Try to minimize your hand movement.

WHERE DO I STRUM THE DULCIMER?

There is no set place to strum the dulcimer. In fact, most players do not strum the dulcimer in the strum hollow! The dulcimer should be strummed in a comfortable position. After the dulcimer is well balanced in your lap, close your eyes, and lay both arms across the top of the dulcimer fretboard. Now, open your eyes, and look at where your right arm crosses the fretboard. This is a good place to start strumming. In most cases, this position will be somewhere between frets 10-14 in the vicinity of the sound holes on the lower bout of the instrument.
Boil Dem Cabbage

Strum all the strings

D G D A

Boil dem cabbage down boys__, Turn dem hoe-cakes round__.

D

T

A

B

The only song

You Can Play

The Dulcimer!

Easy as 1 2 3

A Beginner’s Workbook

Dave Haas

DAD Tuning

C. N. Pritchard Dulcimer

Arranged by Dave Haas
Ode To Joy
Beethoven
Arranged by Dave Haas

Strum all the strings

Note: A dotted note is held for 1/2 again the count

CD inside
You Can Play
The Dulcimer!
Easy as 1 2 3
A Beginner's Workbook
Dave Haas
DAD Tuning
Wildwood Flower
Traditional
Arranged by Dave Haas

Strum all the strings

Part A

D  A

D
A

D  2  3  4  5  7  2  3  2  1  2  1

D  T  A  B

D  T  A  B

D  T  A  B

You Can Play The Dulcimer!
Easy as 1 2 3
A Beginner's Workbook
Dave Haas
DAD Tuning
Old Joe Clark
(with Chords)
Arranged by Dave Haas

Strum at the strings

Part A  D  A
T   5 6 7 6 5 4 3 5 6 7 6 4
A   1 0 0 0
B   4 5 6 5 4 3 2 4 5 6 5 4

Old Joe Clark, he had a house__eighteen stories high__.

Part B  D  D
T   0 0 0
A   0 0 0
B   0 0 0

Every Thursday he baked chicken pie__.

Far ye well, Old Joe Clark
Far ye well, I say
Far ye well, Old Joe Clark
I'm a-goin' away

Down to Old Joe's house
To have some supper
And stick my nose in the butter

Raccoon has a bushy tail
'Possum's tail is bare
Rabbit has no tail at all
'Cept a bunch of hair
Backup Chords (DAD)

Strum all the strings. Avoid noting the melody string.

First Position Backup Chords

D

G

A

Bm

You Can Play The Dulcimer!

Easy as 1 2 3

A Beginner's Workbook

Dave Haas

DAD Tuning

Dave Haas © 2003
(304) 776-1430