

## **A Gift Of A Thistle (Theme from Braveheart)**

### **Performance Notes:**

The tremolo in bars 1-4 is played by resting the (right) thumb on a the d string and using one of the right hand fingers to rapidly strike the top 3 strings up and down. I use the middle finger but use whichever is your fastest finger. Using more than 1 finger (i up m up i down m down for example) gives it more of a flamenco feel which I didn't like here. If this tremolo is not yet in your practice simply play the chords.

I am aware of the fact that the rhythm of the first 4 bars looks different in the original score, however the way I wrote it comes very close to how it's performed the in actual orchestral recording.

There are different opinions or possibilities on how a portamento is played, here is how to do it in this piece: the 1st note is played, the slide happens while this note rings (during it's timing), then the second note is played normally.

The e in bar 9 with the fermata is held exactly 4 beats in the film score I heard, so it would be possible to write a 6/4 bar, however using a fermata seemed more logical.

The small numbers in the score refer to the fingers of the left hand. I don't place fingering numbers in tabs because it can be confusing as the tabs themselves are numbers. To study or if in doubt use the "Score+Tabs" versions because you can see the note, fingering (unless obvious) and fret position for each note.

Each melody note (stems up) should ring until the next melody note is played. Accompanying notes (stems down) are often written shorter than they really are. Otherwise the score/tabs would be very hard to read. These notes generally ring (unless replaced by another note on the same string) until the chord changes which in this piece is only at the beginning of a bar. This is especially important for the bass note on beat 1. An exception is if the transition to the next chord is facilitated by letting go of a note before the end of the bar. In that case I made a personal evaluation.

Michael Marc