

Drunken Hiccups

Traditional

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G (A)

c2

The musical score consists of seven systems, each with a guitar staff (top) and a bass staff (bottom). The guitar staff includes fret numbers (0-12), accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals), and articulation marks (H for hammer-on, Po for pull-off, Sl for slide). The bass staff shows fret numbers and chord labels: D7 (E7), G (A), C (D), and G (A). The piece begins with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). A double bar line with repeat dots appears after the first measure of the first system. The notation includes various techniques such as hammer-ons, pull-offs, slides, and triplets.

D7 (E7) G (A)

D7 (E7) G (A)

C (D) G (A) C (D)

D7 (E7) G (A) C (D) G (A)

D7 (E7) G (A)

D7 (E7) G (A)

D7 (E7) G (A)

D7 (E7) G (A)

5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

D7 (E7) G (A)

Extra beat, see notes

5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

D7 (E7) G (A)

Extra beat, see notes

0 2 0 0 0 0 12 12 12 12 12 12

0 0 0 0 0 0 12 12 12 12 12 12

D7 (E7) G (A)

Extra beat, see notes

3/4 9 10 10 12 0 0 0 12 12 12 12 12 12

0 0 0 0 0 0 12 12 12 12 12 12

D7 (E7) G (A)

Extra beat, see notes

1. D7 (E7) G (A) 2. G (A)

3/4 9 10 12 10 0 0 0 0 2

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2

D7 (E7) G (A)

This is an instrumental version of the old song Rye Whiskey, sometimes also called Jack of Diamonds or Clinch Mountain. This version is based on the fiddle showpiece played by old-time fiddler Tommy Jarrell, who learned the tune from his father, Ben Jarrell, who recorded it in 1927 with Frank Jenkins. The fiddle is tuned in what has become known as Drunken Hiccups Tuning, AEAC#, which is basically key of A cross tuning, but with the first string tuned down to C#. Jarrell's version of the tune has four parts. On the fiddle, the last part involves pizzicato, plucking the notes rather than bowing. I generally play the 12th fret notes in measures 26 through 29 as harmonics, which better imitates that sound. Jarrell plays that pizzicato section with an irregular extra beat in each phrase, the "hiccup." Others, like Fiddlin' John Carson, played it more regular.

Raw whiskey, raw whiskey, raw whiskey, I cry,
If I don't get rye whiskey, I'll live 'til I die.

Rye Whiskey, rye whiskey, rye whiskey I crave,
If I don't get rye whiskey I'll go to my grave.

I eat when I'm hungry, and drink when I'm dry,

And if whiskey don't kill me I'll live till I die.

Way out on Clinch Mountain I wander alone,
Drunk as the devil and can't find my home.

Jack o' diamonds, jack o' diamonds, I know you from old,
Robbed by poor pockets of silver and gold.

I tune up my fiddle I rosin my bow,
I make myself welcome where ever I go.