

Scrooge's Green Christmas Extract

Cast

Scrooge	This needs to be a really strong performer. There's a lot to learn, and lots of scope for drama and comedy. He (or she) also sings solo in Plastic's Not Fantastic.
Bella	Scrooge's oldest friend. It's an important part with lots to do.
Marley	Key role, with a solo to sing in Plastic's Not Fantastic. However, he only appears twice, so can also be part of a chorus group.
Cratchit	Scrooge's downtrodden assistant.
Emily	Mrs Cratchit: a small role
Martha Charlie Linda Tim	The Cratchit kids: these are significant roles, especially the youngest two - Linda and Tim.
Eddie Erika Ellie	These are the Employees - Scrooge's office staff. Small comic roles.
Spirit 1 Spirit 2 Spirit 3	The Spirit of Christmas Past The Spirit of Christmas Present The Spirit of Christmas Yet To Come - no lines; some miming required The Spirits are fun to do but only appear once, so these performers should also be part of a chorus group.
These are the different versions of himself that Scrooge is shown by the Spirits:	
Ebenezer Young Scrooge Other Scrooge	Scrooge as a boy. Scrooge as a young man: important dialogue with Bella. Grown-up Scrooge: this calls for a strong, lively performer. Each only appears once, so should also be part of a chorus group.
Nick Nadia Nat Nancy Ned Noel Naomi	The Neighbours - a lively group who are not afraid to criticize Scrooge

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Petra Pat Pip Pedro Parveen Penny	The Protestors – this group needs to have a noisy and confident energy
Fred Fiona Flo Frankie Frida Flynn Fraser	The Friends: they appear as children and later as elderly people, so it's a fun group to be part of.
Newsreaders 1-5	The Newsreaders have one brief appearance, but need to deliver it with style. Cast them from amongst your Neighbours or Protestors.
Volunteers 1 and 2	One appearance: cast them from amongst your Neighbours or Protestors.

Cast size:

For a larger cast, add as many extra Neighbours, Friends, and Protestors as you like, and consider re-allocating some lines to give everyone a part. It's still best to include the Spirits, Newsreaders etc into the chorus groups, so they are involved throughout.

For a smaller cast, your performers can have more than one named part: Newsreaders and Volunteers can be played by Protestors; Spirits 1 and 3 can be played by Neighbours, and Spirit 2 by a Friend: Scrooge's younger selves can be played by Neighbours. The number of speaking roles in the chorus groups could also be reduced.

NB: When appearing in the past, or the future, each character is played by the same performer throughout – except for Scrooge himself.

Scene 1 Merry Christmas, Ebenezer!

Song 1: Not Very Merry

All

CD 1/10

Mr Scrooge! Mr Scrooge! Shall we hang your decorations?
Mr Scrooge! Mr Scrooge! Shall we fetch your Christmas tree?

Scrooge: No tree.

How about a smile? How about a song?
To get you in a festive mood?
Even though it's Christmas, you're still cross
You're not very merry, Mr Scrooge!

Not very merry, not very merry,
You're not very merry, Mr Scrooge!

Mr Scrooge! Mr Scrooge! Are you listening to our carols?

(Scrooge puts hands over ears)

Mr Scrooge! Mr Scrooge! Will you join our snowball fight?

How about a smile? How about a song?
To get you in a festive mood?
Even though it's Christmas, you're still cross
You're not very merry, Mr Scrooge!

Not very merry, not very merry,
You're not very merry, Mr Scrooge!

All:	Crackers?
Scrooge:	No.
All:	Presents?
Scrooge:	No.
All:	Tinsel?
Scrooge:	No!
All:	Turkey?
Scrooge:	No!
All:	Stockings?
Scrooge:	Leave me be!

Even though it's Christmas, you're still cross
You're not very merry, Mr Scrooge!

Not very merry, not very merry,
You're not very merry, Mr Scrooge!

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(Enter Scrooge and Cratchit. Scrooge sits with his feet up on his desk. Cratchit brings him some papers)

Cratchit: *(Nervously)* Mr Scrooge, I was wondering -

Scrooge: You're not paid to wonder!

Cratchit: In my unpaid break time, I was wondering -

Scrooge: Just get on with your work, Cratchit!

Cratchit: - if I could turn the heating down? It's boiling in here.

Scrooge: No! I like it hot.

Cratchit: It's such a waste of energy!

Scrooge: So what? I can afford it.

Cratchit: That's not the point. What about the planet?

Scrooge: I don't care! Bah, Humbug!

(Cratchit sighs and exits. Enter 3 Employees: Eddie, Erika and Ellie)

Eddie: It's not very festive in here, is it?

Erika: He hasn't even put his cards up!

Ellie: He's no fun!

Scrooge: *Ahem!! (the Employees jump and hurry over to show him the papers)*

Eddie: Oh! Good morning sir! We've brought you the latest figures -

Erika: Look at these huge profits, sir!

Ellie: You really deserve your Christmas bonus!

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(Enter Bella and a group of carol singers, with Cratchit trailing behind them)

Bella: Merry Christmas, Ebenezer!

Singers: Merry Christmas!

Bella: We've come to sing to you.

Scrooge: *(Sarcastically)* Oh, great.

Noel: Phew! It's hot in here.

Nat: You could turn the heating down and put a jumper on.

Scrooge: Don't you start!

Ned: Ready, everyone?

Song 2: Not Very Merry (reprise)

All

CD 2/11

(Scrooge sits with head in hands. Cratchit and the Employees applaud enthusiastically)

Scrooge: Who let this lot in? Was it you, Cratchit?

Cratchit: Well, I tried to stop them, but -

Nadia: We're collecting for a really good cause!

Nancy: Bella suggested it.

Naomi: But we all agreed.

Nick: It's so important.

Bella: We're collecting for Friends of the Planet.

Scrooge: Friends of the Planet??!!

Noel: We know you'll give generously.

Nat: As one of the town's richest employers

Scrooge: Hang on: THE richest .

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Bella: Exactly. You could set an example with a BIG donation.

Ned: Here's a leaflet telling you all about it –

Scrooge: *(Grabbing the leaflet and tearing it in half)* Humbug!

All: *(Gasp in shock)*

Nadia: You could at least recycle it!

Nancy: *(Looking round)* I don't think he's even GOT a recycling bin! *(all tut, tut)*

Naomi: Oh dear *(shaking head and picking up plastic water bottle from Scrooge's desk)* I think he needs to ask Santa for a reusable bottle!

Nick: Mr Scrooge, do you really need all these lights on ?

Noel: *(Picking up Scrooge's car keys)* Why don't you get an electric car?

Scrooge: *(grabbing keys back)* Hey!

Bella: You could certainly afford one.

Nat: How about some solar panels?

Scrooge: STOP!!

(All stare at him).

Cratchit: Oh dear.

Scrooge: *(Standing on the desk)* I will NOT be recycling. Or Re-using. Or getting an electric car. Or solar panels. And most of all, I will NOT be donating to Friends of the Planet. It's all HUMBUG! Now get out!

(They leave, shaking heads, and whispering to each other. Cratchit and the Employees exit too. Bella hangs back -)

Bella: Ebenezer –

Scrooge: OUT!

Bella: Just a little something? In memory of Marley?

Scrooge: OUT!!!!

(Exit all)