

# Squirrel Hunters

Traditional

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Em (Dm)

1. G (F) | See notes | Em (Dm) | Em (Dm)

5. G (F) | 1. A (G) | 2. A (G) | A (G)

9. G (F) | A (G) | A (G) | A (G)

13. G (F) | A (G) | A (G) | A (G)

17. Em (Dm)<sub>po</sub> | Up the neck break | A (G) | A (G)

21. Em (Dm)<sub>po</sub> | Em (Dm)<sub>po</sub> | Em (Dm)<sub>po</sub> | Em (Dm)<sub>po</sub>

The image displays a five-line banjo tablature for the tune 'Squirrel Hunters'. The notation includes fret numbers (0-17), chord names (Em (Dm) P<sub>o</sub>, H, G (F), A (G)), and measure numbers (25, 29, 33, 37). The piece is divided into two systems. The first system (measures 25-32) features a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.). The second system (measures 33-37) includes a first ending (1.), a second ending (2.), and a final ending (3.) with a double bar line. A circled cross symbol is placed below the second ending of the first system. The tablature uses various techniques such as slurs, ties, and grace notes.

I just learned this tune when Banjo Hangout member Mark Johnson posted it as tune of the week. It has an unusual melodic structure for an old time fiddle tune, in that it begins with an atypical E minor harmonic base. It could be played with a G major, but the open B note clashes with that chord.

Note in measure 6, and again in measure 15, the A note in the melody is gotten by fretting the 4th string at the 5th fret, rather than by playing the pen 3rd string. This is so that both the 3rd and 4th string melody notes can be held down and allowed to ring for as long as possible.