

Santa's Setbacks

Infant Script

by

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CAST LIST

N.B. In the following list, the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each role has.

Main Characters

Santa	(18)
Mrs Santa	(9)
Announcer	(5)
Doctor	(6)
Nurse	(7)

Narrators

Narrator 1	(9)
Narrator 2	(7)
Narrator 3	(8)

Elves

Foreman	(8)
Elf 1	(6)
Elf 2	(6)
Elf 3	(6)
Elf 4	(2)
Elf 5	(2)
Elf 6	(2)
Elf 7	(2)
Elf 8	(2)

Reindeer

Dad	(2)
Mum	(2)
Rudolph	(8)
Reindeer 2	(2)
Reindeer 3	(2)

Animals

Robin 1	(3)
Robin 2	(3)
Robin 3	(2)
Squirrel	(2)
Hedgehog	(2)
Mouse	(2)

Snowmen

Snowman 1	(2)
Snowman 2	(2)
Snowman 3	(2)
Snowman 4	(2)
Snowman 5	(2)

N.B. The ranks of Elves, Reindeer, Snowmen and Animals can be swelled by non-speaking characters.

SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has.

Santa	18
Mrs Santa	9
Narrator 1	9
Foreman	8
Narrator 3	8
Rudolph	8
Narrator 2	7
Nurse	7
Doctor	6
Elf 1	6
Elf 2	6
Elf 3	6
Announcer	5
Robin 1	3
Robin 2	3
Dad	2
Elf 4	2
Elf 5	2
Elf 6	2
Elf 7	2
Elf 8	2
Hedgehog	2
Mouse	2
Mum	2
Reindeer 2	2
Reindeer 3	2
Robin 3	2
Snowman 1	2
Snowman 2	2
Snowman 3	2
Snowman 4	2
Snowman 5	2
Squirrel	2

CAST LIST IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER (WITH LINE COUNT)

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has.

Announcer	5
Dad	2
Doctor	6
Elf 1	6
Elf 2	6
Elf 3	6
Elf 4	2
Elf 5	2
Elf 6	2
Elf 7	2
Elf 8	2
Foreman	8
Hedgehog	2
Mouse	2
Mrs Santa	9
Mum	2
Narrator 1	9
Narrator 2	7
Narrator 3	8
Nurse	7
Reindeer 2	2
Reindeer 3	2
Robin 1	3
Robin 2	3
Robin 3	2
Rudolph	8
Santa	18
Snowman 1	2
Snowman 2	2
Snowman 3	2
Snowman 4	2
Snowman 5	2
Squirrel	2

Non-speaking roles: optionally extra Elves, Reindeer, Snowmen and Animals.

CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE

Scene One

Announcer
Elf 1
Elf 2
Elf 3
Foreman
Narrators 1-3
Santa

Scene Two

Announcer
Dad
Doctor
Elf 4
Elf 5
Elf 6
Elf 7
Elf 8
Mum
Narrators 1-3
Nurse
Rudolph
Santa

Scene Three

Announcer
Mrs Santa
Narrators 1-3
Rudolph
Santa

Scene Four

Announcer
Hedgehog
Mouse
Narrators 1-3
Robins 1-3
Squirrel
Snowmen 1-5

Scene Five

Entire cast

LIST OF PROPERTIES**Scene One**

Broken seat Elf 3
 Workshop door, with "Santa's Workshop" painted either on it or on a sign..... Scene Prop

Scene Two

Big arm chair Scene Prop
 Duvet Rudolph
 Hot water bottle Rudolph
 Table with a huge box of tissues and a medicine bottle on it Scene Prop
 Huge spoon Nurse
 Stethoscope..... Doctor
 Bananas Elf 4
 Bag of apples..... Elf 5
 Newspaper Elf 6
 Huge bunch of grapes Mum & Dad
 Chair Scene Prop

Scene Three

Big arm chair Scene Prop
 Duvet Rudolph
 Hot water bottle Rudolph
 Table with a huge box of tissues and a medicine bottle on it Scene Prop
 Chair Scene Prop
 Tray with a huge mug on it Mrs Santa
 Stripy Vest & long underpants with red spots on..... Santa

Scene Four

Workshop door, as before Scene Prop

Scene Five

Workshop door, as before Scene Prop
 Oily work cloths Foreman
 Light up nose Rudolph

PRODUCTION NOTES

STAGING

This is a simple show to stage, having only two actual sets – Outside Santa's Workshop and Mrs Santa's Kitchen. This could be achieved by splitting the acting area in two with, say, Santa's Workshop set on the right hand side of the stage (looking at the audience) and the Kitchen set on the left hand side of the stage. An area in front (towards the audience) of the two sets could be utilised for any dance routines etc.

Scenes One, Four & Five are all situated outside **Santa's Workshop** and to indicate this there could be a large workshop door with the name "Santa's Workshop" above it, painted onto a backdrop. There might be a few snow-laden Christmas Trees also painted on the scene. Other than that there is nothing else necessary for this setting.

Scenes Two & Three are inside **Mrs Santa's Kitchen**. The backdrop could be 'pantomime-ish' with shelves containing kitchen utensils painted on it. There are a table and two armchairs set in the middle of this acting area. The table has a huge box of tissues and an enormous bottle of cough medicine on it.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Track 1 – We Love Christmas is a bouncy number with simple repeats that all the children involved can join in on. Simple actions to emphasise the lyrics can be choreographed into this number, such as the children turning to each other for the chorus lyrics, making the outline of Christmas trees for verse two etc.

Track 2 - Working is a number that involves the children miming the actions of the lyrics such as measuring, sawing, hammering and painting.

Track 3 – Poor Old Rudolph is a gentle swing number about Rudolph and his cold. The cast could interact with Rudolph, with the characters singing, stroking him, holding tissues for him to sneeze etc, or it could be sung by the whole chorus and (if used) a choir.

Track 4 – A Nice Cup of Tea is a rhythmic ballad to start but then breaks into a bright, bouncy chorus section. The actions of the singers can reflect this once again to enhance the mood change between feeling blue, frightened etc. and having a cup of tea!

Track 5 – Blow Blizzard, Blow has a distinct stormy feel as the children sing about the snowstorm. The children could bend to the wind blowing; arms extended as branches could be snapped to their sides to show the branches breaking; snowflake characters could fall gently to the ground etc.

Track 6 – Snowmen Quite Like It is a bouncy number with a slight country and western feel which the snowmen can dance to. The movements may be limited by the costume, but a simple line dance would do.

Track 7 – Sing Merrily has a traditional Christmas Carol feel to begin with. Once again the lyrics dictate the actions of the singer.

COSTUME

Santa is very portly and dressed in his traditional white trimmed red costume. This should be a two-piece tunic and trousers. Underneath this he wears a comical stripy vest and long underpants (long-johns) with red spots all over them. Black boots and belt, white beard and hat complete the costume.

Mrs Santa could wear a similar coloured costume or a contrasting colour, such as emerald green; possibly a full dress with bodice in green, edged with red trim. She wears an apron in Scene Three.

The Elves should all be dressed in bright colours such as reds, yellows, bright blue etc. They probably wear 'Noddy' hats with a pom-pom and they have aprons over their ordinary clothes, and possibly shoes with buckles made from aluminium foil covered cardboard.

Rudolph should wear a brown costume of shirt and trousers, antlers and a dull red nose initially, which is exchanged for a bright red nose at the end of the show. Underneath his shirt is a chest wig that is very hairy!

The **Doctor** wears dark trousers, a shirt and a white dust-coat over the top of this and carries a stethoscope around his neck.

Similarly, the **Nurse** wears a traditional nurse's uniform of dark blue dress, suitably coloured belt and maybe a white headpiece. She carries a huge spoon on her entrance.

Mum, Dad and Reindeer 1 & 2 all wear similar costumes to Rudolph as mentioned above. They do not need the chest wig.

The **Creatures** should be suitably attired for the animal or bird they represent.

The **Snowmen** should wear a white, padded costume, with maybe a round black hat, scarf and black blob buttons. A carrot-nose mask would complete the costume.

Lighting and Sound

Simple lighting is all that is required for this show as there are no specific effects indicated.

There are no sound effects required for this show.

PRELUDE

TRACK 1:

WE LOVE CHRISTMAS

ALL:

WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, YES WE DO... YES WE DO...
WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, FUN FOR ME AND YOU.

WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, YES WE DO... YES WE DO...
WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, FUN FOR ME AND YOU.

LOTS OF PRESENTS,
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE,
LOTS OF PRESENTS,
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE.

WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, YES WE DO... YES WE DO...
WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, FUN FOR ME AND YOU.

TREES WITH LIGHTS ON,
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE,
TREES WITH LIGHTS ON,
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE.

WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, YES WE DO... YES WE DO...
WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, FUN FOR ME AND YOU.

SNOW AND CAROLS,
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE,
SNOW AND CAROLS,
CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE.

WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, YES WE DO... YES WE DO...
WE LOVE CHRISTMAS, FUN FOR ME AND YOU.

SCENE ONE: OUTSIDE SANTA'S WORKSHOP

(The scene is set outside Santa's workshop.)

ANNOUNCER: Scene one. Outside Santa's workshop.
NARRATOR 1: Christmas time! Excitement everywhere.
NARRATOR 2: Christmas time! Parties and fun.
NARRATOR 3: Christmas time! Santa's here again.
NARRATORS: We hope!

(Santa enters looking very pleased.)

SANTA: *(Addressing audience.)* Well here we are again. Santa season! I'm so looking forward to delivering all those lovely presents.
FOREMAN: *(Enters wearing dirty, oily overalls, looking very worried.)* Santa, very bad news. I've just serviced the sleigh and I'm afraid it is not safe to use. The seat is badly cracked.

(Elves 1 and 2 enter.)

SANTA: *(Looking very worried.)* Cracked... but it can't be. I was only sitting on it yesterday.
ELF 1: Well, perhaps it cracked when you sat on it.
ELF 2: You've been eating too much Christmas pudding lately, Santa.
SANTA: *(Rubbing his very fat tummy.)* Everybody knows that you can't eat too much Christmas pudding.

(Elf 3 enters carrying a seat.)

ELF 3: I was mending the crack and... whoops... *(Waves broken seat.)*
SANTA: *(Santa gasps.)* Only two days left before Christmas and so many presents to deliver.
FOREMAN: Don't worry Santa, we can fix it.
ELF 1: Yes, for sure... but can we fix it *in time?*
ELF 2: *(Looking thoughtfully.)* Yes... we can do it.
FOREMAN: But we'll have to get our skates on.
ELF 1: We can't mend it with our skates on...
ELF 2: *(Pretending to skate and fall.)* We'd be falling around all over the place!
FOREMAN: No silly! I mean we can mend it in time if we get cracking now.
ELF 3: *(Looking puzzled, scratching head.)* Get cracking now? Somebody has already done the cracking! *(Points to broken seat.)*
ELF 2: *(Shaking his finger.)* That's why it needs mending you clot!

- FOREMAN:** (*Rolling up his sleeves.*) Come on everybody. Stop wasting time. Let's get stuck into the sleigh.
- ELF 3:** We mustn't get stuck into the sleigh!
- ELF 1:** There won't be any room for the presents.
- FOREMAN:** (*Gestures despairingly to Santa.*) Oh dear Santa, workers are not what they used to be!
- SANTA:** Look, little Elves, please just mend the seat as *fast* as you can.

(*Santa exits.*)

TRACK 2: WORKING

(During the verses the Elves could perform a dance/mime routine. Non-speaking Elves could swell the ranks if necessary.)

- ALL:** WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING, WORKING,
WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING VERY HARD.
- GET THE TAPE, GET THE TAPE,
GET THE TAPE AND MEASURE IT...
- GET THE TAPE, GET THE TAPE,
GET THE TAPE AND MEASURE IT...
- WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING, WORKING,
WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING VERY HARD.
- GET THE SAW, GET THE SAW,
GET THE SAW AND CUT THE WOOD...
- GET THE SAW, GET THE SAW,
GET THE SAW AND CUT THE WOOD...
- WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING, WORKING,
WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING VERY HARD.
- GET THE NAIL, GET THE NAIL,
GET THE NAIL AND HAMMER IT...
- GET THE NAIL, GET THE NAIL,
GET THE NAIL AND HAMMER IT...
- WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING, WORKING,
WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING VERY HARD.
- GET THE PAINT, GET THE PAINT,
GET THE PAINT AND SLAP IT ON...
- GET THE PAINT, GET THE PAINT,
GET THE PAINT AND SLAP IT ON...
- WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING, WORKING,
WE ARE MENDING SANTA'S SLEIGH, WORKING VERY HARD.

FOREMAN: Come on you lot; we've got proper work to do!

(All exit.)

NARRATOR 1: Oh dear! Bad timing! Two days to Christmas and Santa's sleigh is broken.

NARRATOR 2: If the Elves can't fix it, the children will have to go without presents.

NARRATOR 3: Oh dear! More bad timing! Rudolph's gone down with a bad cough and runny nose. He's not fit for work.

SCENE TWO:

MRS SANTA'S KITCHEN

(Rudolph enters and sinks into a big arm chair. His nose is a dull red. He wraps himself in a duvet and cuddles a hot water bottle. On a nearby table there is a huge box of tissues and an enormous bottle of cough medicine.)

ANNOUNCER: Scene two. Mrs Santa's kitchen.

DOCTOR: *(Enters briskly wearing a stethoscope and white coat.)* Hello Rudolph, how do you feel this morning?

RUDOLPH: *(Reaching for a tissue.)* Atishooooooooo!

DOCTOR: *(Totally ignoring the sneeze.)* Oh that is good. I'm so glad you're feeling better. But I must test your chest. Vest up please.

(Rudolph pulls up his vest to reveal a hairy chest!)

DOCTOR: Deep breaths please.

(Rudolph sneezes again. The Doctor ignores it.)

DOCTOR: Ah yes. Much better. Well done. Nurse will be here later to give you your medication. Must dash... lots more patients to see.

(Exit Doctor right. Rudolph sneezes as Mum and Dad enter from left, carrying a huge bunch of grapes. They sit next to him.)

DAD: Oh Rudolph, what a time to get a cold. Your nose looks awful.

MUM: Don't worry dear, I can nip out and buy you some polish for it.

RUDOLPH: I don't want polish on my nose Mum... it would make me sneeze.

(Rudolph sneezes. Nurse enters carrying a huge spoon.)

NURSE: Hello Rudolph. That sounds bad. I thought the doctor said you were much better. I've come to give you your medicine. This will get that nose shining again. **(Mimes pouring medicine from huge bottle onto huge spoon.)** Be a good reindeer and open wide!

(Rudolph pulls a face after taking the medicine.)

MUM: **(Patting Rudolph's head.)** You must get better. You don't want to lose that good job of yours.

NURSE: **(Answers a knocking at the door.)** Oh hello little Elves, do come in! Rudolph will be pleased to see you.

ELF 4: Hi Rudolph, I've brought you some bananas.

ELF 5: I've brought you a lovely bag of apples to munch on.

ELF 6: I've brought you the Reindeer Times to read.

RUDOLPH: Thanks very mu-mu-mu-CHOO!

ELF 7: Rene and Rhona reindeer send their love.

ELF 8: ...and Rupert and Randolph reindeer.

DAD: It's a bit grand being looked after like this when you've only got a cold Rudolph.

NURSE: Santa says nothing is too good for him.

(Santa enters as Rudolph sneezes.)

SANTA: Rudolph, how are you? Is that nose glowing yet?

(Rudolph sneezes.)

NURSE: We're doing all we can Santa. **(Turning to the visitors.)** Visiting time over everybody. Rudolph must get some rest now.

(Visitors wish Rudolph well and exit. Santa sits in a chair next to Rudolph looking glum.)