

Catalog 20855

4 - 5 octaves handbells  
optional drum set and wood blocks

Level 3+

# CLEAR TRACK POLKA

(BAHN FREI POLKA)



EDWARD STRAUSS

ARRANGED BY MARTHA LYNN THOMPSON



*From the Top Music*  
Albuquerque, NM  
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# CLEAR TRACK POLKA

## (BAHN FREI POLKA)

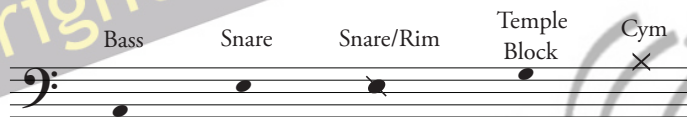
Cat. 20855

Level 3+

Handbells Used: 4 - 5 Octaves



Drum Set Key  
(optional)



Staccato notes: director may choose preferred 'stopped technique'

**Allegro** (♩ = c. 120-132)

EDWARD STRAUSS (1835-1916)

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

Piano and Percussion musical notation for Clear Track Polka. The notation is written on three staves: Treble, Bass, and Percussion. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The piano part features a melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the bass staff. The percussion part is indicated by a single staff with a bass clef. The notation includes measures 2, 3, and 4. A large diagonal watermark reading "Please return to our store to order this item." is overlaid across the staves.

5 6 7 8 9

*mf* Ring first time ... Staccato on repeat

Perc.

TB Play once or both times through as you choose

10 11 12 13 14 15

Perc.

16 17 18 19 20

1.

Perc.

21 22 23 24

*f* *mf* *mf*

Perc. DS *mf*

25 26 27 28

Perc.

29 30 31 32

Perc.

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33 34 35 36

Perc.

37 38 39 40

Perc.

41 42 43 44

*mp*

*mf*

*mp*

Perc.

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45 R 46 47 48

*mf*

49 R 50 51 52

53 R 54 55 56

57 58 59 60

61 62 63 64

Perc. 65 66 67 68

*mf* R

*mp* R

*mp*

*mp* R

*mp* R

Perc.

Perc.

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69 70 *f* 71 72 73

*mf* R

Perc.

74 75 76 77

R

Perc.

78 79 80 81

*mf*

TB

Perc.

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82 83 84 85

Perc.

86 87 88 89

Perc.

90 91 92 93

Perc.

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R

*f*

*mf*

94 95 96 97

Perc.

DS

98 99 100 101

Perc.

102 103 104 105

Perc.

106 107 108 109

Perc.

110 111 112 113

Perc.

114 115 116

*mf*

Perc.

The musical score is arranged in three systems, each with three staves: Treble, Bass, and Percussion. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#).

- Measure 117:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.
- Measure 118:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.
- Measure 119:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.
- Measure 120:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.
- Measure 121:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.
- Measure 122:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.
- Measure 123:** Treble staff has a whole note chord of F#4, C#5, and G#4. Bass staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3. Percussion staff has a whole note chord of F#2 and C#3.

Dynamic markings include *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 118. Percussion markings include *Cym* (Cymbal) in measure 117, *R* (Rim) in measure 118, *Sk* (Snare) in measure 119, *RT* (Rim Tom) in measure 120, *Pl* (Piano) in measure 123, and *R* (Rim) in measure 122.

*Bahn frei!*, also known as the *Clear Track Polka* or simply *Track's Clear* was composed in 1869. It was about this time that railroad craze, as a new means of transportation, was seizing Vienna and most of continental Europe. The Viennese would often take day trips on the train to nearby villages for picnics and other enjoyable outings. It was not unusual, once one boarded the train, for there to be a delay before the train would leave on its way. *Bahn Frei!* meant, all clear, the track is free, we can go. The music is vibrant and the main theme gallops along with almost ecstatic high spirits.

*Bahn frei!* was originally written for small chamber orchestra comprised of 10-15 players,