

Ohms, Volts, and Amps

Lyrics by Anonymous,
from the Oberlin Physics Songbook

Music by
Adolphe Charles Adams
Arranged by Randa Kirshbaum

Slowly, with reverence

The musical score is written in G major and 12/8 time. It consists of a piano introduction and two vocal systems. The piano introduction is in 12/8 time and features a bass line with chords G, C/G, Cm/G, and G, and a treble line with chords G and G7. The vocal lines are in 12/8 time and feature a bass line with chords G, C, and G, and a treble line with chords G, C, and G. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Ohms, volts, & amps, the scope displays are shi- ning. It is the day of our
 2. Led by our notes, we do some cal- cu- la- tions, in- volv-ing phase shifts a-
 3. Tru- ly we're taught to make our circuits func- tion, im- pe- dance high where no

tran- sis- tor lab. Long sit we down, and hook up all the wir-
 round our feedback loop. Now we try to build a volt- age amp- li- fi-
 cur- rent's to flow. Ohm's law does not ex- plain the p- n junc-

G Em Bm F# Bm D

ing, un- til at last, all looks right, we turn the knob. A thrill of hope as
er. This time we're sure that we check e- very wire! Our load line gives a
tion, but we grind it out, check once more, here we go! Our pa- tience thin, our

G D G

we turn on the po- wer! The smell of smoke brings our profes- sor's glow- er.
point of o- per- a- tion. We take line noise in- to con- si- der- a- tion.
souls within us plead- ing, we flip the switch: Voi- la! We get a read- ing!

Em Bm Am

Run for your life! And dis- connect the
On goes the source. The re- sult's e- ven
TRI- UMPH at last! The gain in all its

Em G D7 G C

cur- rent! The volt- age was too high, so now
worse! The nee- dles all pinned, I think
glo- ry! By now, though, I see, there's no one

G D7 G D7

my tran- sis- tor's bur- nt. The volt- age too
 my exper-iment's ru- ined. "Be- hold," I ask the
 left to share the joy! But now joy I can go

G C G D7 G

high! We heave a sigh, and start a- gain.
 prof, and she says, "please just turn it off."
 home, and get the sleep that I've been needing!

G7 C/G Cm/G 1.2. G

3. G