



BAGPIPE TUTORIALS

Pipe Major Bill Robertson,
ex The Royal Scots



The MacNeill's of Ugadale March PM JM MacKenzie BEM

The bars at the foot are alternative G grace notes for relevant 2nd and 6th bars throughout if preferred

The musical score is presented in ten staves, each containing a single melodic line. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. There are several repeat signs (double bar lines with dots) and first/second endings (marked with '1' and '2' above the staff). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The score is written in a standard musical notation style with a treble clef and a common key signature.

Please note that the second times' starting notes replace the first time through last eighth note of the 4th bar.



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LESSON POINTERS

The compound time of 6/8 with two beats to the bar has a basic pulse/beat rhythm of 1—2,3-; 1—2,3- and so on.

The often dotted 8th note downbeat "1" has the longest relative duration. The 16th note "2" is relatively short, while the eighth note "3" must have the remaining relevant duration of the upbeat.

In some music books including a more recent one and some through the internet in compound time tunes particularly might have too many grace notes. I call it "overloading" that can spoil the melody and perhaps the proper rhythm. Maintain the flow of the piece and consider a suitably controlled musical tempo when playing for your own enjoyment and that of others. Half tachums on upbeats in 6/8s etc, not the full tachum that is too much.