

Shoot the Turkey Buzzard

Traditional

Arrangement (c) copyright 2012 by Donald J. Borchelt

The image displays a guitar tablature for the song "Shoot the Turkey Buzzard". It is arranged in a 4/4 time signature. The piece is in the key of G major, with a capo on the first fret. The notation includes various fret numbers (0-19), slurs, and specific techniques such as slides (Sl), bends (B), and hammer-ons (H). The piece is divided into two systems, each with two measures. The first system (measures 1-8) features a G (A) chord in the first measure and a D7 (E7) chord in the eighth measure. The second system (measures 9-16) features a D7 (E7) chord in the ninth measure and a G (A) chord in the tenth measure. A "Up the neck break" is indicated between measures 14 and 15. The piece concludes with a bend and release instruction at the end of measure 22.

Bend and release, see notes

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

30 D7 (E7) G (A) D7 (E7)

34 D7 (E7) G (A) D7 (E7)

There are a lot of versions of this tune, including a fine performance by Charlie Acuff on his *Better Times A-Comin'* CD. This arrangement is based on a pair of short recordings by Asheville, North Carolina fiddler Pender Rector (1893 - 1979), found on the Digital Library of Appalachia site. His simple version sounds the most like the tune I first heard around Cincinnati years ago. Nothing particularly tricky in my setting, except perhaps the bend and release at the end of measure 25, to the middle of measure 26. You don't actually play the string at the 16th fret, you bend up to that note, hold it in place, and then pick it again in the next measure and release it back to its natural pitch. Your left hand finger never leaves the 14th fret.