

# Paul Hardy's Basic Tunebook

## Introduction

This Basic Tunebook contains a subset of the tunes in Paul Hardy's Session Tunebook. The subset is of the more commonly played and simpler tunes.

Both tune books contain tunes that I have learned to play on my English concertina, that are played at folk music sessions, particularly in the areas around Cambridge, England and Redlands, California. They should also be playable on fiddle, whistle, flute, dulcimer, etc.

Most are traditional tunes from the British Isles, many of Celtic origin, particularly Irish dance tunes, but others are from an eclectic mix of sources. Some have been adapted from Internet resources, originally in abc or midi formats. Others have been learned by ear or handouts from various sessions in the UK and US. All are believed free of current copyright (unless noted explicitly), or else appear to have been placed in the public domain as part of the ongoing live folk music tradition. Please let me know if you are the owner of any that are under access restrictions and I'll remove them.

I have tried to choose the simple versions of most tunes, without much decoration and interpretation, so add your own triplets, grace notes and variations. I have also included guitar chords, based on computer generated ones if not present at the tune's source.

This tunebook has been prepared using the abcm2ps software, with help from abcmus, Melody Assistant, and ABCexplorer. A big thank you goes to those creative and dedicated people who give their time to create and maintain low-cost or free and open source software for abc music editing and output.

Particular thanks also go to Greenshoots ([www.greenshootsmusic.org.uk](http://www.greenshootsmusic.org.uk)) for the slow sessions near Cambridge in England that let me learn many of these tunes; the concertina sessions at Chiltinas near Bedford in England that gave me confidence; the Ceili House Band in Redlands in California that opened my eyes and ears to the range of Irish music; to the celtic jam sessions at Green Valley Lake in the nearby San Bernadino Mountains that broadened my repertoire; and the Ceol Galore young musician practice sessions in my home village of Comberton that are carrying traditional music forward to the next generation.

The current version of this and the full session tunebook, in ABC and in PDF forms, is downloadable from Paul's web site at [www.paulhardy.net](http://www.paulhardy.net), or you can order there a printed copy.

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Waltz  
♩ = 100

### The Ash Grove

Trad.  
Wales

Chords: D G C D G C G D G  
 Chords: G D7 G Em D A D  
 Chords: G C D G C G D G

March  
♩ = 100

### The Atholl Highlanders

Trad.  
Scotland

Chords: A Bm A Bm A  
 Chords: A Bm A D A  
 Chords: A D A Bm A  
 Chords: A D A D A  
 Chords: A A A Bm A  
 Chords: A D A  
 Chords: A Bm A Em  
 Chords: A Bm A D A

Polka  
♩ = 100

**Bear Dance**

Trad.  
Flanders

Musical score for 'Bear Dance' in 2/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the notes.

Staff 1: Em G D Em D Em

Staff 2: Em D Em D Em D Em

Staff 3: Am C G Am G Am

Staff 4: Am G Am G Am G Am

Jig  
♩ = 90

**The Blackthorn Stick**

Trad.  
Ireland

Musical score for 'The Blackthorn Stick' in 6/8 time, key of D major. The score consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the notes.

Staff 1: D7 G C G D G D G D

Staff 2: G C G D G D G

Staff 3: G Am D7

Staff 4: G C G D G D G

Jig  
♩ = 120

**Blaydon Races**

*Trad.  
England*

G D7 G G7 C G A7 D7

G D7 G G7 C G D7 G

G D7/A C A7 D7 G G7 C D7 G G C A7 D D7

G C C A7 D7 G G7 C D7 G E7 Am D7 G

Reel  
♩ = 160

**Blue Eyed Stranger**

*Trad.  
England*

G C G G D7 C D7 G

G C D7 G D7 G

G C D7 G D7 C D7 G

March  
♩ = 180

**British Grenadiers**

*Trad.  
England*

G D G D7 G

G D7 G D7 G

G C Am G D

G D G C G D7 G

Reel  
♩ = 140

**The Curly-headed Ploughboy**

*Trad.*  
England

Musical notation for 'The Curly-headed Ploughboy' in 4/4 time, key of G major. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first two staves form the first phrase, and the last two staves form the second phrase. Chords are indicated above the notes: D7, G, C, G, D7, G, D7 in the first staff; G, C, G, D7, G in the second staff; D, A7, D, A7, D in the third staff; and A7, D, G, A7, D in the fourth staff.

Polka  
♩ = 160

**Davy Davy Knick Knack**

*Trad.*  
England

Musical notation for 'Davy Davy Knick Knack' in 2/4 time, key of G major. The piece consists of four staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, D7 in the first staff; G, C, D7, G in the second staff; C, G, Em, D7 in the third staff; and G, Em, D7, G in the fourth staff.

Polka  
♩ = 100

**Dennis Murphy's Polka**

*Trad.*  
Ireland

Musical notation for 'Dennis Murphy's Polka' in 2/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of four staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, Bm, Em, A7 in the first staff; D, Bm, Em, A7, D in the second staff; D, G, D, A7 in the third staff; and D, G, A7, D in the fourth staff.

Jig  
♩ = 110

Dingle Regatta

Trad.  
Ireland

The image displays a musical score for a jig titled "Dingle Regatta". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 110. The music is organized into six horizontal staves. Above the notes, the chords G and D are indicated. The first staff begins with a G chord, followed by D and G. The second staff continues with G, D, and G. The third staff starts with a D chord, followed by G, D, and G. The fourth staff begins with D, followed by G, D, and G. The fifth staff starts with G, followed by D and G. The sixth staff begins with G, followed by D and G. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Reel  
♩ = 160

**Dorset Four Hand Reel**

*Trad.*  
*England*

Musical score for Dorset Four Hand Reel, a 4/4 reel in G major. The score consists of eight staves of music with various chords indicated above the notes. The chords are: G, C, G, D, G, C, G, D7, G, C, G, D, G, C, G, D7, G, G, C, G, D7, G, G, C, D7, G, G, C, D7, G, C, D7, G.

Polka  
♩ = 120

**Egan's Polka**

*Trad.*  
*Ireland*

Musical score for Egan's Polka, a 2/4 polka in D major. The score consists of four staves of music with various chords indicated above the notes. The chords are: D, Bm, G, A7, D, G, Em, A7, D, D, Bm, G, A7, D, D, Bm, G, Em, A7, D.

Waltz  
♩ = 120

**Eric's Waltz**

*Eric Elsener*  
France

Chords: G Bm C D G Em C D  
 G Bm C D G D G D G Bm  
 C D G Em C D G Bm  
 C D G Em D D G D G

Reel  
♩ = 160

**The Fairy Dance**

*Nathaniel Gow, 1812*  
Scotland

Chords: G G G D G C D G  
 G C D7 G Em Am 1 D7 G 2 D7 G

Reel  
♩ = 140

**Galopede**  
Yarmouth Reel

*Trad.*  
England

Chords: G D G C G C Am D  
 G D Em G Am D7 G  
 G C Am7 D G Am D  
 G C Am7 D G D7 G  
 G C D  
 G G C D7 G



Reel  
♩ = 110

**George Brabazon**  
**Planxty George Brabazon**

*Turlough O'Carolan (1730)*  
Ireland

Musical score for 'George Brabazon' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, Am, D7, C, G, D, G, B, Em, Am, D7, G.

Reel  
♩ = 120

**Harvest Home**

*Trad.*  
Ireland

Musical score for 'Harvest Home' in D major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, G, A7, D, G, A7, G, A7, D, G, A7, D. There are also triplet markings (3) and first/second ending brackets (1, 2).

Reel  
♩ = 80

**Horse's Brawl**  
**Branle des Chevaux**

*From Arbeau, Orchesographie, 1689*  
France

Musical score for 'Horse's Brawl' in G major, 2/2 time. The score consists of three staves of music. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, G, C, D, G, C, G, D, G, Gm, D, D, D, Gm, D, D, D, Gm.

Jig  
♩ = 120

### Hunt the Squirrel

Trad.  
Sussex England

Musical notation for 'Hunt the Squirrel' in G major, 6/8 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are a repeat. Chords G, D, and C are indicated above the notes.

Jig  
♩ = 100

### The Irish Washerwoman

Trad.  
England, then Ireland

Musical notation for 'The Irish Washerwoman' in G major, 6/8 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are a repeat. Chords G, D, and C are indicated above the notes.

Reel  
♩ = 200

### Jimmy Allen Jamie Allen

Trad.  
England, Northumberland

Musical notation for 'Jimmy Allen / Jamie Allen' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are a repeat. Chords G, Am, C, Em, and D are indicated above the notes.

Polka  
♩ = 120

**John Ryan's; Meg Ryan's; Jack Ryan's**

Trad.  
Ireland

Musical notation for the Polka 'John Ryan's; Meg Ryan's; Jack Ryan's'. The piece is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single staff. The chord progression is: D, Bm, D, Bm, E7, A7. The piece features a first ending (1) and a second ending (2), both leading to a final D chord.

Reel  
♩ = 120

**The Keel Row**

Trad.  
England, Tyneside

Musical notation for the Reel 'The Keel Row'. The piece is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single staff. The chord progression is: G, Am, G, D, G, Am, G, G. The piece features a first ending (1) and a second ending (2), both leading to a final G chord.

Jig  
♩ = 100

**The Kesh**

Trad.  
Ireland

Musical notation for the Jig 'The Kesh'. The piece is in 6/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single staff. The chord progression is: G, C, D, G, C, D. The piece features a first ending (1) and a second ending (2), both leading to a final G chord.

Reel  
♩ = 190

**Mairi's Wedding**  
**Mairie's Wedding**

*Trad.*  
*Scotland*

G C D7 G C D7

G Em A7 D D7 Em Am D7

The first two staves of music are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains the first eight measures of the piece, and the second staff contains the next eight measures. Chord symbols are placed above the notes in the first staff and below the notes in the second staff.

Waltz  
♩ = 100

**Michael Turner's Waltz**

*Mozart KV 536#2 1788*  
*Germany, England*

G D7 G C G D7

G D7 G Am7 D7 G

G D7 D7 G Em

C G C D7 G

The first four staves of music are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff contains the first six measures, the second staff contains the next six measures, the third staff contains the next six measures, and the fourth staff contains the final six measures. Chord symbols are placed above the notes in the first staff, below the notes in the second and third staves, and above the notes in the fourth staff.

March  
♩ = 120

**Monk's March**  
General Monck's March

Trad. (Monck marched in 1660)  
England

Musical score for Monk's March in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of six staves of music. The chords indicated above the notes are: G, D7, G, G, G, D7, G, C, G, G, Bm, C, D7, G, Bm, G, D7, G, D7, G, G, G, C, G.

Jig  
♩ = 120

**Muckin' o' Geordie's Byre**  
Mucking Out the Byre

Trad.  
Scotland, Hebrides

Musical score for Muckin' o' Geordie's Byre in D major, 6/8 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The chords indicated above the notes are: D, G, D, G, D, G, A, D, Em, D, Em, A7, D, G, D, G, D, A7, D.

Hornpipe  
♩ = 160

**Newcastle**

Trad. Playford 1651  
England

Musical notation for Newcastle Hornpipe, 4/4 time, key of G major. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as Hornpipe with a quarter note equal to 160. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above the staff are G, D7, G, G, C. The second staff continues with notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, C, G, D7, G. The third staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, C, G, C. The fourth staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, Am, D7, G. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hornpipe  
♩ = 120

**Off to California**

Trad.  
Ireland

Musical notation for Off to California Hornpipe, 4/4 time, key of G major. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as Hornpipe with a quarter note equal to 120. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, D, G, C, G, C, D, C. There are triplets over the first and last notes of the first staff. The second staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, D, G, C, G, C, D, G. The third staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are D, G, Em, Em, D, D, C. The fourth staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, D, G, C, G, C, D, G. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Jig  
♩ = 120

**The Oyster Girl**  
Kingsbury Jig

Trad.  
England

Musical notation for The Oyster Girl Jig, 6/8 time, key of G major. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as Jig with a quarter note equal to 120. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, D, G, D. The second staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, D, C, G, D7, G. The third staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, C, D7, G. The fourth staff has notes: B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). Chords above are G, D, C, G, D7, G. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Jig  
♩ = 70

**Planxty Irwin**

*Turlough O'Carolan (1713)*  
Ireland

Musical score for Planxty Irwin, Jig, 6/8 time signature. The score consists of four staves of music. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, C, G, Em, C, G, D7, G, C, G, Em, Am, G, C, D7, G, G, D7, D7, G, D7, A7, D7, G, C, G, Em, Am, G, C, D7, G.

Waltz  
♩ = 130

**Planxty Fanny Power**  
Fanny Poer

*Turlough O'Carolan (1732)*  
Ireland

Musical score for Planxty Fanny Power, Waltz, 3/4 time signature. The score consists of four staves of music. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, C, Am, D7, D7, G, Am, D, D7, G, G, Em, C, D7, G, C, D7, G.

Hornpipe  
♩ = 140

**Portsmouth**

*Trad. Playford 1709*  
England

Musical score for Portsmouth, Hornpipe, 4/4 time signature. The score consists of four staves of music. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, C, G, Em, D, G, C, G, D, G, G, G, Em, D, G, C, G, D, G.

Polka  
♩ = 120

**The Rakes Of Mallow**

*Trad.  
Ireland*

Musical notation for 'The Rakes Of Mallow' in G major, 2/4 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and sixteenth notes. Chord symbols G and D are placed above the first two measures. The second staff continues the melody with chord symbols G, D7, and G. The third and fourth staves repeat the first two staves, with repeat signs at the end of each. Chord symbols G, D, G, and D7 are placed above the notes in the third and fourth staves.

Hornpipe  
♩ = 120

**The Rights of Man**

*Trad.  
Ireland*

Musical notation for 'The Rights of Man' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and sixteenth notes. Chord symbols Em and D are placed above the first two measures. The second staff continues the melody with chord symbols Em, Bm, and Em, and includes triplets of eighth notes. The third and fourth staves repeat the first two staves, with repeat signs at the end of each. Chord symbols Em, D, Bm, and Em are placed above the notes in the third and fourth staves.

Polka  
♩ = 180

**The Rose Tree**

*Trad.  
England*

Musical notation for 'The Rose Tree' in A major, 2/2 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is written in quarter notes. Chord symbols D, A7, and A are placed above the first three measures. The second staff continues the melody with chord symbols D, A7, and D. The third and fourth staves repeat the first two staves, with repeat signs at the end of each. Chord symbols D, D7, Em, and A7 are placed above the notes in the third and fourth staves.



Reel  
♩ = 50

**Sally Gardens, Down by the  
Maids of the Mourne Shore**

*Trad.  
Ireland*

Chords: C G F C F G C (first two staves); Em Am G C F D C (third staff); C G F C F G C (fourth staff).

Reel  
♩ = 200

**Salmon Tails up the Water**

*Trad.  
England, Northumberland*

Chords: G D C D G D G (first staff); G C G D G D G C Em C D G (second staff); G C G D G D G D G (third staff).

Waltz  
♩ = 100

**Si Bheag Si Mhor  
Sheebeg and Sheemore**

*Turlough O'Carolan, 1691  
Ireland*

Chords: D D7 G D G A7 D D7 (first staff); G D Bm D G A7 D D (second staff); D D7 G D G D Em7 A7 (third staff); D D7 G D Em7 A7 G D (fourth staff).

Waltz  
♩ = 120

**South Winds**

Trad.  
Ireland

Musical score for 'South Winds', a waltz in 3/4 time with a tempo of 120. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, D, G, C, G, G, D, G, C, G, Em, C, G, Em, Am, D, G, Em, C, G, D, C, G. There are triplets in the second and third staves.

Reel  
♩ = 120

**Speed the Plough**

Trad.  
England

Musical score for 'Speed the Plough', a reel in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, G, D, G, C, G, D, G, G, C, G, D, G, G, C, G, D, G, G, C, G, D, G.

Reel  
♩ = 140

**Staten Island**

Trad.  
Scotland

Musical score for 'Staten Island', a reel in 4/4 time with a tempo of 140. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The score consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are the main melody, and the last two are the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, G, D, Em, A7, D, D, A7, D, G, D, D, A, D, A, C, D, A, D, A7, D, G, D.

Hornpipe  
♩ = 130

**The Trumpet Hornpipe**  
Captain Pugwash

Trad.  
England

Musical score for 'The Trumpet Hornpipe' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as Hornpipe with a quarter note equal to 130 beats per minute. The music features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) and various chord symbols: G, D, A, Em, C, Bm, Cm, and D. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Waltz  
♩ = 120

**Westering Home**  
Trasna na dTonnta

Trad. Words Hugh Robertson (1874–1952)  
Scotland

Musical score for 'Westering Home' in D major, 3/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked as Waltz with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. The music features various chord symbols: D, A, D, G, A7, Bm, Em, and D. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

March  
♩ = 120

**Winster Gallop**

Trad.  
England

Musical score for 'Winster Gallop' in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as March with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. The music features various chord symbols: G, Am, C, D, Em, and G. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.