

Hawk Shot a Buzzard

Traditonal

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The image displays a guitar tablature for the piece "Hawk Shot a Buzzard". The music is in 2/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tablature is organized into six systems, each containing four measures. The first system includes a chord diagram for the D chord (D-A-F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The notation uses numbers 0-10 for fret positions, with letters H (hammer-on), Po (pull-off), and Sl (slide) indicating specific techniques. Chord changes to A7 and D are indicated below the staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the sixth system.

A7

29

1. A7 D | 2. A7 D

33

I found this tune from West Virginia fiddler Burl Hammons on Larry Warren's Slippery Hill website, which has become the "go to" site for old field recordings of Appalachian fiddle tunes. It was listed among the tunes in the open fiddle tuning DDAD, but the pitch was considerably lower, in Bb instead of D, so I pitch corrected it before I figured it out. The only other recording I have been able to find is from a self-produced CD by my friend Herb Broadbent of Ivydale, West Virginia, and his recording was a big help in figuring out where Hammons tune was going.