

## STRING ALTERNATIVES SERIES

# Mason's Apron, An Irish Reel

Traditional

Arranged by Julie Lyonn Lieberman

## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score .....	1
Violin I.....	8
Violin II.....	8
Viola.....	5
Cello.....	5
String Bass.....	5

This lively Irish tune stands out among the thousands as a melody you could easily play again and again without ever tiring of its upbeat, catchy melody. That's why it's such a popular tune at so many Irish jam sessions across the U.S. and in Ireland. In the key of A with trademark snappy bowings, this one is guaranteed to put a smile on your students' faces. Watch out! You might find your audience dancing in their seats.

### Program Notes

Like all Irish tunes, "Mason's Apron" has survived across the centuries, taught by ear and played by tens of thousands of fiddle players. Each of those fiddlers have lived through the twists and turns of Irish history, ultimately healing and transforming those who've listened to them play. Irish fiddle tunes generally fall into one of three categories: "Mason's Apron" is a reel in 4/4 time. The other two popular forms include jigs (in 6/8) and slip jigs (in 9/8). Just about all Irish tunes ask a question across the first eight measures, and then provide an answer in the echoing eight measures before moving on to the second half of the tune and repeating that formula with new, but related melodic ideas. "Mason's Apron" is a particularly popular tune at Irish jam sessions.



# Mason's Apron, An Irish Reel

CONDUCTOR SCORE  
Duration - 2:25

Traditional  
Arranged by Julie Lyonn Lieberman

Allegro (♩ = 120)

**Violins**

**Viola**

**Cello**

**String Bass**

**Vlins.**

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

6 7 8

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

9 10 11

13

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

4

*f*

4

*f*

4

*f*

12 *f* 13

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Lo 1

2

-1

4

1

-1 x4

14 15 16

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

17 18

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

19 20 21

**Vlns.**  
I *sim.*  
II *sim.*

**Vla.** *sim.*

**Cello** *sim.*

**Str. Bass**

22 23 24

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

25 26 27

29

Vlns. I

Musical staff for Violin I, measures 28-30. Includes dynamics *mf* and *sim.*

Vla.

Musical staff for Viola, measures 28-30. Includes dynamics *mf* and *sim.*

Cello

Musical staff for Cello, measures 28-30. Includes dynamics *mf* and *sim.*

Str. Bass

Musical staff for String Bass, measures 28-30. Includes dynamics *mf* and *sim.*

28

29

30

Vlns. I

Musical staff for Violin I, measures 31-33.

Vla.

Musical staff for Viola, measures 31-33.

Cello

Musical staff for Cello, measures 31-33.

Str. Bass

Musical staff for String Bass, measures 31-33.

31

32

33

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

34 35 36

This block contains the musical notation for measures 34, 35, and 36. It features five staves: Violins I, Violins II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Measure 34 shows the beginning of a melodic line in the Violins I and Cello. Measure 35 continues this line with a fourth finger fingering (4) in the Viola. Measure 36 concludes the phrase with accents (V) and a fermata in the Violins I and Cello.

37

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*f* *sim.* *f* *sim.* *f* *sim.*

37 38 39

This block contains the musical notation for measures 37, 38, and 39. It features five staves: Violins I, Violins II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is three sharps. Measure 37 begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and accents (V) in the Violins I, Cello, and String Bass. Measure 38 features a *sim.* (sforzando) marking in the Violins II, Viola, and String Bass. Measure 39 continues the melodic development with accents (V) in the Violins I and Cello.



**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**  
x1 1 x2 x4

**Str. Bass**

40 41 42

**Vlns.**  
I  
II

**Vla.**

**Cello**

**Str. Bass**

43 44 45

46

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*sim.*

*sim.*

*sim.*

46 47 48

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

49 50 51

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

1. 2.

52 53 54

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

55 56 57