

Melvin Wine's Uncle Pen

Traditional

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Sheet music for Melvin Wine's Uncle Pen, featuring guitar and mandolin parts. The music is in 2/4 time and includes various chords and techniques such as harmonics, bends, and slides.

Chords and Techniques:

- G (A):** G major (A natural) chord.
- C (D):** C major (D natural) chord.
- D (E):** D major (E natural) chord.
- Harmonic:** Natural harmonics.
- C (D)_H:** C major (D natural) chord with harmonic.
- G (A)_H:** G major (A natural) chord with harmonic.

Notation:

- HPo:** Harmonic Power.
- Po:** Power.
- SI:** Slide.
- H:** Harmonic.
- 0:** Open string.
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15:** Fingering numbers.
- 2/4:** Time signature.
- 5c2, 5c2:** Capo positions.

Measure Numbers: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21.

Wine's Uncle Pen - Traditional

D (E) G (A) Harmonic C (D_H) G̃ (A)

25 HPo Po SI 12 14 12 14 10 S 12 14 0 14

15 11 10 12 10 11 12 12 ◇ 13 13 10 12 15 14

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

3

29 HPo H SI H SI H

15 11 10 12 5 7 5 2 4 0 4 0 4 9 8 10 12 14

0 0 0 0 0 4 5 0 0 0

3

D (E) 1-2 G (A) Harmonic 3. G (A) Harmonic

33 HPo Po SI SI SI

15 11 10 12 10 11 12 12 ◇ 7 11 12 12 ◇

0 0 0 0 0 0 0

3

I learned this tune from a video posted by the wonderful Cherokee fiddler Nokosee Fields of Stillwater, Oklahoma. I am told that it comes originally from West Virginia fiddler Melvin Wine. It has been speculated that Wine based it upon Kenny Baker's playing on the song Uncle Pen that Baker recorded with Bill Monroe and the Bluegrass Boys. Not so sure about that.

Note the harmonic note at the end of each phrase. I use the harmonic both to get the clear tone, and also the long sustain that does not require continuous fretting of the string.