“After You’ve Gone”

“After You’ve Gone” was composed by Turner Layton and Henry Creamer in 1918. It quickly became a “jazz standard” – that is, a song so well-crafted yet malleable that both jazz singers and instrumentalists created different interpretations of it. The hundred-year-old song has had popular renditions recorded by a diverse collection of our greatest jazz performers including Bessie Smith, Louis Armstrong, Bing Crosby, Fats Waller, Benny Goodman, Coleman Hawkins, Lionel Hampton, Art Tatum, Ella Fitzgerald, and many others. One of the most popular was

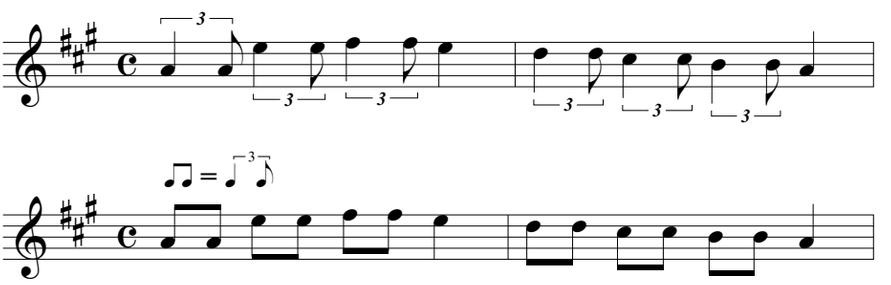
Frank Sinatra’s version from his 1984 *L.A. Is My Lad*y album.

Practice Suggestions for “After You’ve Gone”

• Prepare your best posture.

• This is our first tune that uses “swung” 8th notes. Now you’re really in Jazzland! In jazz tunes, this swung rhythm pattern is commonly written as even 8th notes but is played unevenly. For each printed pair of 8th notes, the first one is longer as if it is held for two notes of a triplet. The second printed 8th note is played as if it is one note of a triplet.

• Try playing “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” with swung 8th notes to get the feel of the rhythm.



• These two lines look different but sound the same. Also listen to the recording to get the sound in your ear. Notice the key signature! Here are the finger patterns for each string with no sharps or flats:

E: Low 1, Low 2, 3, 4
A: 1, Low 2, 3, 4
D: 1, Low 2, 3, 4
G: 1, High 2, 3, 4

• Unlock your left hand at the base knuckle of your first finger and vibrate on all notes a quarter note or longer.

• This tune uses lots of the 4th finger. Make sure it is placed on its tip and each knuckle is round when it plays. Note the Low 4th finger on the note G# in measures 18, 26, 34, and 36.

• **Need more help with the “swing” idea?** Sher Music Co. has an excellent book, *Rhythm First!* by Tom Kamp that outlines the basic idea of swing rhythm. If teacher and student go through this book together, both will come up with a clearer understanding of this fundamental jazz aspect.

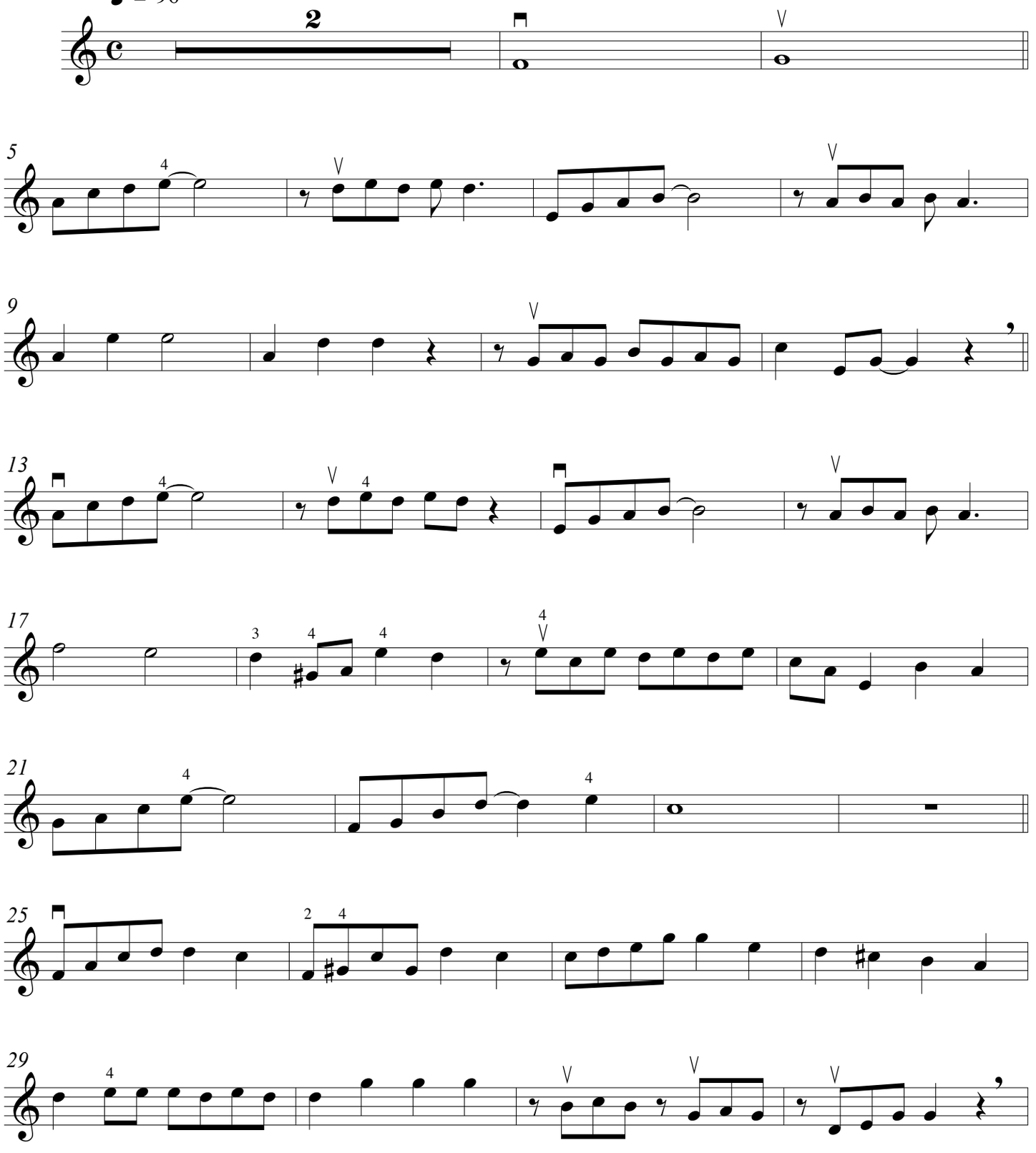
Violin

"After You've Gone"

Medium Swing ♩♫ = ♩³♪

♩ = 96

Creamer/Layton
Arr. Keefe/Mitchell



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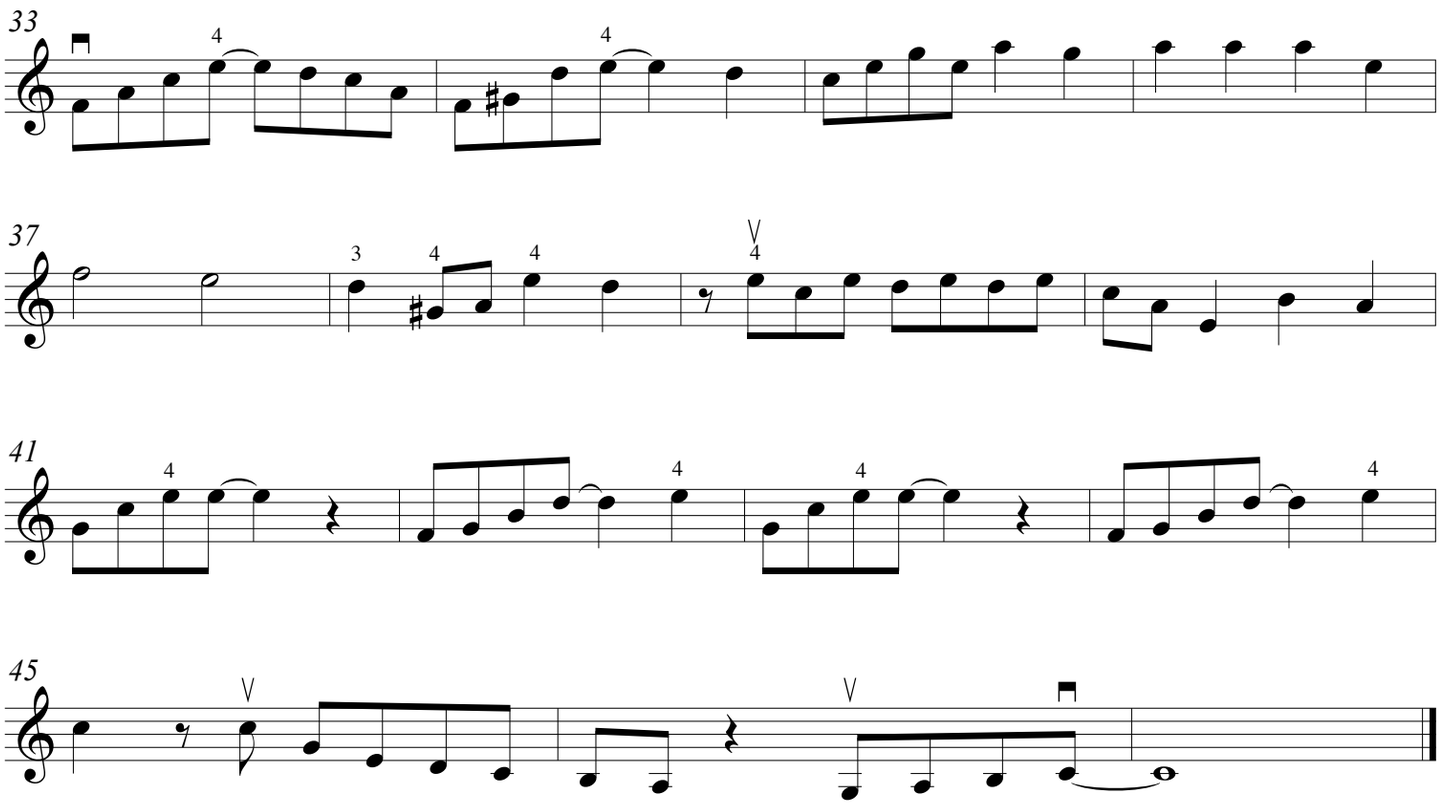
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