

# Girl I Left Behind Me

Traditional

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The image displays a guitar tablature for the song "Girl I Left Behind Me". The music is written in a 2/4 time signature and the key of D major. The tablature is organized into six systems, each containing a single staff with fret numbers and chord diagrams. Chords are indicated by letters (D, G, A7) above the staff. The first system includes a key signature signature (D, A, F#, D, A) and a 2/4 time signature. The second system starts at measure 6. The third system includes first and second endings. The fourth system starts at measure 14. The fifth system includes first and second endings and a repeat sign. The sixth system starts at measure 22. The final system starts at measure 26 and ends with a double bar line. The tablature includes various techniques such as bends, slurs, and grace notes.

2. D D

30

Now, I admit, this is a tune that is almost always played out of G or A, not D. An e-mail friend once asked me if I had an arrangement in D, because she was playing the tune with a dulcimer player who was using that key. Initially, I worked it up just as a favor, but it fell nicely into place in D tuning, and I immediately jammed it into my regular repertoire of tunes. It just sounds a lot more "old-timey" than the more melodic version I was playing out of open G tuning.

There are a number of fourth string drone notes in this arrangement, don't pick them too hard. Also, pay particular attention to the movement from the beginning of measure 5 to the middle of measure 6; your left hand should essentially glide up the neck, sliding and hammering as called for, in a very smooth, effortless movement. This is the closest thing to zen I will reach in this lifetime.

In the open position variation of the A part, you'll notice that I basically run out of low notes, so I temporarily transpose the melody up an octave in measure 23, and again in measures 27 and 28. Do that without raising an eyebrow, and nobody will even notice. Someday, though, I'm going to experiment with a six string neck, with the extra bass string, and see if I can find those low notes. As an aside, when you make the transition to the low A part, the tablature actually jumps from measure 20 to measure 22. Follow the MIDI playback to fix any confusion.