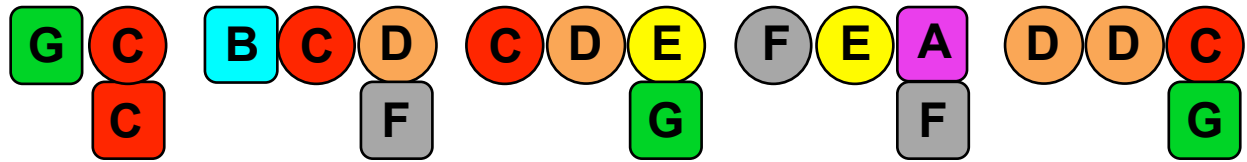
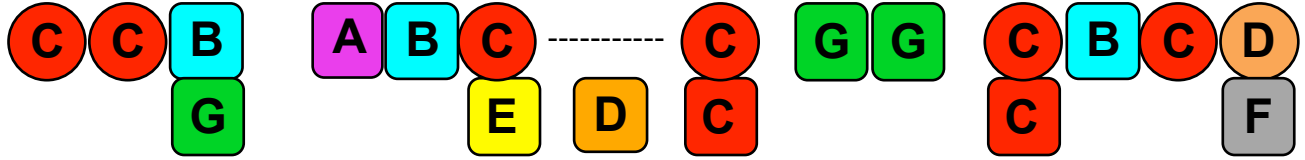


My Grandfather's Clock

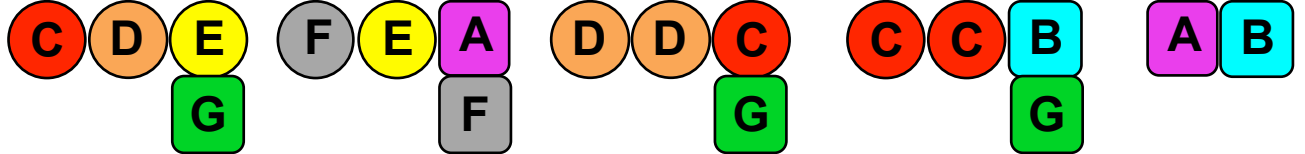
START



My grandfather's clock Was too large for the shelf So it stood



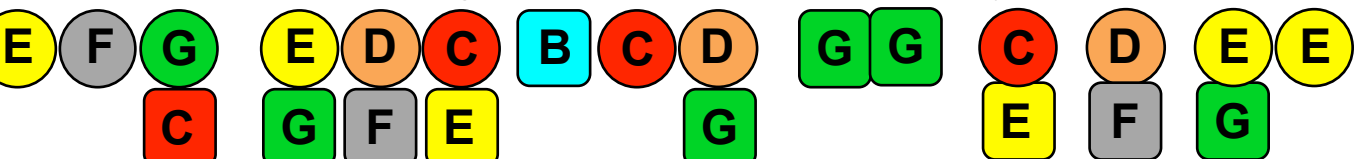
ninety years on the floor; It was taller by half



Than the old man himself, Though it weighed not a penny - weight



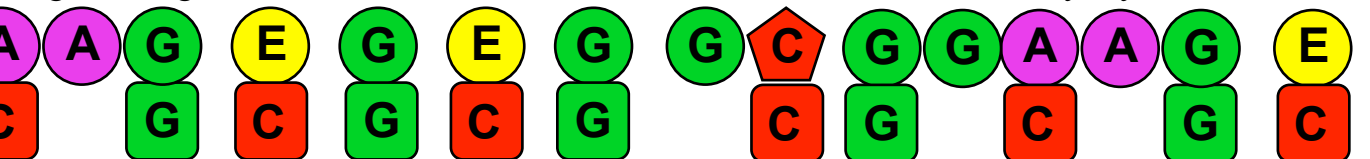
more. It was bought on the morn of the day that he was born,



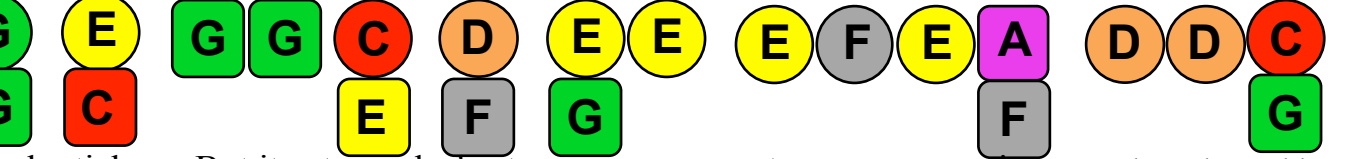
And was always his treasure and pride; But it stopped short, never



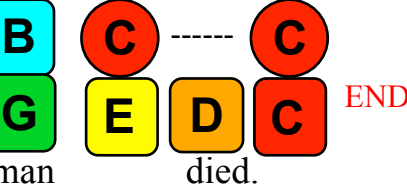
to go again, When the old man died. Ninety years without



slumbering, Tick, tock, tick, tock, His life seconds numbering, Tick



tock, tick, But it stopped short never to go again, When the old



man died.

Lyrics on page 2
 Template on page 3
 History and Origin on page 4

Lyrics

My grandfather's clock
Was too large for the shelf,
So it stood ninety years on the floor;
It was taller by half
Than the old man himself,
Though it weighed not a pennyweight more.
It was bought on the morn
Of the day that he was born,
And was always his treasure and pride;
But it stopped short,
Never to go again,
When the old man died.

(Chorus)

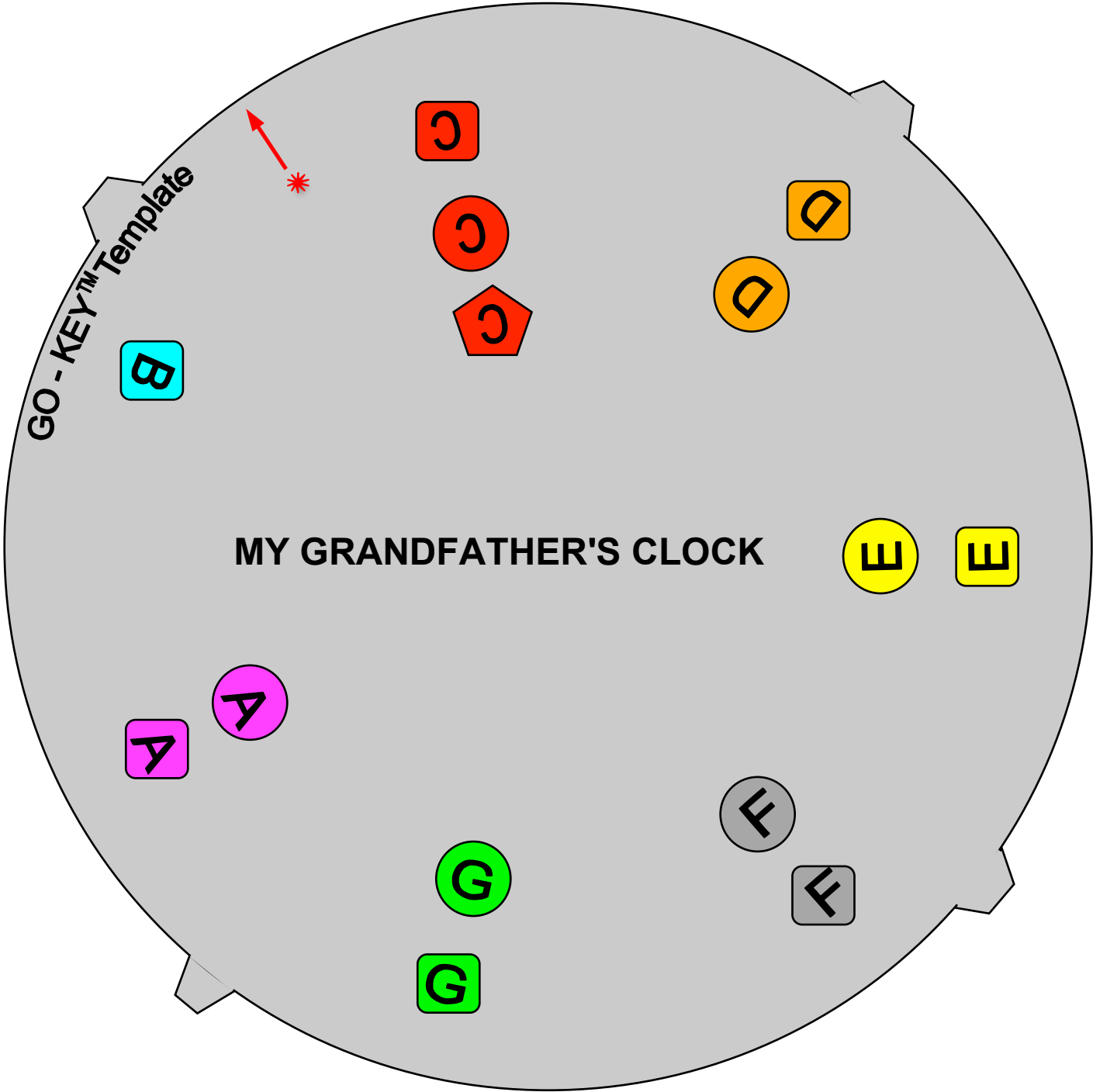
Ninety years without slumbering,
Tick, tock, tick, tock,
His life seconds numbering,
Tick, tock, tick,
It stopped short
Never to go again,
When the old man died.

In watching its pendulum
Swing to and fro,
Many hours had he spent as a boy;
And in childhood and manhood
The clock seemed to know,
And to share both his grief and his joy.
For it struck twenty-four
When he entered at the door,
With a blooming and beautiful bride;
But it stopped short
Never to go again,
When the old man died.

(Chorus)

My grandfather said
That of those he could hire,
Not a servant so faithful he found;
For it wasted no time,
And had but one desire,
At the close of each week to be wound.
And it kept in its place,
Not a frown upon its face,
And its hand never hung by its side.
But it stopped short
Never to go again,
When the old man died.
(Chorus)

It rang an alarm
In the dead of the night,
An alarm that for years had been dumb;
And we knew that his spirit
Was pluming its flight,
That his hour of departure had come.
Still the clock kept the time,
With a soft and muffled chime,
As we silently stood by his side.
But it stopped short
Never to go again,
When the old man died.
(Chorus)



History and Origin

"Grandfather's Clock" is a song written in 1876 by Henry Clay Work, the author of "Marching Through Georgia". It is a standard of British brass bands and colliery bands, and is also popular in bluegrass music. It has also been sung by male choruses such as the Robert Shaw Chorale. The Oxford English Dictionary says the song was the origin of the term "grandfather clock" for a longcase clock. In 1905, the earliest known recording of this song was performed by Harry Macdonough and the Haydn Quartet (known then as the "Edison Quartet").

Storyline

It was in a Piercebridge hotel that the author encountered a remarkable clock that inspired the song. The song, told from a grandchild's point of view, is about his grandfather's clock. The clock is purchased on the morning of the grandfather's birth and works perfectly for 90 years, requiring only that it be wound at the end of each week. Yet the clock seems to eerily know the good and bad events in the grandfather's life – as it rings 24 chimes when the grandfather brings his bride into his house, and near his death it rings an eerie alarm, which the family recognizes to mean that the grandfather is near death and gathers by his bed. After the grandfather dies, the clock suddenly stops, and never works again.

Uses:

- Johnny Cash covered the song on his 1959 album *Songs of Our Soil*. Evelyn Knight recorded the song for Decca Records. Also in 1959, it was included on *The Four Lads' album, Swing Along*. Other versions became popular in other countries; it is well known to many generations in Japan, with a cover by singer Ken Hirai becoming massively popular in 2002.
- In March 1961, on his album, 'Swing Low' (Side 2, Track 1), Sam Cooke did a rendition of the song.
- Bing Crosby included the song in a medley on his album *101 Gang Songs* (1961).
- The song was the inspiration for the 1963 *Twilight Zone* episode "Ninety Years Without Slumbering".
- A popular clock toy, marketed by Fisher-Price from 1962 to 1968, had a dial on it that, when turned, caused the music box mechanism in the toy to play the song along with clock-like ticking and moving hands on the face of the clock. An updated version of the toy (which is completely made of plastic and with other activities like a clicking plastic mouse on the side) has been manufactured by Fisher-Price since 1994. Imitations of the toy made by various companies exist and are sold in various countries worldwide.
- John Fahey recorded a solo guitar version on his 1967 album *Days Have Gone By*.
- In 1983, Fred Penner, a Canadian children's entertainer, covered "My Grandfather's Clock" on the LP album *Special Delivery*, which was later rereleased as *Ebenezer Sneezer* on CD in 1994.
- A version of the song was recorded by Red Grammer on his 1994 family music recording, *Down The Do Re Mi*.
- "My Grandfather's Clock" is a playable song in the 2008 video game *Wii Music*.
- This song was also used in the game, *Five Nights at Freddy's 2*, made by Scott Cawthon, which was released on November 10, 2014. The chorus of the song plays whenever a music box is wound up to keep one animatronic character away; whereas, the other antagonists are unaffected by it.