

Bransle

A 16th century quartet by Gervaise for descant, treble, tenor and bass recorders.

	Sounding at written pitch				Octave higher
	descant	treble	tenor	bass	
Part 1	Part 1 - descant	Play from Part 1 - sopranino			Sopranino
Part 2	Part 2 - descant	Part 2 - treble	Part 2 - treble		Descant – play from Part 2 treble
Part 3		Part 3 - tenor	Part 3 - tenor		Descant – play from Part 3 tenor
Part 4				Part 4 - bass	Treble – Play from Part 4 bass

The 4th part really needs a bass instrument, it goes too low for tenor. Keyboard or guitar would be fine.

There are 3 easy parts:

1. Left hand descant – just G & A
2. Right hand ('Suzuki style') descant – just low D & E
3. 2 finger treble – E & D

It works well with drums and tambourine.

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structure & articulation

This is a good piece for introducing varied articulation (tonguing).

- ‘T-D’ to produce a smooth tongued legato.
- ‘dt’ to make short light notes.

- Don’t miss out the breaths – they’re for phrasing not health!
- Don’t ‘bump’ the short notes before the breaths, they need to be light and gentle.
- 1st beats of bar are strongest – tonguing indicated in upper case.

There are 2 sections to learn:

A: 8 bars

B: 4 bars

Structure is AA BB A

Here’s how we’re doing it:

1st time: Gentle and precise (descant, treble, tenor, bass)

A1: legato with short light notes before *mandatory* breaths

A2: light stacatto (except treble quavers which need to be smooth)

B1: legato with short *light* notes

B2: light stacatto (including quavers)

A3: legato

8 bars loud drum

2nd time: Bit louder and wilder. Drum throughout.

All legato – including repeats

Sopraninos (8va) on repeats.

Example descant part follows. It’s simpler (and more in keeping with the style) to explain this than provide excessively detailed and annotated parts,

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Performance structure and articulation

GERVAISE

5 **A1** legato

T - d - t - dt T - d - t - dt T - d - t - d - D - d -

9 **A2** staccato rpt

Dt dt dt dt

13

17 **B1** legato

T - d - t - d - t - d - t - d - t - dt

21 **B2** staccato rpt

25 **A3** legato

29

33 drum (solo)

37 **A** legato + sopraninos on rpts

41

45 **B** legato + sopraninos on rpts

49 **A** legato + sopraninos

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8

descant

treble

tenor

bass

5 note descant

LH treble

This system contains six staves, each with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The staves are labeled on the left: 'descant', 'treble', 'tenor', 'bass', '5 note descant', and 'LH treble'. Each staff contains four measures of music. The notes are quarter notes, and there are 'v' marks above the notes in the second and fourth measures of each staff. The first measure of each staff starts with a '4' below the staff line.

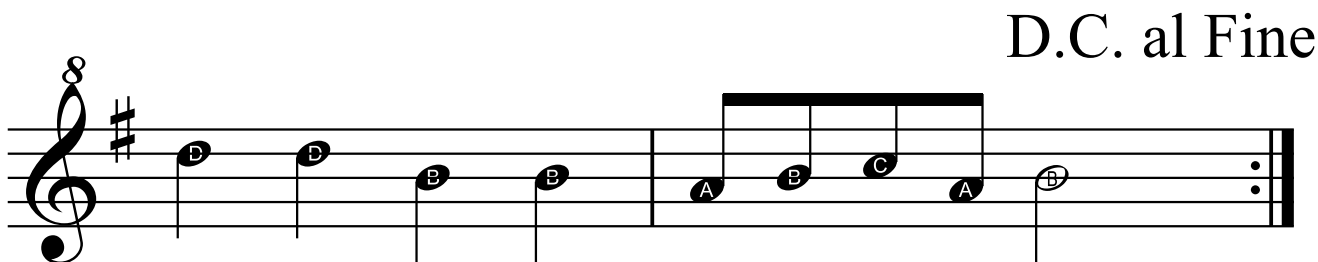
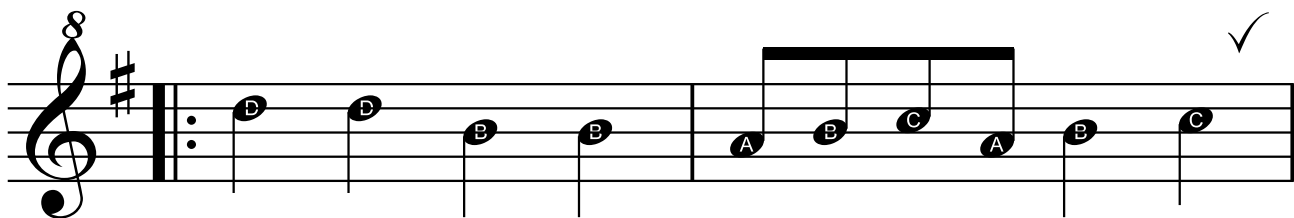
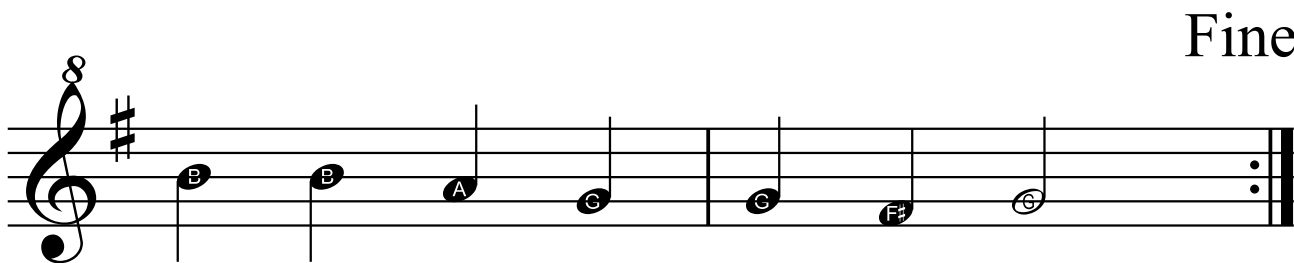
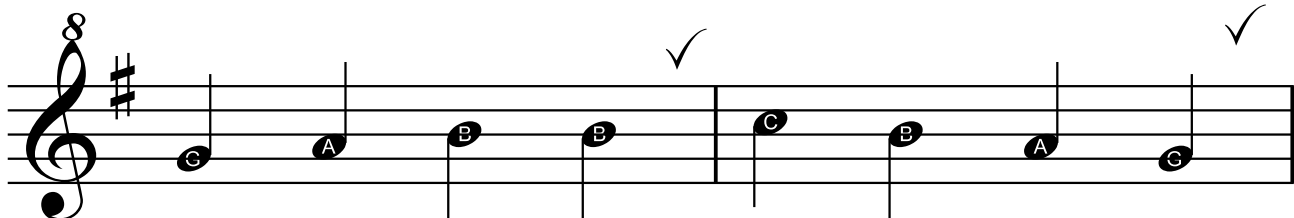
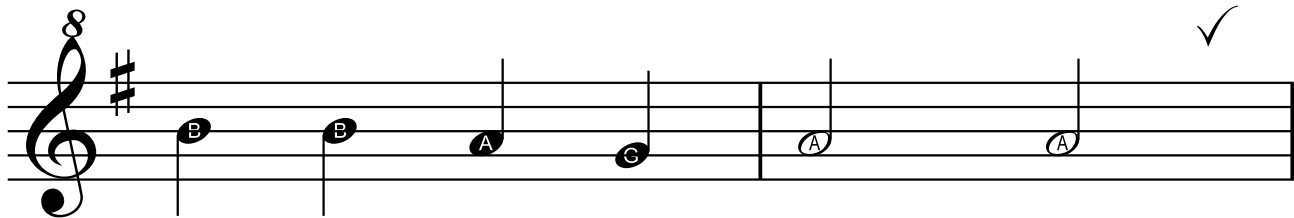
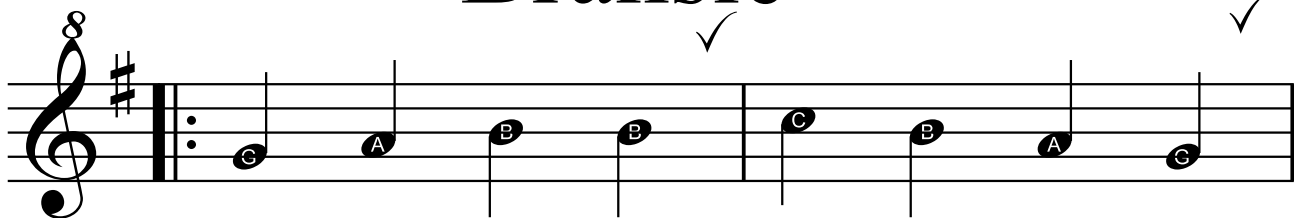
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This system contains six staves, each with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The staves are labeled on the left: 'descant', 'treble', 'tenor', 'bass', '5 note descant', and 'LH treble'. Each staff contains four measures of music. The notes are quarter notes, and there are 'v' marks above the notes in the second and fourth measures of each staff. The first measure of each staff starts with a '4' below the staff line. The final measure of each staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots (:).

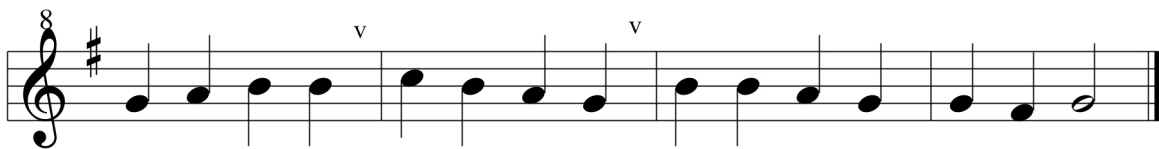
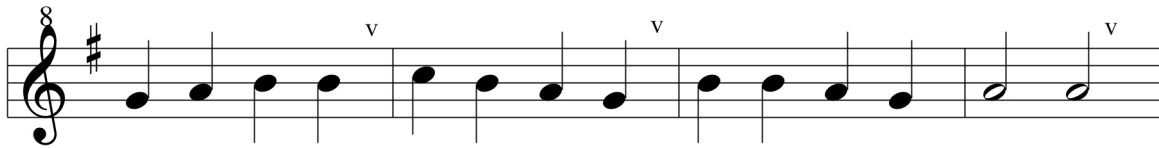
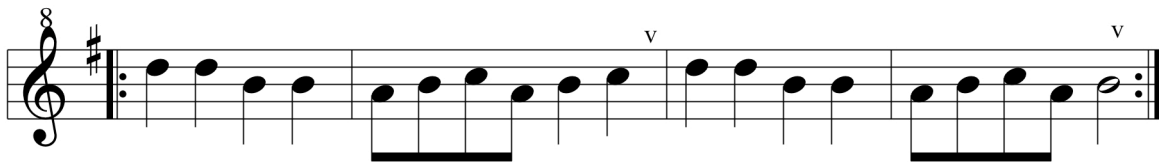
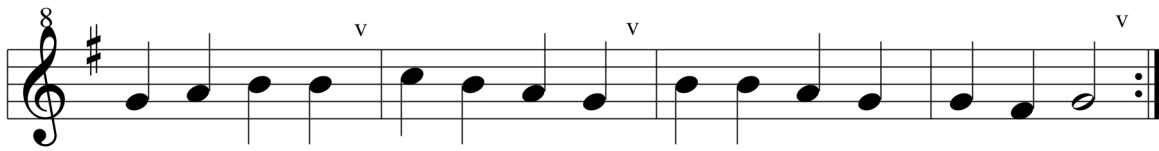
System 1: Four staves of music in D major (two sharps). The first staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. Measures 1-4 are shown. Measure 1: D4, E4, F#4, G4. Measure 2: A4, B4, C5, D5. Measure 3: D5, C5, B4, A4. Measure 4: G4, F#4, E4, D4. Vertical bar lines are present after measures 2 and 3. Repeat signs are at the end of measures 1 and 4. A 'v' (breath mark) is placed above the first staff in measures 3 and 4.

System 2: Four staves of music in D major. Measures 5-8 are shown. Measure 5: D4, E4, F#4, G4. Measure 6: A4, B4, C5, D5. Measure 7: D5, C5, B4, A4. Measure 8: G4, F#4, E4, D4. Vertical bar lines are present after measures 6 and 7. Repeat signs are at the end of measures 5 and 8. A 'v' (breath mark) is placed above the first staff in measures 5, 6, 7, and 8.

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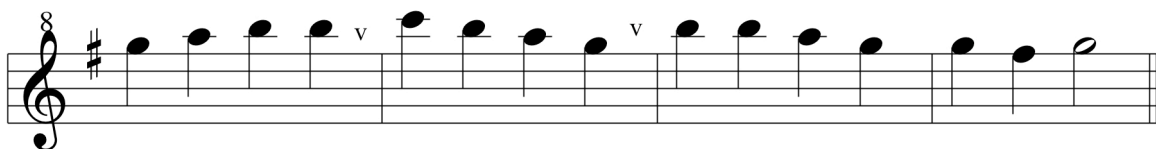
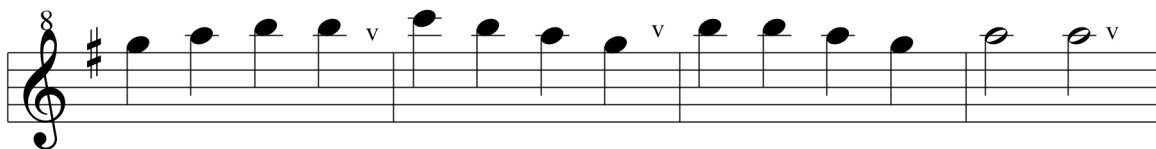
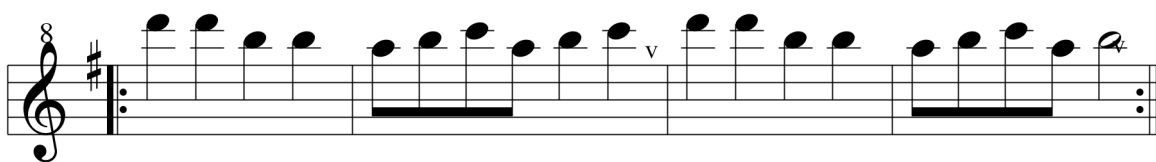
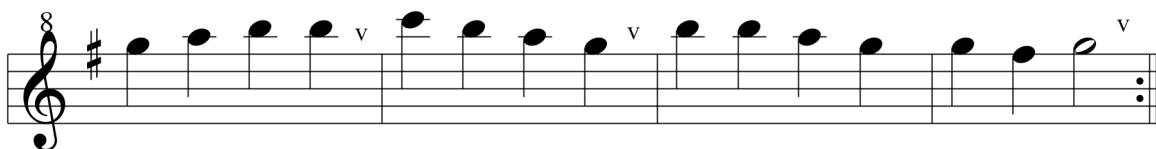


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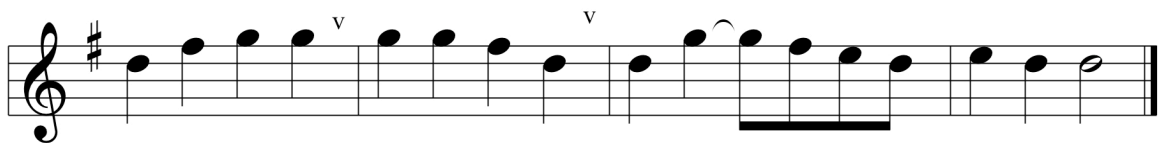
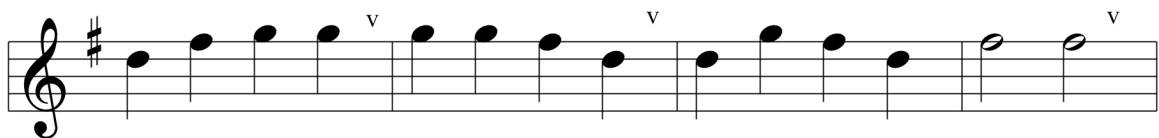
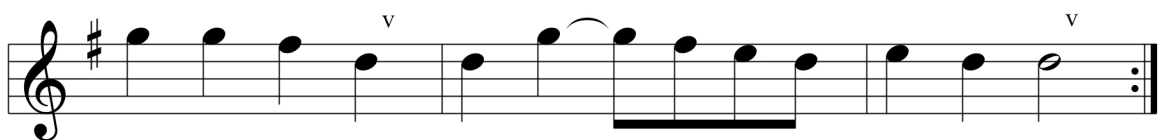
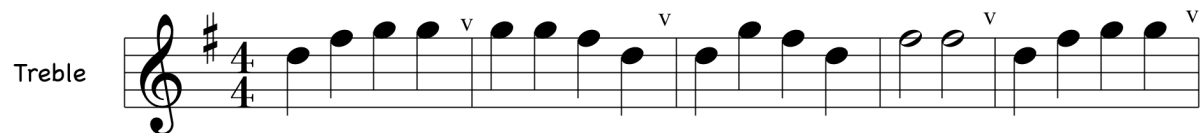


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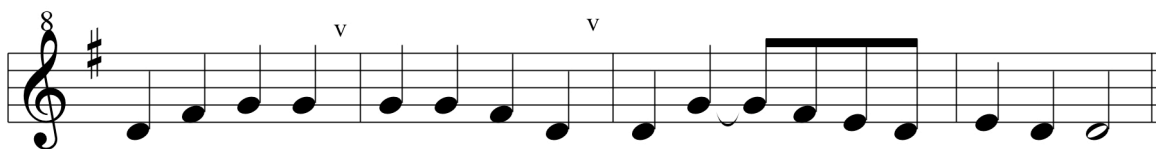
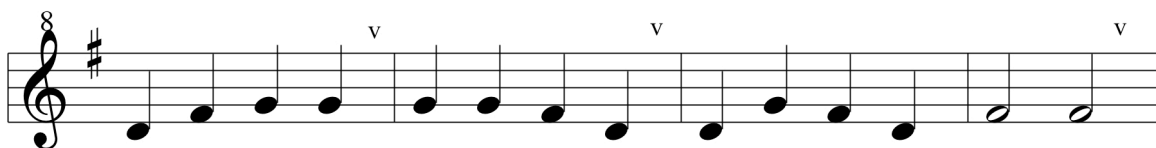
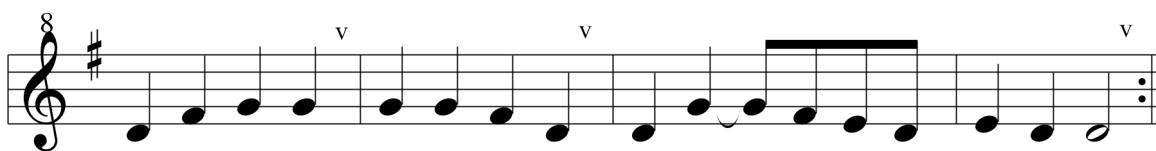
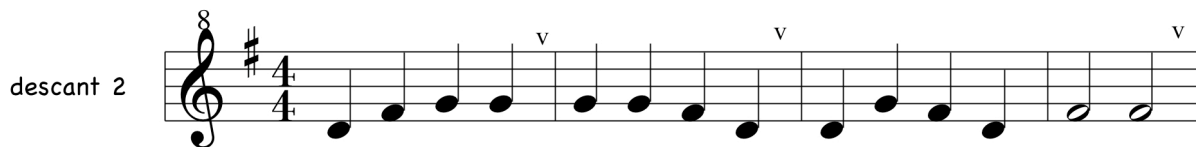
Sopranino



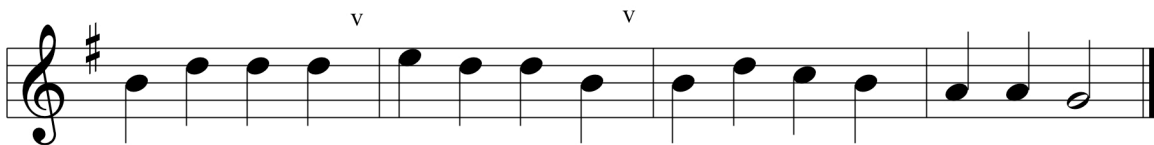
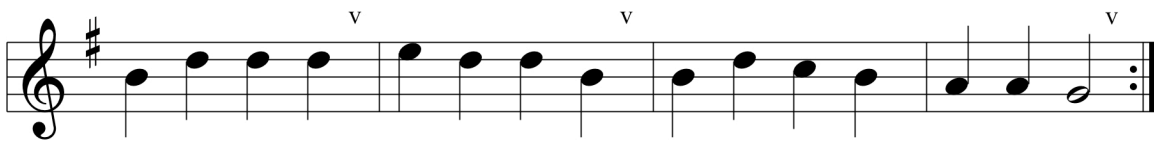
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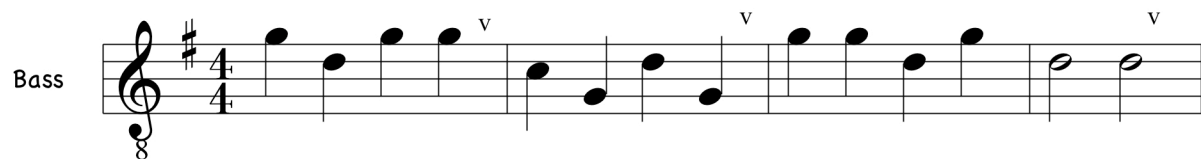
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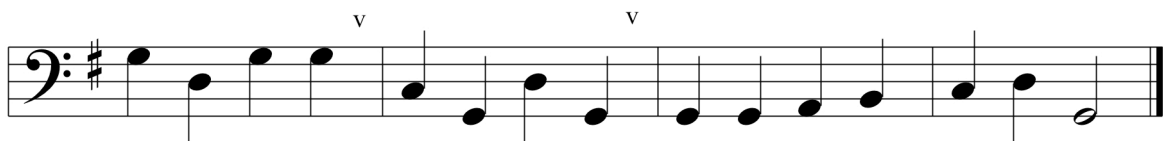
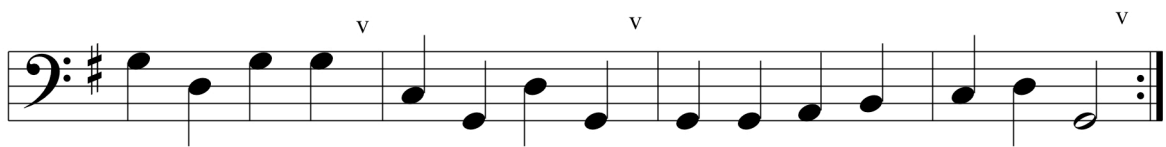
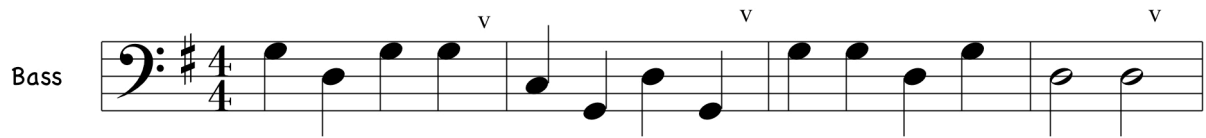
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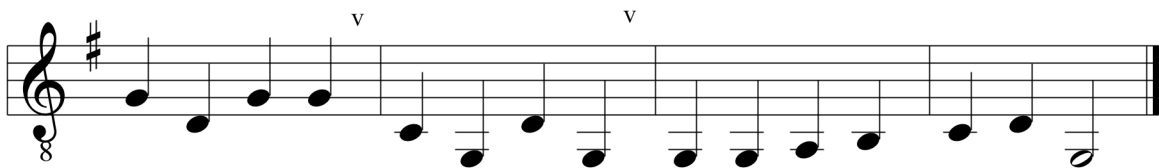
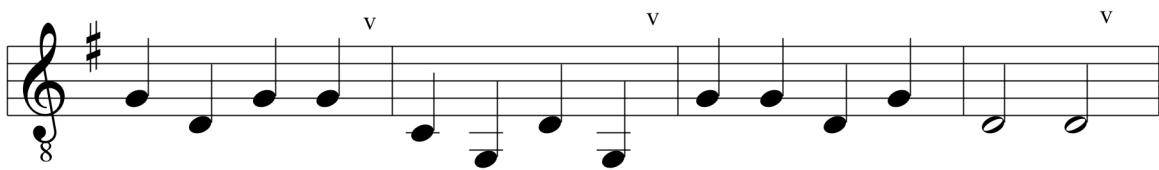
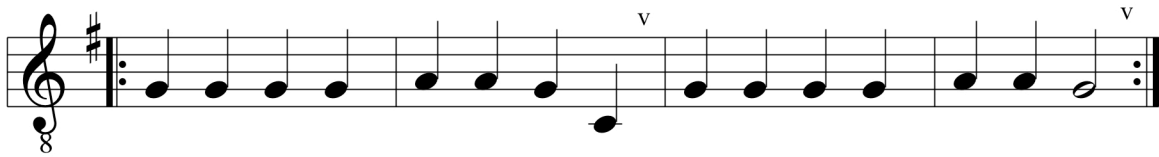
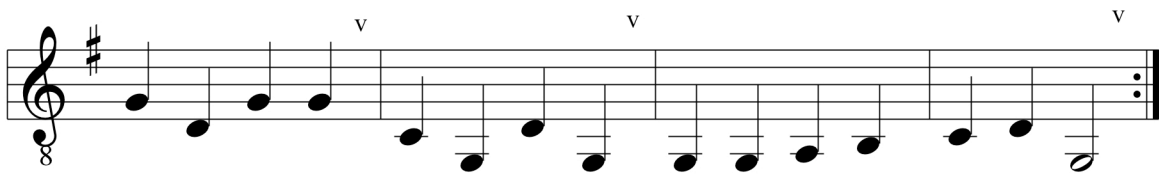
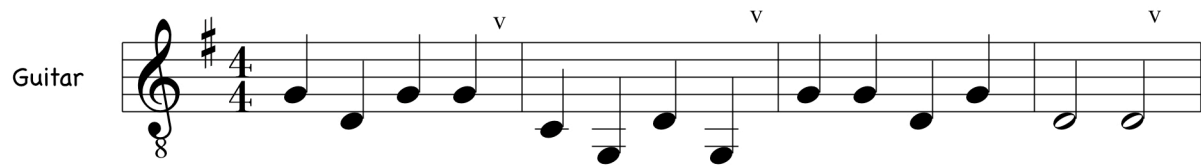
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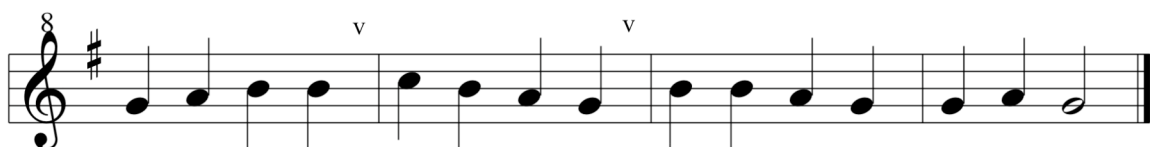
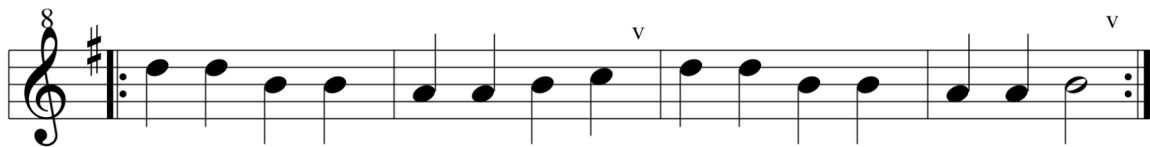


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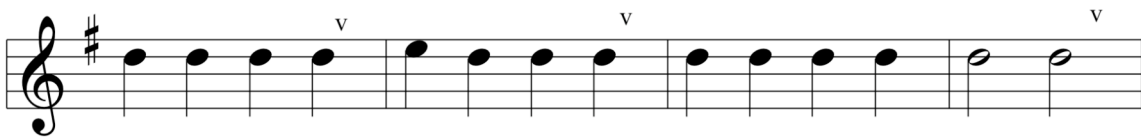
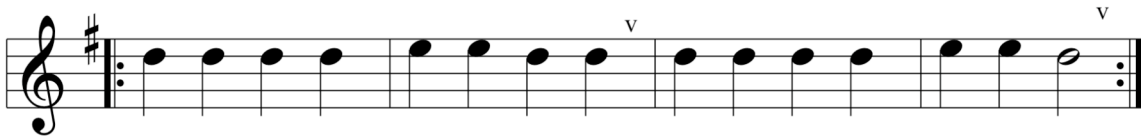
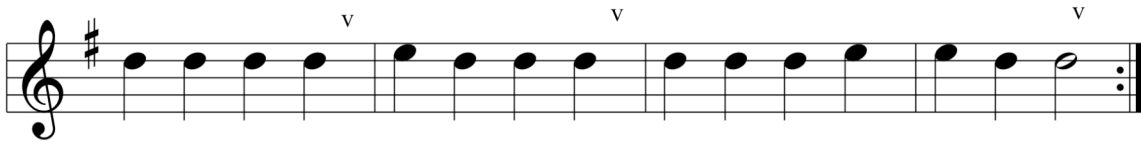
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5 note descant



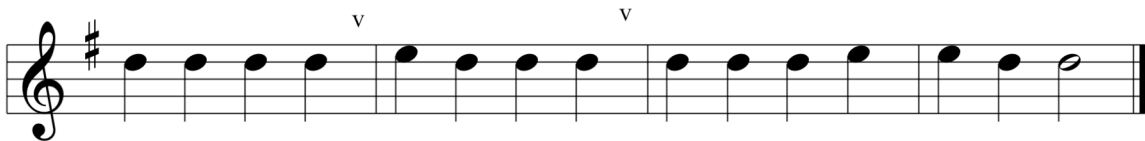
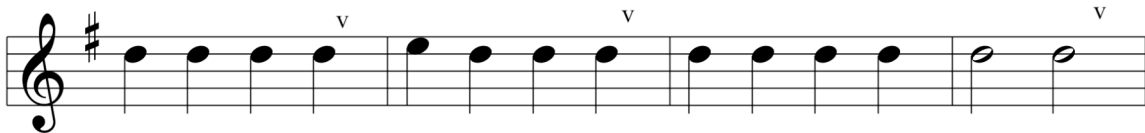
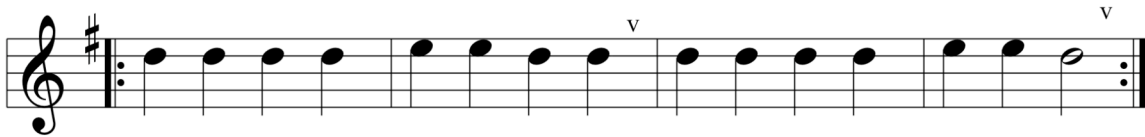
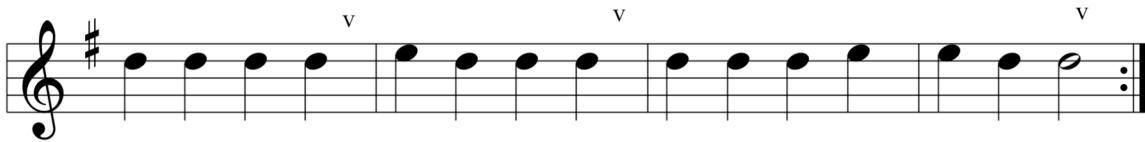
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2 note treble



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RH descant



Kybd reduction

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GERVAISE

This image shows a piano reduction of the 'Bransle Gervaise' dance. The score is written for two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The music is organized into five systems, each containing four measures. The first system starts with a repeat sign. The second system begins at measure 5. The third system begins at measure 9. The fourth system begins at measure 13. The fifth system begins at measure 17 and ends with a double bar line. The melody in the treble clef is characterized by eighth-note patterns, often beamed in pairs, and is frequently tied across measures. The bass clef provides a steady accompaniment with a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes. The piece concludes with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth system.

Chords

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GERVAISE

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 3/8 time. It consists of five staves, each containing a sequence of notes and rests, with chords indicated above the staff. Measure numbers 3, 5, 9, 13, and 17 are placed at the beginning of their respective staves. The notation includes repeat signs at the start and end of the piece, and a double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

Staff 1 (Measures 3-4): Chords: G, D, G, / C, G, D, G, G, / D, G, D, /

Staff 2 (Measures 5-8): Chords: G, D, G, / C, G, D, G, G, / Am, G, C, D, G

Staff 3 (Measures 9-12): Chords: G, / / / Am, / G, C, G, / / / Am, G

Staff 4 (Measures 13-16): Chords: G, D, G, / C, G, D, G, G, / D, G, D, /

Staff 5 (Measures 17-20): Chords: G, D, G, / C, G, D, G, G, / Am, G, C, D, G

