

Christmas carols: key, range and level

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CAROL	KEY	TIME	RANGE	LEVEL	FIRST NOTES	WORDS AND MUSIC
Silent Night Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht	B $\flat$ major	6/8	B $\flat$ 3 to E $\flat$ 5 17 semitones	Harder	F G F D F G F	Joseph Mohr, 1816; Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818
Joy to the World Antioch	D major	2/4	D4 to D5 12 semitones	Medium	D C $\sharp$ B A G F $\sharp$ E	Isaac Watts, 1719; ANTIOCH, arr. Lowell Mason ("from Handel"), 1830s
O Come, All Ye Faithful Adeste fideles	G major	4/4 (pick- up)	D4 to D5 12 semitones	Medium	G G D G A D B	Latin hymn; English by Frederick Oakeley, 1841; ADESTE FIDELES, printed by J. F. Wade, 1751
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn	G major	4/4	D4 to E5 14 semitones	Medium	D G G F $\sharp$ G B B	Charles Wesley, 1739; Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; adapted by W. H. Cummings, 1855
Jingle Bells The One Horse Open Sleigh	G major	4/4	G4 to D5 7 semitones	Easy	B B B B B B B	James Lord Pierpont, 1857; James Lord Pierpont, 1857 (this chorus: by 1898)
Auld Lang Syne Should auld acquaintance be forgot	F major	4/4 (pick- up)	C4 to D5 14 semitones	Medium	C F F F A G F	Robert Burns, 1788; Scots folk tune, printed with the words 1799
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear tune CAROL	B $\flat$ major	6/8 (pick- up)	D4 to D5 12 semitones	Medium	F D A C B $\flat$ G F	Edmund H. Sears, 1849; CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1850
O Little Town of Bethlehem tune ST. LOUIS	G major	4/4 (pick- up)	D4 to E5 14 semitones	Harder	B B B A $\sharp$ B D C	Phillips Brooks, 1868; ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1868
The First Noel The First Nowell	D major	3/4	D4 to D5 12 semitones	Easy	F $\sharp$ E D E F $\sharp$ G A	Traditional English; Traditional English tune, in print 1823 and 1833

Level: Easy = 0 or 1, Medium = 2 or 3, Harder = 4 or 5 of: range over 9 semitones; range over an octave; notes outside the key signature; sixteenth notes; a leap of 8 semitones or more. Notes are given in scientific pitch notation (middle C = C4).

Keys, ranges and notes are computed from the melody of each carol, read from the editions named on the carol's own page (The Army and Navy Hymnal 1920 on [Wikisource](#), the [Mutopia Project](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#), [Wikipedia](#)). Free to print and share. musictheoryprint.com/charts/christmas-carols-sheet-music