

# Nigel Gatherer's Workshops



## Sail Away Ladies (traditional)

Sheet music for guitar, including treble clef notation and TAB (T, A, B strings) with chord markings (G, D).

The music is in 4/4 time and consists of four systems. Each system has a treble clef staff with notes and rests, and a TAB staff with fret numbers for the T, A, and B strings. Chord markings G and D are placed above the notes. The first system has four measures, the second has four measures, the third has four measures, and the fourth has four measures. The fourth measure of each system ends with a repeat sign.

This setting of *Sail Away Ladies* is from the fiddling of Max Collins (1916-2001), one of a family of old time fiddlers from Pottawatomie County in Oklahoma.

He learned many tunes from his father W S Collins, and his brother Earl.

One feature which is often a part of old-time music is what I call "anticipated notes," when some notes seem to start before they're expected. It can be tricky to get to grips with, but for some people it may be easier to think of different bar lengths. See if this makes more sense to you:

Alternative notation for the same piece, showing different bar lengths (5/4, 3/4, 5/4) to illustrate anticipated notes.

The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It shows four measures of music, each with a different time signature: 5/4, 3/4, 5/4, and 5/4. This illustrates how the notes in the original 4/4 setting can be perceived as starting early in their respective bars.

