

# irish polka.tef

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by Donald J. Borchelt

G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) C (D)

Staff 1: Guitar tablature for the first system. Tuning: c2, D, B, G, D, g, 5c2. Time signature: 2/4. Chord names: G (A), D7 (E7), G (A), C (D). Tablature includes notes 0, 2, 7, 5, 0, 5, 0, 0, 5, 5.

Staff 2: Guitar tablature for the second system. Tuning: c2, E, B, G, D, A, E. Time signature: 2/4. Tablature includes notes 3, 3, 3, 0, 2, 3, 0, 0, 2, 2, 3, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 3, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1.

Staff 3: Guitar tablature for the third system. Tuning: G, D, A, E. Time signature: 2/4. Tablature includes notes 0, 2, 4, 0.

Staff 4: Guitar tablature for the fourth system. Tuning: E, A, E, A. Time signature: 2/4. Tablature includes notes 0, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 0, 2, 3, 2, 3.

G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) C (D)

5

0 8 7 0 | 0 0 2 0 2 0 2 | 0 0 7 0 5 0 5 | 0 0 5 0 5 | 0 0 5 0 5 | 0 5 0 5 | 2 4 0 2 0 2 4 0 | 0 3 3 4 3 1 0 3 | 2 0 1 2 1 0 1 2 | 2 1 2 2 3 2 3 | 0 2 3 2 3

B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B B

Sl

G (A)                      D7 (E7)                      G (A)                      D7 (E7)                      G (A)                      C (D)

9

0 8 7 0 | 0 0 HPo 0 0 2 | 0 0 0 0 5 5 | 0 0 0 0 5 5 | 0 0 0 5 0 | 5 0 5

3

B B                      B B                      B B                      B B                      B B                      B B

3 3                      3 3                      3 3                      2 2                      3 3                      0 0

0 0                      0 0                      0 0                      1 1                      0 0                      1 1

0 B                      0 B                      0 B                      2 B                      0 B                      0 B

0 B                      0 B                      0 B                      2 B                      0 B                      0 B

0 2                      0 2                      0 2                      2                      3                      3

2                      4                      2                      0                      0                      2                      4                      0

0 3 3 4 3 1 0                      Sl 2 0 1 2 1 0 0 1                      Sl 2 1 2 2 3 2 3                      0 2 3 2 3

3

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G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) C (D)

0 8 7 0 9 10 0 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 5 0 5 0 0 5 0 5

3 3 B B 3 3 B B 3 3 B B 3 3 B B 3 3 B B 3 3 B B 3 3 B B 0 0 B B

0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B 0 0 B B

0 0

0 2 3 0 3 0 2 3 0 2 3 0 2 3 0 2 3 0 2 3 0 2 3 0 2 3

0 3 4 3 1 0 3 Sl 2 0 1 2 1 0 1 2 1 2 2 3 2 3 Sl 0 2 3 2 3



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G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) C (D) G (A) C (D)

This line of tablature consists of six measures. The first measure has fret numbers 0, 8, 7, 0. The second measure has 0, 0, 2, 2, 7, 5, 4, with an 'H' above the first two notes and a '3' below the last note. The third measure has 0, 5, 0, 5. The fourth measure has 0, 0, 0. The fifth measure has 0, 5, 0, 5. The sixth measure has 5, 0, 5.

This line of tablature consists of six measures. Each measure has a 'B' above the first two notes and a 'B' below the last note. The first measure has fret numbers 3, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2. The second measure has 3, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3. The third measure has 3, 3, 0, 0, 2, 0. The fourth measure has 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 0. The fifth measure has 3, 3, 0, 0, 1, 2. The sixth measure has 3, 3, 0, 0, 1, 3.

This line of tablature consists of four measures. The first measure has 4, 0. The second measure has 4, 2. The third measure has 2, 4. The fourth measure has 2, 0.

This line of tablature consists of six measures. The first measure has 0, 3, 3, 4, 3, 1, 0, 3. The second measure has 2, 0, 1, 2, 1, 0, 1, 2, 3. The third measure has 3, 0, 1, 0, 1, 2, 3. The fourth measure has 3, 2, 3, 2, 3.

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G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) C (D) G (A) C (D)

0 8 7 0 | 0 0 HPo 0 7 5 4 | 0 0 SI 5 0 5 | 0 0 0 |

0 0 10 | 0 7 3 3 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 5 0 5 |

3 3 B B | 3 3 B B | 3 3 B B | 3 3 B B | 0 0 B B | 3 3 B B | 0 0 B B |

0 0 B B | 0 0 B B | 0 0 B B | 0 0 B B | 1 1 B B | 0 0 B B | 0 0 B B |

0 2 | 0 2 3 | 0 2 3 | 0 2 3 | 0 2 3 | 0 3 | 0 3 |

4 0 | 2 4 0 | 2 4 0 | 2 0 |

0 3 3 4 3 1 0 | 2 0 1 2 1 0 | 0 1 2 | 3 | 1 0 1 2 | 3 | 2 3 2 3 |

3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 |

29

G (A) D7 (E7) G (A) C (D) G (A) C (D)



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

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The image displays musical notation for an Irish polka, organized into two variations (1 and 2) across four staves. The notation includes fret numbers (0-10), chord indications (G (A), D7 (E7)), and specific playing techniques such as triplets (3), hammer-ons (HPo), and bends (B). The first staff shows the beginning of the piece with fret numbers 0, 8, 7, 0, 9, 10. The second staff continues with fret numbers 0, 0, 7, 9, 7, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 7, 9, 7, 0. The third staff shows fret numbers 0, 2, 3, 0, 2, 3. The fourth staff shows fret numbers 4, 0, 2, 4, 0, 2, 4, 0. The fifth staff shows fret numbers 0, 3, 3, 4, 3, 1, 0, 3, 2, 0, 1, 2, 1, 0, 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 2, 1, 0. The notation is presented in a clear, black-and-white format, suitable for a music book or sheet music.

it has been pointed out that this tune is apparently neither Irish, nor a polka. I learned it from a recording of Australian fiddler Ross Smithard, supplied to me by my friend John Reddick. Smithard reportedly learned the tune from fiddler Scott Prouty, at a jam at Clifftop. Prouty told Smithard that he learned the tune at a jam with some fiddlers in the Pacific Northwest, who thought it came from a fiddler in Southeastern Ohio, but they didn't know who. My friend and fellow banjo picker Steve Arkin once told me that we shouldn't play tunes that do not have a proper provenance, but in the case of this neat little tune, I think we can make an exception.