

# Shaving a Dead Man

Traditional

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The image displays a guitar tablature for the piece "Shaving a Dead Man". The music is in 2/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tablature is organized into five systems, each with a measure number (2, 6, 10, 15, 20) and a chord label above it. The strings are labeled D, A, F#, D, A from top to bottom. The notation includes fret numbers (0, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9), slurs, and accents. Slurs are used to indicate a sequence of notes, often with a 1/4 note value. Slurs with an accent (SI) indicate a slide from one fret to another. The chord labels are D, G, A7, and D. The tablature shows a consistent rhythmic pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes, with some measures containing rests or specific fretting techniques like slides and hammer-ons.

25 A7 1D

30 G D G D

35 A7 D

39 A7 D

43 A7 D

47 A7 D

2. D

51

This is a tune that comes originally from the old-time clawhammer pioneer Oscar Wright. Wright's original open E tuning (g#BEBE) is almost unique to this piece, giving him the dominant below the tonic in two octaves. I have set this in standard open D (aDF#AD), however, with the capo on the 2nd fret. I have had to make adjustments to the melody of the B part in the low break, but I think the overall feeling of the tune is still there.

I based my version on the playing of Tim Rowell, who runs the Traditional Music Program at the Real School of Music in Burlington, Massachusetts. Tim's playing on this has a very lyrical feel, which I have tried to emulate.