

Arranged by  
Matt Neufeld

# What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor?

Concert Band, Grade 2

Instrumentation

Full Score  
Flute/Oboe  
Bb Clarinet 1  
Bb Clarinet 2  
Bb Bass Clarinet  
Eb Alto Saxophone 1  
Eb Alto Saxophone 2  
Bb Tenor Saxophone  
Eb Baritone Saxophone  
Bb Trumpet 1  
Bb Trumpet 2  
Horn in F  
Trombone/Euphonium B.C./Bassoon  
Euphonium T.C.  
Tuba  
Percussion 1 (Med. Tom or Snare/Bass)  
Percussion 2 (Crash/Tamb/Susp/Whip)  
Glockenspiel/optional Chimes  
Xylophone



## To The Director:

I originally arranged this sea shanty for my second and third year bands as a way to learn the different combinations of 16th notes in a fun, memorable way. I would always use “What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor” to teach the primary rhythm eighth—sixteenth—sixteenth, and we would apply that to different songs that we were learning.

The lyrics to the first three verses that I have chosen are:

“What shall we do with the drunken sailor, early in the morning?”

“Put ‘im in the long-boat till he’s sober, early in the morning!”

“Pull out the plug, and wet ‘im all over, early in the morning!”

And, of course, the chorus is always:

“Weigh, heigh, and up she rises, early in the morning!”

I have included a rhythm/melody sheet for your use, with the lyrics included. Something really fun that I’ve done with my bands is to make up new lyrics and then try to figure out the rhythms.

## Program Notes

“What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor” is a traditional sea shanty that was sung onboard sailing ships at least as early as the 1830s. The song’s lyrics vary, but usually revolve around some version of the question, “What shall we do with a drunken sailor, early in the morning?” Each verse that follows usually suggests a method of either sobering up or punishing the inebriated offender.

The song was originally sung to accompany tasks aboard ships, especially those that needed a fast walking pace to accomplish, such as hauling a rope while marching across the deck.

The song became popular with non-sailors in the 20th century, and is now the best-known sea shanty among mainstream audiences.

## About The Composer

A graduate of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, Matt Neufeld (b. 1985) does his best to compose, teach and play music for as many people as he can convince or coerce.

Matt spends most of his days working with amazing middle school band students at Ecole Van Wallegem in Winnipeg, where he's been teaching since 2016.

In his spare time, Matt enjoys competitive board gaming, playing his wife's favourite songs on the piano in ways that do NOT endear him to her, and having his three children try to beat him at Mario Kart.

Please visit Matt's website at [www.mattneufeldmusic.com](http://www.mattneufeldmusic.com) or email him at [matt\(at\)mattneufeldmusic.com](mailto:matt(at)mattneufeldmusic.com)!

# What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor?

Traditional Sea Shanty, arr. Matt Neufeld

**♩=104** 7

Flute/Oboe  
Clarinet in B $\flat$  1  
Clarinet in B $\flat$  2  
Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$   
Alto Saxophone 1  
Alto Saxophone 2  
Tenor Saxophone  
Baritone Saxophone  
Trumpet in B $\flat$  1  
Trumpet in B $\flat$  2  
Horn in F  
Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon  
Tuba  
Percussion 1  
Percussion 2  
Glockenspiel  
Xylophone

**♩=104** 7

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

15

div.

Fl./Ob. *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax. 1 *f* Play

A. Sax. 2 *f* Play

Ten. Sax. *f*

Bari. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *f* a2

Tba. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 To Tamb.

Bells

15

Xyl.

25

33

Fl./Ob. *mp* *p*

Cl. 1 *mp* *p*

Cl. 2 *mp* *p*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sax. 1 *mp* *mf*

A. Sax. 2 *mp* *mf*

Ten. Sax. *mp* *mf*

Bari. Sax. *mp* *mf*

Tpt. 1 *p*

Tpt. 2 *p*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *mp* *mf*  
Bassoon only

Tba.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*  
Tambourine To Crash Cym.

Bells *mp* *p*

Xyl. *mp* *p*

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

Fl./Ob. *div.* *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax. 1 *f*

A. Sax. 2 *f*

Ten. Sax. *f* (b)

Bari. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f* (b)

Hn. *f* (b)

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *All* *f*

Tba. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f* Crash

Bells *f* To Chim. (opt.)

Xyl. *f*

Fl./Ob. *p* *mf* a2

Cl. 1 *p* *mf*

Cl. 2 *p* *mf*

B. Cl. *p* *mf*

A. Sax. 1 *mf*

A. Sax. 2 *mf*

Ten. Sax. *mf*

Bari. Sax. *p* *mf*  
Play bottom notes if able.

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *p* *mf*

Tba. *p* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf* secco

Perc. 2 *mf* secco

Bells *mf* Chimes (opt.) If no chimes, play on glock. To Glock.

Xyl.

65

Fl./Ob. *f*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f*

B. Cl. *f*  
Blend into the sound of the first clarinets.

A. Sax. 1 *f*

A. Sax. 2 *f*

Ten. Sax. *f*

Bari. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1 *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *f*

Tba. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*  
non secco  
To Susp. Cymbal

Perc. 2 *f*

Chim. *f*  
Glockenspiel

Xyl. *mf* *f*

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70



Fl./Ob. *f*

Cl. 1 *fp*

Cl. 2 *fp*

B. Cl. *fp*

A. Sax. 1 *fp*

A. Sax. 2 *fp*

Ten. Sax. *f* *fp*

Bari. Sax. *fp*

Tpt. 1 *f* *fp*

Tpt. 2 *fp*

Hn. *fp*

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *f* *fp* *fp*

Tba. *fp*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *fp* Suspended Cymbal (non secco)

Glock. *f*

Xyl. *f*

71 72 73 74 75 76 *f*

FL./Ob. *ff* a2 div.

Cl. 1 *f* *ff*

Cl. 2 *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *f* *ff*

A. Sax. 1 *f* *ff*

A. Sax. 2 *f* *ff*

Ten. Sax. *f* *ff*

Bari. Sax. *f* *ff*

Tpt. 1 *f* *ff*

Tpt. 2 *f* *ff* Play upper octave if able

Hn. *f* *ff*

Tbn/Euph/Bsn *f* *ff* a2 div. a2 div.

Tba. *f* *ff*

Perc. 1 *ff* To Whip (Slapstick) Whip (Slapstick)

Perc. 2 *f* *ff*

Glock. *ff*

Xyl. *ff*

77 78 79 80 81 82