

Paul Hardy's Basic Tunebook 2020

Introduction

This Basic Tunebook contains a subset of the more commonly played and simpler tunes from Paul Hardy's Session Tunebook. Both tune books contain tunes that I have learned to play on my English concertina, that are played at folk music sessions: particularly around Cambridge (England) and Redlands (California), and at some UK concertina gatherings like those at Kilve in Somerset. They should also be playable on other folk melody instruments like fiddle, whistle, flute, or dulcimer.

Most are traditional tunes from the British Isles, including many English, Irish, and Scottish dance tunes, but others are an eclectic mix of session favourites. Many have been learned by ear or handouts from various sessions in the UK and US, while others have been adapted from Internet resources, in abc, midi or visual score formats. 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 present simple versions of most tunes, without much decoration and interpretation, so add your own triplets, grace notes and variations. I have included guitar chords, sometimes refined from computer-generated ones - use these as guidance, not definitive! Tunes in 4/4 time that have the rhythm indication "Hornpipe" should usually be 'swung' - lengthen the first and shorten the second in every pair of quavers - as in "Thursday". Elsewhere these are sometimes written as 'dotted quaver, semiquaver', but that ratio of 3:1 seems too high - perhaps try for around 2:1.

This tunebook has been prepared using the abcm2ps software, with help from abc2midi, abcmus, Melody Assistant, ABCexplorer, and EasyABC. 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.

Thanks also go to Greenshoots (www.greenshootsmusic.org.uk) for the slow sessions near Cambridge in England that let me learn many of these tunes, and then refined them (with special thanks to the Brind family for chord revisions); to the Chiltinas concertina group near Bedford and the WCCP Kilve weekends in Somerset that gave me concertina technique and playing confidence; the Ceili House Band in Redlands in California that opened my ears to the range of Irish music; the celtic jam sessions at Green Valley Lake in the nearby San Bernadino Mountains that broadened my repertoire, and to the sessions near my home village of Comberton that carry folk 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, or you can order there a printed copy.

Copyright Paul Hardy (paul@paulhardy.net) 2004-2020.

This work is licenced under a Creative Commons "Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike" cc by-nc-sa licence.

See <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/> - Contact Paul Hardy for commercial licensing terms.

Original version of July 2004, this version of 17 September 2020.



Waltz
♩ = 100

The Ash Grove

Trad.
Wales

D G Am D G C G D G

G D7 G Em D A D

G Am D G C G D G

Musical score for 'The Ash Grove' in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written in treble clef. The second and third staves continue the melody. Chords are indicated above the notes.

Polka
♩ = 100

Bear Dance

Trad.
Flanders

Em G D Em D Em D Em D Em

Em D Em D Em D Em D Em D Em

Am C G Am G Am G Am G Am

Am G Am G Am G Am G Am G Am

Musical score for 'Bear Dance' in G major, 2/2 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is written in treble clef. The second and third staves continue the melody. The fourth staff is a repeat of the first staff. Chords are indicated above the notes.

Jig
♩ = 90

The Blackthorn Stick

Trad.
Ireland

D7 G C G C G D G D

G C G C G D G

G Am D7

G C G C G D G

Musical score for 'The Blackthorn Stick' in G major, 6/8 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is written in treble clef. The second and third staves continue the melody. The fourth staff is a repeat of the first staff. Chords are indicated above the notes.

Jig
♩ = 120

Blaydon Races

Trad.
England

G D7 G G7 C G A7 D7

G D7 G G7 C G D7 G

G D7 G C A7 D7 G G7 C D7 G Em C A7 D D7

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

Reel
♩ = 160

Blue Eyed Stranger

Trad.
England

G C G C Am D7 G

G C D7 G D G D

G C D7 G C Am 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

Polka
♩ = 90

Buttered Peas

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'Buttered Peas' in G major, 2/2 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the main melody with chords D, G, D, Em, and A. The second staff continues the melody with chords D, G, D, A7, and D. The third and fourth staves provide a second line of the melody with chords D, A, D, Em, A and D, A, D, A7, D respectively. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Jig
♩ = 120

Cock O' The North

Trad.
Scotland

Musical notation for 'Cock O' The North' in G major, 6/8 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains the main melody with chords D, G, D, A7, D, G, D, A, D. The second staff provides a second line of the melody with chords D, G, D, G, D, A, D, G, D, G, D, A, D. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Jig
♩ = 85

Constant Billy None So Pretty

Trad.
English

Musical notation for 'Constant Billy None So Pretty' in G major, 6/8 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the main melody with chords G, C, D7, G, C, D7, G. The second staff continues the melody with chords G, C, D7, G, C, D7, G. The third and fourth staves provide a second line of the melody with chords G, C, D7, G, G7, C, D7 and G, C, D7, G, C, D7, G respectively. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Reel
♩ = 140

The Curly-headed Ploughboy

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'The Curly-headed Ploughboy' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains the main melody with chords D7, G, C, G, D7, G, D7, G, C, G, D7, G. The second staff provides a second line of the melody with chords D, A7, D, A7, D, A7, D, G, A7, D. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Polka
♩ = 160

Davy Davy Knick Knack

Trad.
England

Musical notation for Davy Davy Knick Knack, Polka, 2/2 time signature, G major key signature. The piece consists of four staves of music with various chords (G, D7) indicated above the notes.

Polka
♩ = 100

Denis Murphy's Polka
Dennis Murphy's Polka

Trad.
Ireland

Musical notation for Denis Murphy's Polka, Polka, 2/2 time signature, D major key signature. The piece consists of two staves of music with various chords (D, G, Em, A7) indicated above the notes.

Jig
♩ = 110

Dingle Regatta

Trad.
Ireland

Musical notation for Dingle Regatta, Jig, 6/8 time signature, D major key signature. The piece consists of three staves of music with various chords (G, D) indicated above the notes.

Reel
♩ = 160

Dorset Four Hand Reel

Trad.
England

Polka
♩ = 110

Egan's Polka

Trad.
Ireland

Waltz
♩ = 120

Eric's Waltz

Eric Elsener
France

Reel
♩ = 160

The Fairy Dance

Nathaniel Gow, 1812
Scotland

Reel
J = 140

Galopede
Yarmouth Reel

Trad.
England

Musical score for Galopede Yarmouth Reel, a Reel in G major, 4/4 time, J = 140. The score consists of five 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 are placed above the staff: G, D, G, C, G, C, Am, D. The second staff continues the melody with chords: G, D, Em, G, Am, D7, G. The third staff has chords: G, C, Am7, D, G, Am, D. The fourth staff has chords: G, C, Am7, D, G, D7, G. The fifth staff has chords: G, C, D7, G. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

March
J = 110

George Brabazon
Planxty George Brabazon

Turlough O'Carolan (1730)
Ireland

Musical score for George Brabazon Planxty George Brabazon, a March in G major, 4/4 time, J = 110. The score 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 are placed above the staff: G, Am, D7. The second staff continues the melody with chords: G, C, G, Am, Em, D, G. The third staff has chords: G, B7, Em, C, Am, D7. The fourth staff has chords: G, B, Em, C, Am, D7, G. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hornpipe
♩ = 130

Harvest Home Cork Hornpipe

Trad.
Ireland

Reel
♩ = 90

Horse's Brawl Branle des Chevaux

From Arbeau, Orchesographie, 1689
France

Jig
♩ = 120

Hunt the Squirrel

Trad.
England, Sussex

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 staff begins with a G chord. The second staff has G, D, and G chords. The third staff has G and D chords. The fourth staff has C, G, C, G, D, and G chords. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Reel
♩ = 180

Jamaica

Trad. Playford 1665
England

Musical notation for 'Jamaica' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff has G, C, G, D, G, G, C, G, D, G chords. The second staff has G, D, C, G, G, D, A, D, G, D, C, G, C, G, D, G chords. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Reel
♩ = 200

Jimmy Allen Jamie Allen

Trad.
England, Northumberland

Musical notation for 'Jimmy Allen' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of three staves of music. The first staff has G, Am, D7, G, C, G, D7, G chords. The second staff has G, Am, D7, G, C, G, D7, G chords. The third staff has G, Em, C, A7, D, G, C, G, D7, G chords. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Polka
♩ = 100

Ryan's Polka
John Ryan's; Meg Ryan's; Jack Ryan's

Trad.
Ireland

Reel
♩ = 120

The Keel Row

Trad.
England, Tyneside

Jig
♩ = 100

The Kesh

Trad.
Ireland

Reel
♩ = 190

Mairi's Wedding
Mairie's Wedding

Trad.
Scotland

Waltz
♩ = 100

Michael Turner's Waltz

Mozart KV 536#2 1788

Germany, England

Chords: G D7 G C G D7 G D7 G D7 G

Chords: G D7 D7 G Em C G C D7 G

March
♩ = 120

Monk's March General Monck's March

Trad. (Monck marched in 1660)

England

Chords: G D7 G D7 G C G

Chords: G Em C D7 G Em C D7

Chords: G D7 G D7 G C G

Jig
♩ = 120

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

Trad.

Scotland, Hebrides

Chords: D A7 D G

Chords: D A D

Chords: Em D A7 D G

Chords: D A7 D

Hornpipe
♩ = 140

Navvie on the Line

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'Navvie on the Line' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff has a G chord above the first measure. The second staff has G, D, C, and G chords above measures 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively. The third staff has D, G, D, and G chords above measures 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively. The fourth staff has G, D, C, and G chords above measures 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hornpipe
♩ = 160

Newcastle

Trad. Playford 1651
England

Musical notation for 'Newcastle' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff has G, C, G, C, G, D7, and G chords above measures 1 through 7. The second staff has G, Am7, Em, C, G, Am, Em, D7, and G chords above measures 1 through 9. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hornpipe
♩ = 120

Off to California

Trad.
Ireland

Musical notation for 'Off to California' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff has G, D, G, C, G, Em, D, and C chords above measures 1 through 8, with triplets marked over measures 1, 2, and 8. The second staff has G, D, G, C, G, Em, D, and G chords above measures 1 through 8, with a triplet marked over measure 5. The third staff has Em, D, C, Em, G, Em, D, and C chords above measures 1 through 8, with triplets marked over measures 1, 2, and 8. The fourth staff has G, D, G, C, G, Em, D, and G chords above measures 1 through 8, with triplets marked over measures 1, 2, and 8. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Jig
♩ = 120

The Oyster Girl Kingsbury Jig

Trad.
England
Just A and B parts for usual 32 bar jig. Add C part for 48 bars.

Musical notation for 'The Oyster Girl' in G major, 6/8 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff has G, D, G, D, G, D, C, G, D7, and G chords above measures 1 through 10. The second staff has G, C, D7, G, D, C, G, D7, and G chords above measures 1 through 10. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Jig
J = 70

Planxty Irwin
Colonel John Irwin

Turlough O'Carolan (1713)
Ireland

Chord progression for Planxty Irwin:
 Staff 1: G C G Em C G D7
 Staff 2: G C G Em Am G C D7 G
 Staff 3: G D7 D7 G D7 A7 D7
 Staff 4: G C G Em Am G C D7 G

Jig
J = 70

Planxty Fanny Power
Fanny Poer

Turlough O'Carolan (1732)
Ireland

Chord progression for Planxty Fanny Power:
 Staff 1: G C Am D D7
 Staff 2: G Am D D7 G
 Staff 3: G Em C D7
 Staff 4: G C D7 G D7 G

Hornpipe
J = 140

Portsmouth

Trad. Playford 1709
England

Chord progression for Portsmouth:
 Staff 1: G C G Am D G C G D G
 Staff 2: G G G Am D G C G D G

March
♩ = 120

Princess Royal
Miss MacDermott

Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738)
Ireland

Musical score for 'Princess Royal' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with an Em chord. The second staff contains chords D, Bm, Em, D, and Em. The third staff contains chords C, Am, C, Em, and D. The fourth staff contains chords Em, D, Em, Am, Em, and Am. The fifth staff contains chords D, Bm, Em, D, and Em. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Polka
♩ = 210

The Rakes Of Mallow

Trad.
Ireland

Musical score for 'The Rakes Of Mallow' in G major, 2/2 time. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains chords G, C, D, D7, G, Am, D7, and G. The second staff contains chords G, D, G, Am, D7, and G. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Hornpipe
♩ = 120

The Rights of Man

Trad.
Ireland

Musical score for 'The Rights of Man' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with an Em chord and ends with a D chord. The second staff contains chords Em, Bm7, and Em. The third staff contains chords Em and D. The fourth staff contains chords Em, Bm7, and Em. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Polka
♩ = 90

The Rose Tree

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'The Rose Tree' in 2/2 time, key of D major. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and contains the following chords: D, A, D, A7, D. The second staff contains the following chords: D, D7, Em, A7, D, A7, D.

Reel
♩ = 100

Sally Gardens Reel

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'Sally Gardens Reel' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains chords: G, Em, Bm, G, Em, Am, C. The second staff contains chords: G, Em, Bm, G, Em, D7, G. The third staff contains chords: G, Em, C, Am, C. The fourth staff contains chords: G, Em, C, G, Em, D7, G.

Reel
♩ = 180

Salmon Tails up the Water

Trad.
England, Northumberland

Musical notation for 'Salmon Tails up the Water' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains chords: G, D, C, D, G, D, G. The second staff contains chords: G, C, G, D, G, D, G, C, Em, C, D, G. The third staff contains chords: G, C, G, D, G, D, G, D, G.

Jig
 ♩ = 90

Seven Stars
 The Moon And Seven Stars

Trad.
 England

Musical notation for 'Seven Stars' 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 are indicated above the notes: D, G, D, G, A, D, G, D, G, A, D, A, D, E7, A, G, D, G, D, G, A, D.

Reel
 ♩ = 120

Shepherd's Hey

Trad. Morris Dance
 England

Musical notation for 'Shepherd's Hey' in G major, 2/4 time. The piece consists of two staves of music. The first staff is the main melody, and the second is a repeat. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, G, D7, G, C, D7, G, G, C, G, D7, G, C, D7, G.

Waltz
 ♩ = 100

Si Bheag Si Mhor
 Sheebeg and Sheemore

Turlough O'Carolan, 1691
 Ireland

Musical notation for 'Si Bheag Si Mhor' in G major, 3/4 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 are indicated above the notes: D, D7, G, D, G, A7, D, D7, G, D, Bm, D, G, A7, D, D, D, D7, G, D, A, D, G, A7, D, D7, G, D, Em7, A7, G, D.

Reel
♩ = 140

Staten Island

Trad.
Scotland

Chords: D, G, D, Em, A7, D, A7, D, D, A, D, A, C, D, A, D, A7, D, G, D

Waltz
♩ = 120

Sweet Jenny Jones Cadair Idris

John Parry 1804
Wales

Chords: D, G, A, D, G, D, A, D, D, A, G, A, D, A, E7, A, D, G, A, D, D, A, D

Reel
♩ = 160

Three Around Three

Trad.
England

Chords: G, D, G, C, G, Am, D, G, D, G, C, D, G, G, Em, C, G, D, G, Em, C, D, G

Hornpipe
♩ = 130

The Trumpet Hornpipe
Captain Pugwash

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'The Trumpet Hornpipe' in G major, 4/4 time. The piece features a melody with several triplet patterns. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, D, G, D, A, D, G, Em, C, D, G, G7, C, Cm, D, G.

Polka
♩ = 100

Uncle Bernard's

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'Uncle Bernard's' in G major, 2/2 time. The melody consists of dotted rhythms. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, G, D7, G, G, G, D7, G, C, G, D7, G, C, G, D7, G.

Waltz
♩ = 130

Westering Home
Trasna na dTonnta

Trad. Words Hugh Robertson (1874-1952)
Scotland

Musical notation for 'Westering Home' in G major, 3/4 time. The melody features dotted rhythms and a repeat section at the end. Chords are indicated above the staff: D, G, D, A, D, G, A7, D, G, D, A7, D, D, Bm, Em, A7, D, Bm, Em, A7, D, Bm, Em, A7, D, A7, D.

March
♩ = 100

Winster Gallop

Trad.
England

Musical notation for 'Winster Gallop' in G major, 2/2 time. The melody consists of dotted rhythms. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, Am, G, C, G, D, G, Em, C, G, Am, D, G.

index

The Ash Grove	2	The King's Head	17
Bear Dance	2	Three Around Three	18
The Blackthorn Stick	2	Trasna na dTonnta	19
Blaydon Races	3	The Trumpet Hornpipe	19
Blue Eyed Stranger	3	Uncle Bernard's	19
Branle des Chevaux	8	Westering Home	19
British Grenadiers	3	Winster Gallop	19
Buttered Peas	4	Yarmouth Reel	7
Cadair Idris	18		
Captain Pugwash	19		
Cock O' The North	4		
Colonel John Irwin	13		
Constant Billy	4		
Cork Hornpipe	8		
The Curly-headed Ploughboy	4		
Davy Davy Knick Knack	5		
Denis Murphy's Polka	5		
Dennis Murphy's Polka	5		
Dingle Regatta	5		
Dorset Four Hand Reel	6		
Egan's Polka	6		
Eric's Waltz	6		
The Fairy Dance	6		
Fanny Poer	13		
Galopede	7		
General Monck's March	11		
George Brabazon	7		
Harvest Home	8		
Horse's Brawl	8		
Hunt the Squirrel	8		
The Irish Washerwoman	9		
Jamaica	9		
Jamie Allen	9		
Jimmy Allen	9		
John Ryan's; Meg Ryan's; Jack Rya	10		
The Keel Row	10		
The Kesh	10		
Kingsbury Jig	12		
Mairi's Wedding	10		
Mairie's Wedding	10		
Michael Turner's Waltz	11		
Miss MacDermott	14		
Monk's March	11		
The Moon And Seven Stars	16		
Muckin' o' Geordie's Byre	11		
Mucking Out the Byre	11		
Navvie on the Line	12		
Newcastle	12		
None So Pretty	4		
Off to California	12		
The Oyster Girl	12		
Planxty Fanny Power	13		
Planxty George Brabazon	7		
Planxty Irwin	13		
Portsmouth	13		
Princess Royal	14		
The Rakes Of Mallow	14		
The Rights of Man	14		
The Rose Tree	15		
Ryan's Polka	10		
Sally Gardens Reel	15		
Salmon Tails up the Water	15		
Seven Stars	16		
Sheebeg and Sheemore	16		
Shepherd's Hey	16		
Si Bheag Si Mhor	16		
Soldier's Joy	17		
South Winds	17		
Speed the Plough	17		
Staten Island	18		
Sweet Jenny Jones	18		