

The Lumberjack's Alphabet

As sung by Ermina Pincombe

With a swinging lilt ♩ = 66

Capo: 3 G

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The tempo is marked as 'With a swinging lilt' with a quarter note equal to 66 beats per minute. The score consists of four lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics and guitar chords indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: 'A is for axes, you ver-y well know, B is for the boys who use them al-so, C is for chop-ping we so ear-ly be-gin, D is for the dan-ger that all boys are in.' The chords used are G, D, A7, D7, G7, C, and G.

Ms. Pincombe sings this song an octave lower than written. From verse to verse, the rhythm varies considerably from that which is transcribed here. Listen to the audio file as a reference.

2. E is for the echoes that through the woods ring,
F is for the foreman that feedeth our gang,
G is for the grindstone, so swiftly doth turn,
H is for the handle, so smoothly it's worn.

3. I is for the iron that marketh our pines,
J is for the joker that's not far behind,
K is for the keen edge our axes doth keep,
L is for the lice that keep us from sleep.

4. M is for the moss that we stuff in our camps,
N is for the needle that mendeth our pants,
O is for the owl that hoots in the night,
P is for the pine that always fell right.

5. Q is for quarrelling that we don't allow,
R is for the river we run our logs through,
S is for the sleds that stand up so strong,
T is for the teams that haul them along.

6. U is for the use that we put our teams to,
V is for the valley we plow our logs through,
W is for the woods that we leave in the spring,
Now you've heard the song I was going to sing.

7. X, Y and Z, these are the last three,
No mortals on earth are as happy as we,
For it's hi deary, ho deary, hi deary down,
The shanty boy's happy when nothing goes wrong.