



BARBERSHOP CLASSICS

WORDS & MUSIC

Ray Gilbert

Edward "Kid" Ory

ARRANGEMENT

Rex Reeve

and

SPEBSQSA

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.

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# Muskrat Ramble

STOCK NO. 7362

**Intro**

1 Ra da da da da, 2 ra da da da da, 3 ra da da da da. 4 da.

Bari Bass Bm bm bm

**Verse 1**

5 Shuf - fl - in', 6 ram - bl - in', 7 ram - bl - in', a - shuf - fl - in' down;— ram - bl - in', scam - bl - in', a - ram - bl - in',

8 head - in' for town.— 9 Hus - tl - in', bus - tl - in' an' buzz - in' a - roun',— Hus - tl - in',

Muskrat Ramble

11 hap - pi - ly a - wait - in' at the sta - tion. Look at the  
 12 Look at the train, the num-ber  
 13 Look at the

14 sev - en - o - nine, — huff - in' and puff - in' and ar - riv - in' on time. —  
 15 huff - in'  
 16 huff - in'

17 Who do you think's a - bout to 'rive? The band they call The  
 18 The band  
 19 The band

**Chorus 1**  
 20 Dix - ie - land Five. They're gon - na play that Musk - rat  
 21 play that Musk - rat  
 22 play that Musk - rat

Muskrat Ramble

23 24 25 26

Ram - ble tune — like you've nev - er heard it played. Join in the

Musical notation for measures 23-26, including treble and bass staves.

27 28 29 30 31

big pa-rade. — All to-geth-er now, one and two, join the hap - py throng.

Musical notation for measures 27-31, including treble and bass staves.

32 33 34 35

Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', scram-bl-in', musk-rat song, come on and ramble a -

Musical notation for measures 32-35, including treble and bass staves.

36 37 38 39 40

**Interlude**

long. Ra da da da da, ra da da da da, ra da da da da da.

Well,

Musical notation for measures 36-40, including treble and bass staves.



Muskrat Ramble

Verse 2

41 42 43 44

Shuf - fl-in', a - shuf - fl - in' down, ram - bl-in', a - head-in' for town,

45 46 47 48

hus - tl-in', a - buzz-in' a-round, hap - pi - ly a-wait-in' at the sta - tion.

49 50 51 52

Look at num-ber sev-en - o-nine, huff-in' an' puff-in' an' 'riv-in' on time!

53 54 55 56

Who do you think's a - bout to 'rive? The band they call The Dix-ie-land Five.  
The band

Interlude

Chorus 2

57 Ra da da da da, 58 ra da da da da, 59 ra da da da da 60 da. They're gon - na

61 play that Musk - rat 62 play that Musk - rat 63 Ram - ble tune 64 like you've nev - er

65 heard it played. 66 Join in the big 67 pa - rade.

68 All to-gether now, 69 one and two, 70 one and two, 71 join the hap - py throng.

## Muskrat Ramble

72 Feel the beat of that ram-bl-in', 73 74 scram-bl-in', 75 musk - rat

76 song, 77 (b) come on and ram-ble a- 78 79 ra da da da da,

80 ra da da da da, 81 ra da da da da 82 da, doo wah! 83 84

## Performance Notes

Edward "Kid" Ory, composer, author, conductor, trombonist, was born December 25, 1886 in La Place, Louisiana and died in 1973. His was the first New Orleans band to broadcast and record. He wrote "Muskrat Ramble" as an instrumental piece. Ray Gilbert, composer, author, was born September 15, 1912 in Hartford, Connecticut and died in 1976. Gilbert provided the lyrics to "Muskrat Ramble" and it became very popular around 1926. Gilbert wrote special material for a number of great performers including Sophie Tucker, and was under contract for three and a half years to Walt Disney. He wrote many hits including "Zip-A-Dee Doo-Dah" (1947 Academy Award winner), "You Belong To My Heart," "Sooner or Later," "Everybody Has a Laughing Place" and "Cuanto le Gusto."

**The Four Teens**, 1952 international quartet champion, and youngest quartet to ever achieve gold medal status, first brought an arrangement of "Muskrat Ramble" to the barbershop scene around 1953. The arrangement was fashioned after **The McGuire Sisters'** version. They and The Four Teens had been on the Arthur Godfrey Show together. When Don Lamont, baritone of the Four Teens, left to go to college in 1954, he was replaced by Rex Reeve, bari of the Serenaders, fourth place medalists 1952. Rex put the arrangement on paper and added a few touches. It has since undergone more editing and is hereby published by the Society.

This arrangement demands an uptempo performance. The melody bounces around; it was, after all, written for instruments, so it requires good clarity and agility in the voice. Maintain a solid beat throughout. If the tenor note is too high at the end, use the alternate voicing for the baritone and tenor.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.