

# Little Bob

## Introduction

Little Bob is a very useful method to know. It is easy to learn, useful for short touches and very musical. It is also commonly used spliced with Plain Bob and other methods.

## Structure

Little Bob(LB) is, as its name suggests, very like Plain Bob(PB). In PB the treble plain hunts to the back or highest position every lead. In LB the treble only hunts up to 4ths place. It then makes 2 blows in 4ths before hunting back down to lead again.

Like PB, 2nds are made at the lead end and all the other pairs of bells dodge. In LB, however, when the treble makes 4ths, i.e. at the half lead, the pairs of bells above 4ths have to dodge there as well. Because the lead end and half lead are only 4 blows apart, this means that the working bells dodge everywhere above 4ths place, a bit like treble bob hunting.

If you look at the figures for LB Minor on the right, you can see that, above 4ths place a working bell always dodges in 5/6 up and then 5/6 down. During a whole course you go out to the back and in to the front twice. The back work is always the same and there are two different front works.

4ths place bell has just dodged at the lead end, it goes in to lead full at the half lead and then, as it goes out again, passes the treble in 2/3 and dodges 3/4 up at the lead end to become 3rds place bell.

The other front work is that which the 2nd is half way through at the start of the course. If you look at 6ths place bell you will see that it hunts straight in to lead, make 2nds at the lead end, leads again and then runs out to dodge 5/6 up and become 5ths place bell.

## Ringling Little Bob

To ring LB you do not need to learn the blue line as such. First you need to know that, above 4ths place, you always dodge in each position in turn, for example, in LB Royal you would always dodge 5/6 up, 7/8 up, 9/10 up, 10/9 down, 8/7 down and 6/5 down.

You then need to be able to decide which front work to do. When you get to 4/3 down, look to see if you meet the treble there. If you do, you cannot dodge with it so you hunt straight in to lead, 2nds, lead

123456  
214365  
241635  
426153  
462135  
641253  
614523  
165432  
164523  
615432  
651342  
563124  
536142  
351624  
315264  
132546  
135264  
312546  
321456  
234165  
243156  
421365  
412635  
146253  
142635  
416253  
461523  
645132  
654123  
561432  
516342  
153624  
156342  
513624  
531264  
352146  
325164  
231546  
213456  
124365  
123456

then hunt back out to 5/6 up. If, when going in, you get to 4ths place and the treble is not there, it must be leading (try to see it leading) so you must dodge 4/3 down. You then go in to lead and back out to dodge 3/4 up.

The bobs and singles are exactly the same as in PB but you do not need to worry about what comes next because the rules above will tell you what to do.

### Splicing

LB is often spliced with PB (and sometimes other methods too) because it makes it more interesting and also shortens the courses of PB.

The change of method is called when the treble is leading so the treble ringer then has to change from hunting on all the bells to hunting to 4ths or vice versa. All the other bells carry on ringing the new method. If the change is from PB into LB, then all the bells hunt to the next dodging position and then carry on ringing LB by the rules above. If the change is from LB into PB, you have to note which dodge you are making when the change of method is called and work out which dodge will be next – don't forget that where you pass the treble in PB will tell you what your next dodge is (see notes on PB).

