

CLUCK OL' HEN

Three-Part Mixed Voices with Piano

Appalachian Song

Arranged by
Greg Gilpin

BriLee Music

the Voice of Choral Music

BriLee Music
Part-by-Part



For Accompaniment and Rehearsal Audio
Go to: BriLeeMusic.com/BL1275

Ranges:

Part 1  Part 2 
Part 3 

Language: English

Use: General

Time: Approx. 1:45

*Difficulty: Moderate

Arranger's Notes

It is said that *Cluck Ol' Hen* is an Appalachian fiddle tune from the mid-1800's. As with many folk tunes that began as instrumental songs, words were added by various people throughout the years. The song is quite comical and creates the story of someone chasing down their aging hen trying to get it to lay eggs. By the end, the owner is threatening to give the hen away.

I have selected a few verses or phrases for this particular arrangement. I have used unison singing for everyone to learn the melody, echoing to create some easy harmonic interest and layers and a rhythmic part of "cluck cluck" imitating the chicken. I love rhythm and this arrangement makes for a great rhythmic teaching piece.

Teaching Suggestions:

- When teaching, explore the piece for warm-up ideas. There are many phrases that can be isolated and used as warm-ups. It's also a great way to introduce the piece before they actually have seen it!
- Practice the "cluck cluck" phrases with clapping the rhythms and foot stomping on the rests. Perhaps add this to your performance for some physical and visual fun!
- Practice some solfege, leaving out the 3rd (or Mi) and let the choir experience and hear an "open chord". Have them find examples of open chords throughout the piece in the vocals as well as the piano accompaniment.
- Have your choir make up their own words, adding to the history of the written music.

I love folk songs and the history as well as the mystery of them. I hope you'll find lots of teaching moments with this one as well as a performance piece your singers and audience are sure to love.

—Greg Gilpin

About the Arranger

Originally from the "Show-Me" state of Missouri, Greg Gilpin resides in Indianapolis, Indiana. A graduate of Northwest Missouri State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Music Education, K-12, Greg is a well-known, ASCAP award-winning choral composer and arranger with hundreds of publications to his credit.

In demand as a conductor for choral festivals, all-district and all-state choirs, he is a member of NAFME and ACDA. At home, Greg is busy as a studio musician and producer in the recording industry.

Cluck Ol' Hen

for Three-Part Mixed Voices* with Piano

Based on an Appalachian Folk Song

Arranged by Greg Gilpin

With humor and rhythm (♩ = 96)

Piano *mf*



The piano introduction consists of four measures in 2/4 time. The right hand plays a simple melody starting on G4, moving to A4, Bb4, and then a whole rest. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and single notes.



Measures 5-8 of the piano accompaniment. The right hand features a more complex melodic line with some grace notes and slurs. The left hand continues with a steady accompaniment.

9 Part 1 *mf*
My ol' hen's a good ol' hen, she lays eggs for the rail - road men.

Part 2 *mf*
She lays eggs for the rail - road men.

Part 3



Measures 9-12 of the vocal parts and piano accompaniment. Part 1 (Soprano) has the lyrics "My ol' hen's a good ol' hen, she lays eggs for the rail - road men." Part 2 (Alto) has the lyrics "She lays eggs for the rail - road men." Part 3 (Bass) has a whole rest. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

* Also available for Two-Part Treble Voices (BL1250).

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Some-times one, some-times two, that's e - nough for all the crew.

Some-times one, some-times two, that's e - nough for all the crew.

mf Some-times one, some-times two, that's e - nough for all the crew.

17 *mp*

Cluck ol' hen, cluck and sing, ain't laid an egg since late last spring.

mp Cluck ol' hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

mp Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

30 *mf*

My ol' hen, how - dy, how - dy - do.

hen, how - dy, how - dy - do. Some-times

how - dy do, she lays eggs and ta - ters, too. Some-times nine,

34 *mp*

Some-times ten, e - nough, rail - road men. Cluck ol' hen,

nine, e - nough, rail - road men. Cluck ol'

some-times ten, that's e - nough for the rail - road men. Cluck, cluck,

38

cluck and sing, ain't laid an egg since late_ last_spring. Cluck ol' hen,
 hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. Cluck ol'
 cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. Cluck, cluck,

42

cluck and squall, ain't laid an egg since late_ last_fall.
 hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.
 cluck, cluck. cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. Cluck, cluck,

46



cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

51



p Cluck ol' hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

56

cluck, cluck. Cluck ol' hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

cluck. Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. cluck, cluck, cluck.

61 *mp*

mp
Cluck ol' hen, cluck and sing, ain't laid an egg since late last spring.

mp
Cluck ol' hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

mp
Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

mp

65

Cluck ol' hen, cluck and squall, ain't laid an egg since late_ last_ fall.

Cluck ol' hen, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck.

Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck. cluck, cluck, cluck.

69

mf Cluck ol' hen. Cluck ol' hen.

mf Cluck ol' hen. Cluck ol' hen.

mf Cluck ol' hen. Cluck ol' hen.

mf

73

Cluck ol' hen, cluck, I say, cluck ol' hen, or I'll give you a -

Cluck ol' hen, cluck, I say, cluck ol' hen, or I'll give you a -

Cluck ol' hen, cluck, I say, cluck ol' hen, or I'll give you a -

77

cresc. way! *f* I'll give you a - way!

cresc. way! *f* I'll give you a - way!

cresc. way! *f* I'll give you a - way!

cresc. *f*

BriLee Music

the Voice of Choral Music

BriLee Music, founded by the late Brian Busch in 1997, is the leader in publishing choral music written specifically for the developing middle school and junior high singer.

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