



Fourth of

July

music packet

Inside

song facts

song lyrics

music listening

additional viewing

youtube playlist

<https://bit.ly/AllegraJuly4Songs>

The 4th of July

The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July 2020 is on Saturday, July 4, 2020.

1. *The Star-Spangled Banner*

- "The Star-Spangled Banner" is the national anthem of the United States
- The lyrics come from the Defence of Fort McHenry, a poem written on September 14, 1814, by 35-year-old lawyer and amateur poet Francis Scott Key after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry by British ships of the Royal Navy in Baltimore Harbor during the Battle of Baltimore in the War of 1812
- "The Star-Spangled Banner" was recognized for official use by the United States Navy in 1889, and by U.S. President Woodrow Wilson in 1916, and was made the national anthem by a congressional resolution on March 3, 1931, which was signed by President Herbert Hoover

1. *The Star-Spangled Banner*

Oh, say can you see by the
dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at
the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright
stars thru the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched
were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare,
the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thru the night that
our flag was still there
Oh, say does that star-spangled
banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave?

2. My Country 'Tis of Thee

- "America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)" is an American patriotic song, the lyrics of which were written by Samuel Francis Smith
- The melody used is the same as that of the national anthem of the United Kingdom, "God Save the Queen"
- The song served as one of the de facto national anthems of the United States (along with songs like "Hail, Columbia") before the adoption of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the official U.S. national anthem in 1931

1. *My Country 'Tis of Thee*

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside let freedom ring!
My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills, like that above.
Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.
Our fathers' God, to thee,
Author of liberty, to thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

3. *This Land is Your Land*

- "This Land is Your Land" was written by American folk singer Woody Guthrie in 1940, based on an existing melody, a Carter Family tune called "When the World's on Fire", in critical response to Irving Berlin's "God Bless America"
- When Guthrie was tired of hearing Kate Smith sing "God Bless America" on the radio in the late 1930s, he sarcastically called his song "God Blessed America for Me" before renaming it "This Land Is Your Land"
- In 2002, "This Land Is Your Land" was one of 50 recordings chosen that year by the Library of Congress to be added to the National Recording Registry

3. *This Land is Your Land*

This land is your land, and this land is my land
From the California, to the New York Island
From the Redwood Forest, to the Gulf stream waters
This land was made for you and me

As I went walking that ribbon of highway
I saw above me that endless skyway
Saw below me the golden valley
This land was made for you and me

I roamed and rambled, and I've followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts
All around me a voice was sounding
This land was made for you and me

When the sun come shining, then I was strolling
And the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds
rolling

A voice was chanting as the fog was lifting
This land was made for you and me

This land is your land, and this land is my land
From California to the New York Island
From the Redwood Forest, to the Gulf stream waters
This land was made for you and me

When the sun come shining, then I was strolling
And the wheat fields waving, the dust clouds rolling
The voice come in chanting and the fog was lifting
This land was made for you and me

4. *God Bless the USA*

- "God Bless the U.S.A." (also known as "Proud to Be an American") is an American patriotic song written and recorded by American country music artist Lee Greenwood, and is considered to be his signature song
- It was played at the 1984 Republican National Convention with President Ronald Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan in attendance, but the song gained greater prominence during the Gulf War in 1990 and 1991, as a way of boosting morale, and was re-included on his 1992 album *American Patriot* as a result of its newfound popularity
- The popularity of the song rose sharply after the September 11 attacks and during the 2003 invasion of Iraq, and the song was re-released as a single, re-entering the country music charts at No. 16 and peaking at No. 16 on the Billboard Hot 100 pop chart in 2001

4. God Bless the USA

If tomorrow all the things were gone
I worked for all my life
And I had to start again
With just my children and my wife
I thank my lucky stars
To be living here today
'Cause the flag still stands for freedom
And they can't take that away
And I'm proud to be an American
Where at least I know I'm free
And I won't forget the men who died
Who gave that right to me
And I'd gladly stand up next to you
And defend Her still today
'Cause there ain't no doubt
I love this land
God Bless the U.S.A.
From the lakes of Minnesota
To the hills of Tennessee
Across the plains of Texas
From sea to shining sea
From Detroit down to Houston
And New York to L.A.
Where's pride in every American heart
And it's time we stand and say
That I'm proud to be an American
Where at least I know I'm free
And I won't forget the men who died
Who gave that right to me
And I'd gladly stand up next to you
And defend Her still today
'Cause there ain't no doubt
I love this land
God Bless the U.S.A.
And I'm proud to be an American
Where at least I know I'm free
And I won't forget the men who died
Who gave that right to me
And I'd gladly stand up next to you
And defend Her still today
'Cause there ain't no doubt
I love this land
God Bless the U.S.A.

Music and Movement

"The Stars and Stripes Forever" is a patriotic American march written and composed by John Philip Sousa, widely considered to be his magnum opus. By a 1987 act of the U.S. Congress, it is the official National March of the United States of America.

* This is one of my favorite songs to hear this time of year! March along to this classic Patriotic hit – and pretend to play along with the piccolo solo in the middle!

5. God Bless America

"God Bless America" is an American patriotic song written by Irving Berlin during World War I in 1918 and revised by him in the run up to World War II in 1938. The later version has notably been recorded by Kate Smith, becoming her signature song.

"God Bless America" takes the form of a prayer (intro lyrics "as we raise our voices, in a solemn prayer") for God's blessing and peace for the nation ("...stand beside her and guide her through the night...").

5. *God Bless America*

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

6. Yankee Doodle

- "Yankee Doodle" is a well-known American song, the early versions of which date to before the Seven Years' War and the American Revolution
- It is often sung patriotically in the United States today and is the state anthem of Connecticut
- The melody is thought to be much older than both the lyrics and the subject, going back to folk songs of Medieval Europe

6. Yankee Doodle

Yankee Doodle went to town
A-Riding on a pony
Stuck a feather in his cap
And called it macaroni

Father and I went down to camp
Along with Captain Gooding
There were all the men and boys
As thick as hasty pudding

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy

And there they'd fife away like fun,
And play on cornstalk fiddles,
And some had ribbons red as blood,
All bound around their middles.

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy

And there was Captain Washington
Upon a strapping stallion
Giving orders to his men
I guess there were a million

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy

And there I see a little barrel too,
The heads were made of leather,
They knocked on it with little sticks,
And called the folks together.

6. Yankee Doodle

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy

And then we saw a swamping gun,
As big as a log of maple,
Upon a mighty little cart,
A load for father's cattle.

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy
And every time they shoot it off,
It takes a horn of powder,
It makes a noise like father's gun,
Only a nation louder.

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy

It scared me so I hooked it off,
Nor stopped, as I remember,
Nor turned about till I got home,
Locked up in mother's chamber.

Yankee Doodle keep it up
Yankee Doodle Dandy
Mind the music and the step
And with the girls be handy

7. Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy

- "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" is a song which became a major hit for The Andrews Sisters and an iconic World War II tune that first appeared in the Abbott & Costello comedy film, Buck Privates
- "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Original Song but lost out to "The Last Time I Saw Paris"
- The song is closely based on an earlier Raye-Prince hit, "Beat Me Daddy, Eight to the Bar," which is about a virtuoso boogie-woogie piano player

7. Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy

He was a famous trumpet man from out Chicago way
He had a boogie style that no one else could play
He was the top man at his craft
But then his number came up and he was gone with the draft
He's in the army now, a-blowin' reveille
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
They made him blow a bugle for his Uncle Sam
It really brought him down because he couldn't jam
The captain seemed to understand
Because the next day the cap' went out and drafted a band
And now the company jumps when he plays reveille
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
A-toot, a-toot, a-toot-diddelyada-toot
He blows it eight-to-the-bar, in boogie rhythm
He can't blow a note unless the bass and guitar is playin' with 'I'm
He makes the company jump when he plays reveille
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
He was our boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
And when he plays boogie woogie bugle he was buzy as a "bzzz" bee
And when he plays he makes the company jump eight-to-the-bar
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
Toot-toot-toot, toot-diddelyada, toot-diddelyada
Toot, toot, he blows it eight-to-the-bar
He can't blow a note if the bass and guitar isn't with 'I'm
A-a-a-and the company jumps when he plays reveille
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
He puts the boys asleep with boogie every night
And wakes 'em up the same way in the early bright
They clap their hands and stamp their feet
Because they know how he plays when someone gives him a beat
He really breaks it up when he plays reveille
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B
Da-doo-da da-doo-da-da da
Da-doo-da da-doo-da-da da
Da-doo-da da-doo-da-da da
Da-doo-da da-doo-da-da
A-a-a-and the company jumps when he plays reveille
He's the boogie woogie bugle boy of Company B!

O America the Beautiful

- The lyrics were written by Katharine Lee Bates, and the music was composed by church organist and choirmaster Samuel A. Ward at Grace Episcopal Church in Newark, New Jersey. The two never met
- Bates originally wrote the words as a poem, "Pikes Peak", first published in the Fourth of July edition of the church periodical *The Congregationalist* in 1895
- Ward had originally written the music, "Materna", for the hymn "O Mother dear, Jerusalem" in 1882, though it was not first published until 1892

8. America the Beautiful

Oh beautiful, for heroes proved,
In liberating strife,
Who more than self, their country loved,
And mercy more than life,
America, oh America, may God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain devined.

And you know when I was in school,
We used to sing it something like this, listen here:

Oh beautiful, for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties,
Above the fruited plain,

But now wait a minute, I'm talking about
America, sweet America,

You know, God done shed his grace on thee,
He crowned thy good, yes he did, in a brotherhood,
From sea to shining sea.

You know, I wish I had somebody to help me sing this
(America, America, God shed his grace on thee)

America, I love you America, you see,
My God he done shed his grace on thee,
And you oughta love him for it,
Cause he, he, he, he, crowned thy good,
He told me he would, with brotherhood,
(From sea to shining sea).

Oh Lord, oh Lord, I thank you Lord (shining sea)

Music Listening

"American Patrol" is a popular march written by Frank White (F.W.) Meacham in 1885. It incorporates both original musical themes by Meacham and melodies from American patriotic songs of the era such as "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," "Dixie," and "Yankee Doodle." Composed for piano, it was then arranged for wind band and published by Carl Fischer in 1891. Copyright was assigned to Meacham's widow, Cora, in 1912 and renewed in 1919.

Glenn Miller's Orchestra recorded a swing version of the march arranged by Jerry Gray in 1942 which was released as a 78 single on Victor Records.

Additional Viewing

- **Armed Forces Medley**
- **July 4, 2019: 1812 Overture performance, Washington D.C.**

A Special Thank You . . .

to our sponsor,
American Senior Communities
for supporting Perfect Harmony's
mission to promote holistic
well-being and social engagement
through the healing power of music.



**American Senior
Communities®**

ASCCare.com

*Perfect
Harmony*



*The Great American
Songbook Foundation*
Michael Feinstein, Founder

AT THE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**This packet was created by Board-Certified
Music Therapist, Allegra Hein (MT-BC)
who consults with the Perfect Harmony program.**