# Songs for the Celtic D Karimba

The Celtic D Karimba is designed to play Celtic music in the key of D major, or B minor, or E dorian mode. Not all Celtic music is in D, but it is a common key for Celtic music.

With two rows of interspersed tines, the spacing between adjacent tines on the same row is significantly increased. This makes fast melody playing easier (because the tines are spread out more), but it makes glissandos and chords a bit more difficult (because the tines are spread out more).

The Celtic D Karimba is made by mounting on a solid board, mainly because box kalimbas cannot support the high notes in the middle.

There are 15 notes to cover two octaves of the D major scale... but as there are 17 tines on the Celtic D Karimba, this gives us an extra low tine, C#, and an extra high tine, E. These notes make a buffer below and above the two octave range. Melodies will sometimes have little turnarounds that go down to the low C# or up to the high E.

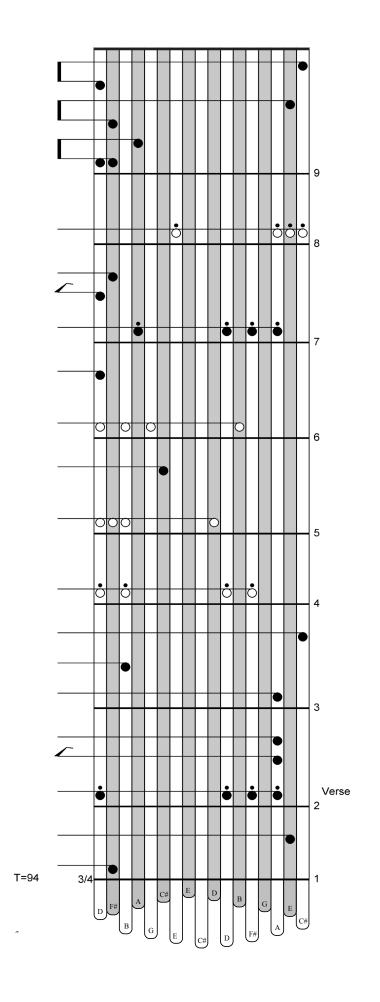
The low note, C#, is a half step above middle C on the piano.

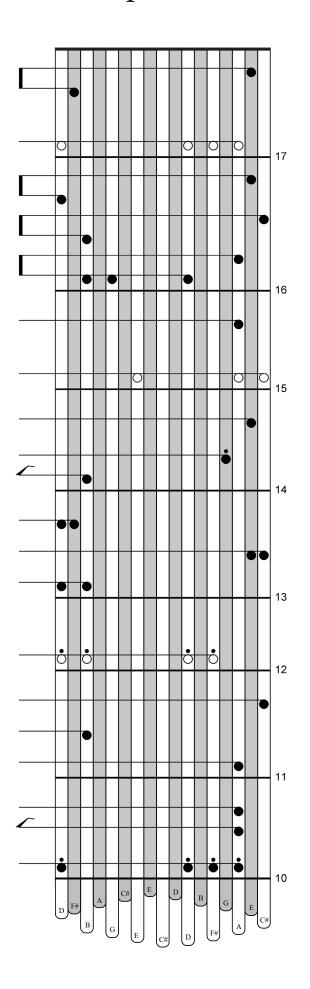


In principle, anything that you can play on the Alto kalimba (two octaves of the diatonic G major scale) can also be played on the Celtic D. The song must be transposed up a 5th from G to D, and the Alto tablature will not work for teh Celtic D... but every note from an Alto song can be reproduced on the 2+ octave range of the Celtic D Karimba.

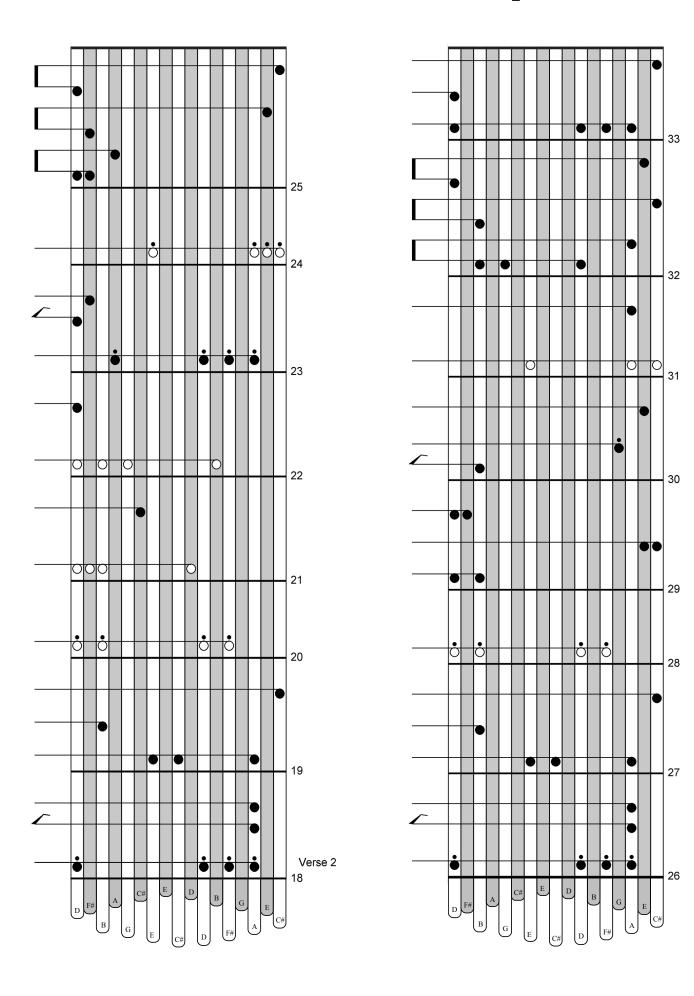
Admittedly, unless you are very familiar with the songs on the Alto and can play them "by ear", the process of going through the Alto tablature note by note and transposing will be very tedious. On the other hand, if you have the Alto KTabS files, translating the song to the Celtic D setup is trivial. This means that, while it might not be easy for you, it will be easy for me, so you can expect more beautiful music coming out for the Celtic D Karimba.

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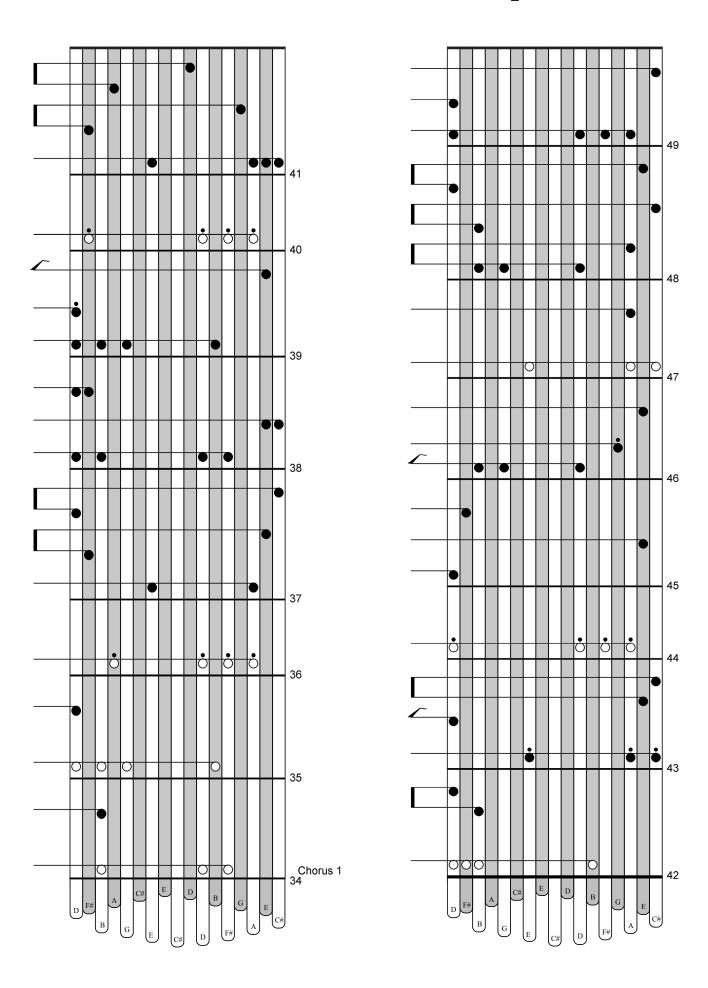




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