



BAGPIPE TUTORIALS

Pipe Major Bill Robertson,
ex The Royal Scots



St. Andrew's Cross

Slow Air - Tempo about 52-56 BPM

Pipe Major Alex Matheson The Royal Scots

Musical score for the first part of St. Andrew's Cross, consisting of four staves of music in 2/4 time. The music features a slow, steady pace with a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, and some triplet markings.

Below alternative bars 4 and 5, second part of above St. Andrew's Cross – The grip on low A is relatively open in execution as shown in the sound file and video.

Alternative bars 4 and 5 of St. Andrew's Cross, showing a different rhythmic pattern for the second part of the piece.

High G for E in bar 5.

Bruce's Address

Slow air - Very steady march tempo of about 60 BPM

Traditional

Musical score for Bruce's Address, consisting of four staves of music in 2/4 time. The piece is a traditional slow air with a steady march tempo, featuring a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Pointers:

In **St. Andrew's Cross**: basically observe the good upbeat of each beat for the controlled rhythm. Obviously, there is plenty of time to have good clear/clean execution in such slow tunes. As usually, please use the audio file for more detail. **There is no need to repeat parts in these two tunes.**

In **Bruce's Address (Scots Wha Hae)**, basically, in the two tied notes the dotted notes are a shade longer and the short notes a shade shorter than one might expect, without clipping. The pause mark ^ denotes tasteful extra duration/feeling as in the demonstrations. The following two bars are relatively slightly slower. The execution is all very simple and should be easy enough for good clarity. The setting is very close to that in Robert Burns's song books I have – one very old 1892, and the other about the mid 1950s.

This Bruce's Address old melody was used by two famous classical/serious music composers: Hector Berlioz in his "Rob Roy" overture, and by Max Bruch in his "Scottish Fantasy" for violin and orchestra.