

COPYRIGHT AND LICENSING

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE PLANNING YOUR PERFORMANCE

Under the Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act (1988), it is a legal requirement for schools to comply with copyright law, and ensure they hold the correct licences for performing musicals. As experienced teachers ourselves, we understand that time restraints and lack of advice can sometimes mean this aspect of your production is not dealt with, or that the details and requirements are not fully understood. We therefore try to make the process of licensing your performances as simple as possible.

General Guidelines

You are free to use any of our material for all classroom teaching purposes and for performances within school to only pupils and staff. However, if our musicals are to be performed to an audience other than pupils and staff from your school (eg. parents or other people from the wider community) then a performance licence must be obtained directly from Edgy Productions.

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The performance of works involving drama, movement, narrative or spoken dialogue requires a title and date specific licence from the copyright holder/publisher – in this case Edgy Productions. The requirement for a licence is irrespective of admission charges. **Your PRS, PPL, CCLA or any equivalent local authority-issued licences do not cover you for such performances.** A performance licence from us will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

* **If you are performing outside of your school premises, for example in a local theatre, please contact us as further conditions apply. For more information, visit www.edgyproductions.com/licences**

Audio and Video Recordings

If you wish to make an audio or video recording of the performance of any of our musicals, you will need an additional **recording and duplication licence** from Edgy Productions. This will also allow you to make and sell copies of your recordings if you wish to do so. We no longer request that you pay a commission to us on the money you raise from the sale of recordings.

File Sharing

You are not permitted to share any of our copyrighted material, either in printed form, on disc or in digital file format, with anyone who is not a pupil or teacher within your school or organisation. We will take immediate action should an incident of illegal file-sharing be reported or discovered.

You can, of course, phone or email us for advice – we are more than happy to discuss all your licensing needs.

Tel: 01858 288081
Email: info@edgyproductions.com

PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of ‘The Stars Come Out For Christmas’ to an audience other than staff and children (eg. to parents), a valid performance licence from Edgy Productions must be held. Please note, your PRS, MCPS, CCLI or similar local authority-issued licence does not cover you for this. **Unless you purchased an instant performance licence and/or a recording & duplication licence when you bought this production pack, please ensure you complete and return this form at least 28 days before your first performance:**

- by post – Edgy Productions, 8 Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 7PQ
- by FAX – 0845 833 33 49
- by email – info@edgyproductions.com

The performance licence will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

Contact name:
Name of school / organisation:
Address:
..... **Postcode:**
Tel: **email:**

Number of performances: **Performances Dates: from** **to**

By ticking, select one of the performance licence options below:

Standard Performance Licence ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)
(no admission charged and no tickets sold)

or

Performance Licence with charges ☐ **£36.00** (including VAT)
(admission is charged and/or tickets are sold)

☐ * Tick if you are performing outside your school premises, for example in a local theatre, as further conditions apply – see www.edgyproductions.com/licences

If you are recording any performance, and/or selling copies of the recording, you will **also** need a recording and duplication licence.

Recording and Duplication Licence ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)

By ticking, select one of the payment options below:

☐ I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to Edgy Productions Ltd

☐ Please send me an invoice for £..... (payment terms 30 days)

**Writers rely on payments from public performances for their livelihoods.
Please ensure they receive their dues.**

Scene 1

(As the fanfare introduction to the opening song (track 8) is playing, the children enter and take their positions to sing.)

song – The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas (lyrics page 17) *(whole cast)*

(The children take their places on and around the stages – see below – an announcer dressed in evening-wear steps forward to speak, if possible into a microphone.)

Announcer ~ *(flamboyantly)* Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to the showbiz event of the year – the Christmas Awards Ceremony! We’re live from Hollywood, in Tinsel-town to find out who will win the top award of ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’! But first, give a huge round of applause for your hosts, Mr Noël Knowles and the beautiful Miss Carol Singer!

(To rapturous applause, Carol and Noël enter, dressed in eveningwear, and stand on a small separate stage/podium to one side of the main stage – see staging suggestions. Carol carries a gold envelope and Noël a gold statuette of a Christmas cracker, which they place on a small table on their podium. They can carry clipboards, or have decorated music stands in place, on which scripts can be put, to prompt them with their words – they have quite a few.)

Noël ~ Thank you everyone, and good evening. You look beautiful, Carol.

Carol ~ Thank you, Noël. Yes, hello everyone. It’s lovely to see so many of you here. I bet you can’t wait to find out who will win the ‘Cracker’, the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas.’

Noël ~ But before that, let’s go over to Ollie Berry and Chrissie Pressie, who are out on the red carpet with some fans of tonight’s stars!

(To the other side, or in a separate section of your hall, Ollie and Chrissie stand in front of a rope barrier holding microphones, and clip boards with their words attached – they too have a lot to say. Behind the rope barrier stands an excited crowd of fans, waving banners in support of the various stars we will be meeting.)

Chrissie ~ Thanks Noël. Well, these fans have been here all day, hoping to see their favourite Christmas stars arrive.

Ollie ~ So you lot, who should win the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’ tonight? *(he points his microphone to a fan)*

Fan 1 ~ *(excitedly)* It’s got to be Santa! He’s the greatest Christmas star of all!

Fan 2 ~ *(excitedly)* Christmas dinner! I can’t imagine Christmas without the dinner!

Ollie ~ *(to another fan)* Who do you think will win the ‘Cracker?’

Fan 3 ~ (*excitedly*) I want Christmas trees to win! They make Christmas so sparkly!

Chrissie ~ (*to another fan*) And what about you?

Fan 4 ~ (*excitedly*) Snow! Everybody loves a white Christmas. Snow! We love you!

(All the fans start cheering for their favourites. Ollie and Chrissie cover their ears. Ollie shouts into his microphone.)

Ollie ~ As you can see, everyone has their favourite star. Noël and Carol, back to you.

Carol ~ OK, let's get on with the award. It's time to take a look at our first star.

Noël ~ Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, please make some noise for.....the Christmas cards!

*(As everyone cheers, the **fanfare music** plays (track 9) and a procession of Christmas cards walk past the cheering fans and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Three cards step forward.)*

Card 1 ~ We're deserving of this prize
Because we work so hard.
Nothing spreads warm festive greetings
Like a Christmas card.

Card 2 ~ We keep everyone in touch,
Bridge continents and seas,
Bringing love and best wishes
To friends and families.

Card 3 ~ Cheap and humble we may be,
But look at what we do –
We let you know that someone out there....

All cards ~ REALLY CARES FOR YOU!

song – Send Me On My Way (*track 10, lyrics page 18*)
(Christmas cards supported by whole cast)

(As the backing track is played again the cards return to their places, and we join Ollie and Chrissie with the crowd of fans. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 2

Chrissie ~ Christmas cards! They certainly have contributed a lot over the years!

Ollie ~ They remind me of a joke, Chrissie. What do vampires put in the post box at Christmas?

All fans ~ Fang mail! (*tut*) That's such an old one!

Chrissie ~ (not impressed) Mmmm. Noël and Carol, it’s back to you.

Carol ~ Things are really hotting up! OK, let’s take a look at our next star.

Noël ~ Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, go wild because it’s……. Santa Claus and his helpers!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 11) and a procession of elves, reindeer and of course Santa, walk past the fans and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Santa, an elf and a reindeer step forward.)*

Elf ~ You think we only work at Christmas –
 That’s a misconception.
 We’re making toys throughout the year,
 Each day without exception!

Reindeer ~ Through many cold and dark night skies
 My team has pitter-pattered,
 Pulling Santa’s Christmas sleigh.
 We’re all completely shattered!

Santa ~ A hundred-billion presents
 In just one night, you know!
 But it’s a job that keeps us
 Really jolly…….

All ~ HO! HO! HO!

song – Boogie-Woogie Santa *(track 12, lyrics page 19)*
(Santa and helpers supported by whole cast)

(As the backing track is played again Santa and his helpers return to their places, and we join Ollie and Chrissie with the crowd of fans. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 3

Chrissie ~ Listen to this crowd! Santa must be one of the favourites to win tonight!

Ollie ~ Hey everyone, shhh, calm down and listen. Why was Santa’s little helper upset?

All fans ~ Because he had low elf-esteem! *(tut)* That’s such an old one!

Chrissie ~ (not impressed) Mmmm. Well this crowd is getting restless. Carol and Noël, it’s back to you.

Noël ~ Those fans do seem keen to hear from our next star, or maybe they’re just getting fed up with those rotten jokes.

Carol ~ Our next star hasn’t been around much lately, but we all hope it will turn up this year. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it’s…….snow!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 13) and a group of children in hats, scarves and gloves carry a snowman (or lead an actor dressed as a snowman) past the cheering fans, and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Three children step forward with the snowman.)*

Child 1 ~ Snow at Christmas! That would be
Such a Yuletide treat.
Just like icing on the cake,
It would make Christmas sweet.

Child 2 ~ When grandparents were nippers,
So very long ago,
On Christmas day they’d step out
Onto crisp and even snow!

Child 3 ~ Rosy cheeked, they’d build a snowman,
Have a snowball fight,
We’d love that too on Christmas day, but....

All ~ THERE’S NO SNOW IN SIGHT!

song – Why Won’t It Snow? *(track 14, lyrics page 20)*
(Children in winter woollies, supported by whole cast)

(As the backing track is played again the children and snowman return to their places, and we join Ollie and Chrissie with the crowd of fans. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 4

Chrissie ~ Hey everyone, what do snowmen wear on their heads?

All fans ~ We don’t know. What do snowmen wear on their heads?

Chrissie ~ Ice caps! *(Everyone laughs. Ollie looks slightly annoyed.)*

Ollie ~ Well how about this one. How do you know if a snowman doesn’t like you?

All fans ~ He gives you the cold shoulder! *(tut)* That’s such an old one!

Ollie ~ *(grumpily)* Carol, Noël. Back to you.

(Carol and Noël have a finger in one ear and are looking to one side, as if in conversation with the director through an earpiece.)

Carol ~ Can’t you stop him making such awful jokes. It’s embarrassing.

Noël ~ *(noticing the audience)* Oh! Right! Moving on. Let’s meet our fourth Christmas star of the evening. A very prickly customer, it’s.....the Christmas tree!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 15) and a procession of decorated Christmas trees walk past the cheering fans and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Three trees step forward.)*

Tree 1 ~ An older Christmas character
There has never been.
We’ve brightened up Christmas
Since Victoria was queen.

Tree 2 ~ There’s such a wide variety
Of tree for you to choose;
A plain old pine, or if you’re posh
A Norwegian blue spruce!

Tree 3 ~ And when we’re in our finery
All eyes light up in wonder,
So go and get a Christmas tree.....

All ~ TO PUT YOUR PRESENTS UNDER!

song – Christmas Tree Song *(track 16, lyrics page 21)*
(Christmas trees supported by whole cast)

(As the backing track is played again the trees return to their places, and we join Chrissie and a sulky Ollie with the fans. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 5

Chrissie ~ Well, everyone out here is in great spirits after hearing from the Christmas trees, apart from you, Ollie. What’s the matter?

Fan 5 ~ *(leaning over the rope)* Come on Ollie. Cheer up. It’s Christmas.

Fan 6 ~ *(teasing)* Tell us another joke. You never know, we might not have heard it.

(The fans and Chrissie cheekily snigger, but Ollie perks up a bit.)

Ollie ~ OK then, what happens if you eat Christmas tree decorations?

All fans ~ We don’t know, Ollie. What happens if you eat Christmas tree decorations?

Ollie ~ You get tinsel-itis! Ha ha!

(There is a ‘tumbleweed’ moment, as everyone falls silent, obviously not finding the joke funny. Ollie sulks some more.)

Chrissie ~ *(shaking her head)* Carol, Noël. Back to you.

Noël ~ Thank goodness we’re nearly at the end. I can’t take much more of that. Carol, who is our final star of the evening?

Carol ~ Well this one makes everyone feel good on Christmas day. Yum yum, it’s.....the Christmas dinner!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 17) and a table and chairs are brought on – see staging suggestions/scenery. Members of a large family carrying different dishes walk past the cheering fans and sit round the table. Finally two people struggle to bring on the huge turkey, which they set down to huge applause.)*

Diner 1 ~ Christmas dinner! It’s the highlight
Of my Christmas day!
Look at this delicious spread
For us to ‘put away’!

Diner 2 ~ Round the dinner table
In each other’s company,
Christmas day with loved ones –
That is how it’s **meant** to be.

Diner 3 ~ Yes, alright! Now can we start?
I’m absolutely starving?

Diner 2 ~ First we must give thanks to God.....

All ~ AMEN! RIGHT! LET’S GET CARVING!

song – Christmas Dinner Is A Winner *(track 18, lyrics page 22)*
(Big family, supported by whole cast)

(As the backing track is played again the diners return to their places, and we join Chrissie and an even sulkier Ollie with the fans. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 6

Chrissie ~ Well, now we’ve met all the stars, and we’re all dying to find out which one is going to win the cracker. Carol, Noël, it’s back to you.

Noël ~ This is so exciting. It’s time to open the golden envelope to find out who has made the Outstanding Contribution to Christmas.

Carol ~ Before we do that, will our Christmas stars join us on the stage.

*(One or two representatives from each star’s group jostle for position on or in front of the main stage. Noël picks up the cracker statuette, and Carol picks up the golden envelope. She opens it and as she starts to read the card inside we hear a **drum roll** (track 19) and everyone looks excited.)*

Carol ~ OK, here goes. The award for Outstanding Contribution to Christmas goes to...

Noël ~ (*his finger in his ear*) What’s that? A late entry? Carol, stop!

(Everyone gasps then looks around, muttering in confusion)

Noël ~ Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it seems we still have to hear from another star! Please welcome...what’s her name?...Ok...Beth!

All ~ Beth? Who is Beth?

*(The **fanfare music** plays (track 20) and a star walks to the front of the stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Confused, the other characters move back to their seats. The star carries an old book/scroll from which she has lots to read.)*

Beth ~ I’m the Star of Bethlehem. They call me Beth for short,
By ‘star’ I don’t mean ‘celebrity’, I’m the celestial sort.
I’ve come here to tell a tale, the greatest tale by far,
And show you what it means to be a real Christmas star.

(Beth moves to Carol and Noël’s podium and opens the book/unrolls the scroll. The Nativity characters get ready. Mary sits centre stage.)

Mary lived long ago, in a country far away.
The Angel Gabriel came down and appeared to her one day.

(Gabriel enters, and Mary looks afraid.)

Gabriel ~ Mary, a woman blessed are you, for you’re God’s chosen one.
He has given you the honour of bearing him a son.
He’ll be a child so full of love. Jesus shall be his name.
He’ll change the world forever, things will never be the same.

Mary ~ Angel, I am frightened by your words. How can this be?
Of all the women in the world, why has God chosen me?

Gabriel ~ So kind and gentle as you are, God puts his trust in you.
Do not fear, Mary. It’s a wondrous thing you do.

(Gabriel exits and Joseph enters.)

Beth ~ Mary was betrothed to Joseph, a carpenter by trade.
She feared her news would put an end to marriage plans they’d made.

Mary ~ Joseph, come and sit by me a while. Give me your hand.
Listen well to what I say, and try to understand.

(They huddle in conversation)

Beth ~ Her worries were unfounded, for Joseph proved his worth
And vowed to be a father to this heavenly child on earth.

The next months were spent happily, until one fateful day
When Joseph told his wife that they must journey far away.

Joseph ~ The emperor Augustus has issued a decree,
That every man in the empire must take his family
And register to be taxed in the town where he was born.
Collect some things together, Mary dear. We leave at dawn

(He helps her up and they exit. The innkeeper brings on a manger, containing a hidden doll, which he sets down centre stage. Mary and Joseph re-enter.)

Beth ~ Tired from their journey, they eventually arrived
In Bethlehem. They found an inn and asked for room inside.

Innkeeper ~ I’m sorry but we have no room, like every place in town.

Mary ~ But I’m about to have my baby. Where can I lie down?

Innkeeper ~ All we have is a stable, but it’s safe and warm.
It’s yours if you need somewhere for your baby to be born.

(The innkeeper exits. Mary kneels by the manger and lifts up and cradles the ‘baby’, while Joseph stands behind her.)

Beth ~ So Mary had a baby boy, just as the angel said.
She lay him down on clean fresh hay, a manger for his bed.
Such lowly of beginnings for someone who’d one day be
The saviour of mankind, who came to earth to set us free.

(The shepherds enter and sit at the front of the stage, looking out.)

Now in the fields sat shepherds, watching their flocks by night.

Shepherd 1 ~ What’s that in the distance? That strange shimmering light?

Shepherd 2 ~ Look, it’s coming closer! And listen to that sound!

Beth ~ In fear they fell onto their knees, trembling on the ground.

(The angels enter and stand to one side. Afraid, the shepherds kneel.)
A host of angels praising God appeared in front of them,
With news that they should hurry to the town of Bethlehem.

Angels ~ Glad tidings of great joy we bring, so do not be afraid.
The son of God is born tonight, and in a manger laid.
See, high up in the night sky, there shines a brilliant star.
It rests over a stable where mother and baby are.

Beth ~ That star of which the angels spoke, which shone so beautifully,
Was the brightest star there’s ever been. That star was me.

(The angels exit and the shepherds stand, pointing to the sky. They move centre stage and approach the manger.)

Shepherds ~ We have heard wonderful news, it's filled our hearts with joy.
If we may, could we kneel and worship the baby boy?
We've brought a lamb to offer him, so soft and pure its fleece,
A gentle gift to lay before the gentle Prince of Peace.

(Mary gestures them towards the manger, where they kneel in praise. The three Kings then enter at the back of your hall.)

Beth ~ Now, I'd been shining weeks before, up in the eastern sky,
Where three kings had been keeping watch, waiting for a sign.

King 1 ~ There, the bright new star that we've waited so long to see.

King 2 ~ And look, my friends, it seems to be moving westwardly.

King 3 ~ See, it beckons us to follow! Its radiance will lead us
Onward 'til we reach the place where lies the baby Jesus.

(Carrying gifts, the kings move through the audience.)

Beth ~ For many nights I led them on their way – I was their guide.
They followed me to Bethlehem, and to the baby's side.

(The kings kneel and offer their gifts to Jesus.)

Kings ~ Gold, frankincense and myrrh, these are the gifts we bring,
To you the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, our only King.

(All the nativity characters gather close around the manger. Beth joins them.)

Beth ~ And as these special people gathered on this special night,
I shone down upon them – the very first Christmas light.

song – Silent Night *(track 21, lyrics page 23)*
(Nativity characters, supported by whole cast)

Scene 7

(Noël and Carol both have their fingers in their ears, listening to instructions.)

Carol ~ You want me to do what?.....Well, if you insist.

(She rips up the envelope to the gasps of everyone.)

Noël ~ Well, after that amazing story there can really be only one winner of the award
for Outstanding Contribution to Christmas.

Carol ~ Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, the cracker goes to a true star of Christmas.

Noël ~ A star without whom that wonderful story could not have been told. Please give a huge round of applause for the Star of Bethlehem....Beth!

(To applause Carol and Noël move across to present the cracker to Beth. She produces another piece of paper from which she reads her acceptance speech.)

Beth ~ Thank you all so very much. This means a lot to me. I have lovely memories of that night so long ago. I’m glad I had the chance to remind you of how it all started, and what the true meaning of Christmas is.

(applause)

But I mustn’t forget to mention all the other wonderful stars here tonight, and the very important contributions they make to Christmas.

(As each star is mentioned one or two representatives join Beth main stage.)

All you Christmas cards, Christmas is about showing people you care, and nobody does that better than you.

(applause)

Santa and your helpers, you show us the joy we can have in giving gifts to those we love.

(applause)

And snow? It would be nice to see more of you at Christmas. It’s a time which should be full of fun, and what could be better fun than building snowmen or throwing snowballs?

(applause)

All you Christmas trees. Home is the best place to be at Christmas, and you bring magic, light and happiness into ours.

(applause)

And Christmas dinner. You bring families together to share in the warmth and love everyone should feel on Christmas day.

(applause)

So, well done to one and all, and Merry Christmas everyone!

(huge applause, and an echo of ‘Merry Christmas’)

Carol ~ So, there we are. What a fantastic way to end our celebrations. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, we hope you’ve had as exciting a time as we have!

Noël ~ Thanks to you, our audience, to all our stars, to the fans out there by the red carpet, and of course to you Chrissie and Ollie.

Chrissie ~ Thanks to you too Noël and Carol. We’ve had great fun out here with all the fans, haven’t we Ollie?

(Ollie is still sulking.)

Fan 1 ~ Come on Ollie. Let’s have one last Christmas joke!

Ollie ~ No!

Fan 2 ~ Oh, please Ollie! Just one more before we go!

Ollie ~ No!

All fans ~ OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE!.....

Ollie ~ Oh, alright then. *(nervously mumbling)* What do you get if you cross a snowman and a shark?

Whole cast ~ We don’t know! What do you get if you cross a snowman and a shark?

Ollie ~ Frost bite!

(The whole cast erupts into laughter, applause and ‘hoorays’ for Ollie. He cheers up instantly, and inspired by the success of the joke he goes into overdrive!)

Ollie ~ Ok then! Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters? They both drop their needles! What does Santa do in his garden? Lots of Ho Ho Ho-ing! What do snowmen eat for breakfast? Frosted flakes! Who is never hungry at Christmas? The turkey - it’s always stuffed!.....

(The jokes continue fast and furiously, until the opening bars to the final song drown them out. Everyone joins in for an uplifting finale.)

song – The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas (track 22)
(whole cast)

THE END