

Violin

# Cotton-Eyed Joe

Old Time  
arr: Kearton

## Skeletal Melody

Musical notation for the skeletal melody of Cotton-Eyed Joe, measures 1-8. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 2/4. The melody is written on a single staff in treble clef. Chord markings 'A', 'E', and 'A' are placed above the staff at measures 1, 7, and 8 respectively. Measure numbers 1, 5, and 9 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

## Variation 1

Musical notation for Variation 1 of Cotton-Eyed Joe, measures 9-16. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 2/4. The melody is written on a single staff in treble clef. Chord markings 'A', 'E', and 'A' are placed above the staff at measures 9, 15, and 16 respectively. Measure numbers 9, 13, and 17 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

### Performance tips:

Playing a hoedown is a little different from playing your regular solos or orchestra music. You don't have to play exactly what's on the page, you just have to stay in the right key and keep the right number of beats.

The skeletal melody is just a framework--you can add your own special touches to personalize it. To make your own variation you can try altering the rhythm, adding slurs or double stops, or filling in spaces in the music. Variation 1 gives you some ideas of other ways you could play it. Visit [www.Bow-DaciousStringBand.com](http://www.Bow-DaciousStringBand.com) for more tips.

Beware of G# and C# on your lower strings!