

## Cover Page

### Greensleeves, for Four Violins/optional viola

**Title:** Greensleeves

**Origin:** This is a 16 Century English ballad, composed by "Anonymous"

**Key:** E minor

**Metre:** 3/4

**Rhythms:** 

**Skill Level:** Violin 1 & 3- Level 2; Violin 2: Level 3; Violin 4: level 1

**Duration:** 2:15

#### About the Music:

This is one of songdom's 'greatest hits'. It's words are heart-tugging and the major-minor melody wonderfully memorable. It is often sung entirely in the Aeolian mode. In this arrangement the flow mode to mode is very clear.

#### Performance Suggestions

- Viola may be substituted for Violin 4.
- **Tempo** may be quicker if you like - but not too much so!!
- Part AB (first time) may be played as a **duet** before adding the other parts.
- Choose your **Violin 2** players carefully - this is a more advanced part.
- Observe the **crescendo** before letter **C**

#### Pedagogy

- Work to achieve a calm and lilting **3/4rhythm**
- Use **1/2 position** at m. 14 and m. 31
- Violins 3 & 4 **learn to listen** during the dotted halves.
- Violin 2 uses special **three-note slurring** at **C** and **D**.
- The **ritard** in the final two measures is worth getting just right.