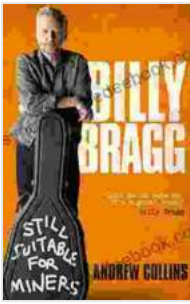


## Billy Bragg: Still Suitable for Miners, Still Singing for the Working Class



Billy Bragg is a British singer-songwriter who has been a prominent figure in the folk and punk rock scene since the 1980s. His music is often characterized by its political and social commentary, and he has been a vocal supporter of various left-wing causes. Bragg's album "Talking with the Taxman About Poetry" was released in 1986 and is considered one of his most important works. The album features the song "Still Suitable for Miners," which has become one of Bragg's signature songs and has been covered by many other artists.



## Billy Bragg: Still Suitable for Miners by Andrew Collins

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1269 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 400 pages



### "Suitable for Miners"

"Still Suitable for Miners" is a song about the 1984-1985 miners' strike in the United Kingdom. The strike was a major turning point in British industrial relations and was a major defeat for the trade union movement. Bragg's song is a powerful and moving tribute to the miners, and it has become an anthem for the working class.

The song begins with a simple but effective guitar riff, and Bragg's vocals are passionate and full of emotion. The lyrics are simple and direct, but they are also very effective in conveying the message of the song. Bragg sings about the miners' courage and determination, and he also expresses his anger at the government's treatment of them.

The chorus of the song is particularly powerful, and it sums up the message of the song perfectly:

> We're still suitable for work > We're still suitable for miners > We're still suitable for life > We're still suitable for love

"Still Suitable for Miners" is a classic song that has stood the test of time. It is a powerful and moving tribute to the working class, and it is a song that still resonates with people today.

## **Bragg's Political Activism**

Billy Bragg has been a vocal supporter of various left-wing causes throughout his career. He has performed at rallies and fundraisers, and he has also spoken out against racism, sexism, and homophobia. Bragg's political activism is an important part of his music, and it is one of the things that makes him such a respected and influential artist.

In 1988, Bragg founded the Red Wedge, a group of musicians and activists who campaigned for the Labour Party in the run-up to the 1987 general election. The Red Wedge was successful in mobilizing young voters and helping to bring about a Labour victory.

Bragg has continued to be politically active in the years since the Red Wedge. He has been a vocal critic of the Conservative government, and he has also campaigned for various left-wing causes, such as the anti-war movement and the Occupy movement.

## **Bragg's Legacy**

Billy Bragg is one of the most important and influential musicians of his generation. His music is powerful and moving, and his political activism has helped to make the world a better place. Bragg is a true icon of the left, and his music will continue to inspire people for many years to come.

**Here are some of Bragg's most famous songs:**

\* "A New England" \* "Between the Wars" \* "The Internationale" \* "Levi Stubbs' Tears" \* "Never Buy the Sun" \* "Sexuality" \* "St. Swithin's Day" \* "Still Suitable for Miners" \* "Take Down the Union Jack" \* "Waiting for the Great Leap Forward"

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