

# Fiddle

Edition  
LE2 "Easy" Tunes

12/28/23

Coleman's March	D
Dollar Polka	Em
Dusty Bob	G
Golden Slippers	G
Jamie Allen	G
Kerry Polka #4	G
Lomir Sich Iberbetn	E Freyghish
Lucy Farr's Barn Dance	G
Off She Goes	D
Over the Waterfall	D
Planxy Irwin	D
Rakes of Mallow	G
Redwing	G
Sandy Boys	A
Skye Boat Song	D
Strawberries & Raspberries	G
Swallowtail Jig	Em
Tumbalalaika	Am

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Burlington is home to a thriving traditional fiddling community. The folk violin is present in most cultures and is used to perform a common repertoire of traditional dance melodies which are loosely called "fiddle tunes." These tunes are also played on other instruments and are performed at informal gatherings called "sessions." Our commonly played local repertoire is the legacy of Vermont's immigrant groups. It is also assembled, adapted and contributed to by local musicians.

Since we are preparing musicians to participate in their shared culture, here are some extremely common tunes of local importance which will be useful for students. To understand how and why these tunes are performed locally, students should learn under the guidance of local master musicians. As a supplement to this in-person learning process, the LE books include sheet music and backup tracks for three groups of commonly played tunes.

- **LE1 "Extremely Easy" Tunes**
- **LE2 "Easy" Tunes**
- **LE3 "Moderate" Tunes**

These charts are intended to give a student general familiarity with the tunes. Actual performance in groups and at dances may vary significantly from what is printed here. In addition to the fiddle books, separate books are available giving fingerings, transpositions and other technical info for mandolin, guitar and Bb Horn.

## **This Book**

Unlike the "Extremely Easy" book, the LE2 "Easy" Tunes book shows the actual fiddle tune the way it is commonly played. Of course, there is a large amount of technique not noted in these charts.



# COLEMAN'S MARCH

FIDDLE

SOUTH-CENTRAL KENTUCKY TUNE SPREAD BY REVIVALIST  
FIDDLER BRUCE GREENE AS RECORDED BY KENTUCKY  
FIDDLER GENE CONNOR IN 1962.  
FROM PETE SUTHERLAND (1951-2022)

**A**

D

G

D

A



D

G

A

D

D



**B**

D

A

G

A

D



D

G

A

D

D



**HARMONY:**



**B**



CHORD IN MEASURE #10  
CAN BE B MINOR (CONCERT)  
WHICH CHANGES THE HARMONY.

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# "DOLLAR POLKA" (LOCALLY KNOWN AS) FIDDLE

NAMED BY SARAH BLAIR WHO  
ALLEGEDLY OFFERED A DOLLAR  
TO WHOEVER COULD TELL HER  
THE TUNE'S ACTUAL NAME.

**A**      E MIN      D

E MIN      D      E MIN

**B**      E MIN      D      E MIN      D      E MIN

E MIN      D      E MIN      D      E MIN

**SOME SUB CHORDS**

E MIN E MIN B MIN B MIN  
E MIN E MIN B MIN E MIN

E MIN D E MIN D  
E MIN D B MIN E MIN

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# DUSTY BOB

FIDDLE

**A**      G                      D                      G      D<sup>7</sup>      G      D<sup>7</sup>

G                      D<sup>7</sup>                      G      D<sup>7</sup>                      G                      G

5

**B**      G                      D<sup>7</sup>                      C                      D<sup>7</sup>

10

G                      D<sup>7</sup>                      C      D                      G      D<sup>7</sup>

14

G                      D<sup>7</sup>                      C                      D<sup>7</sup>

18

G      EMIN      C      AMIN      G      D<sup>7</sup>      G

22



# GOLDEN SLIPPERS

FIDDLE

1879  
JAMES ALAN BLAND (1854-1911)

**A**

5

**B**

10  
14  
18  
22

**HARMONY:**

5

**B**

10  
14

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# JAMIE ALLEN

FIDDLE

**A**

G Am D7

C G D7 G

5

**B**

G C Am D7

C G D7 G

13

**Harmony:**

5

**B**

13

Jamie Allan (1734-1810) celebrated Northumbrian piper, friend of the aristocracy, horse thief, bigamist, and deserter died in a Durham prison awaiting deportation.

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# OFF SHE GOES

FIDDLE

**A** D G A D D G D A<sup>7</sup>



D G A D D G A D A D



**B**

D G D A



D G D G A D A D





# OVER THE WATERFALL

## FIDDLE

FROM HENRY REED 1884-1968

**A**                    D     G     D                    D     G     D

                  D     G     D                    C                    G                    G

**B**                    D     G     D                    D     A     D

                  D     G     D                    D     A     D

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# PLANXTY IRWIN

## FIDDLE

TURLOUGH O'CAROLAN 1670-1738

**A**                    D    G            A    B<sub>m</sub>            G    D            A    A<sub>7</sub>

                  D    G            A    B<sub>m</sub>            G    D            D    A    D

**B**                    D                    A                    B<sub>m</sub>    E<sub>7</sub>            A    A<sub>7</sub>

                  D    G            A    B<sub>m</sub>            G    D            D    A    D

Some chords are debatable.

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# REDWING FIDDLE

(UNION MAID)

1907

M-KERRY MILLS 1869-1948

M-THURLAND CHATTANAWAY 1872-1947

**A**

G C G

D<sup>7</sup> G A<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> G G<sup>7</sup>

5

**B**

C A MIN G

D<sup>7</sup> G G<sup>7</sup>

C A MIN E MIN

D<sup>7</sup> G

11

15

19

23

Now, the moon shines tonight on pretty Red Wing  
 The breeze is sighing, the night bird's crying,  
 For afar 'neath his star her brave is sleeping,  
 While Red Wing's weeping her heart away

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# SANDY BOYS

FIDDLE

**A**

5

**B**

10

14

D CHORD IS OPTIONAL OR COULD BE ASUS

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# SKYE BOAT SONG

## FIDDLE

WORDS: 1884, SIR HAROLD BOULTON  
TRADITIONAL AIR COLLECTED IN 1870 BY  
ANNE CAMPBELL MACLEOD (1855-1921)

**A**

D BMIN EMIN A D G D

Speedonnie boat, like a bird on the wing. On - ward! the sail - ors cry.

D BMIN EMIN A D G D

5 Carry the lad that's born to be king Over thesea to Skye.

**B**

BMIN EMIN G EMIN BMIN

9 Loud the winds howl, loud the waves roar. Thun - der-claps rend the air.

D EMIN G EMIN BMIN

13 Baffl - ed our foes stand by the shore. Foll - ow they will not dare.

Many's the lad fought on that day  
Well the claymore did wield  
When the night came, silently lain  
Dead on Colloden field

Though the waves heave, soft will ye sleep  
Ocean's a royal bed  
Rocked in the deep, Flora will keep  
Watch by your weary head

### Notes:

After the disastrous Battle of Culloden the Jacobite rising of 1745 collapsed. Bonnie Prince Charlie, pursued throughout Scotland, escaped from Benbecula in the Hebrides and sailed to the Isle of Skye disguised as Flora MacDonald's serving maid. From there he fled to France, never to return.

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# THE SWALLOWTAIL JIG

FIDDLE

A

Em D

Em D Em

5

B

Em D

Em D Em

13

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# TUMBALALAIKA

FIDDLE

FROM RUTH RUBIN 1906-2000  
AND LOCAL

AMIN E7 E7 AMIN

AMIN F C DMIN E7 AMIN

### Refrain:

Tumbala, tumbala, tumbalalaika,  
 Tumbala, tumbala, tumbalalaika  
 tumbalalaika, shpiel balalaika  
 tumbalalaika - freylach zol zayn.

Shteyt a bocher, shteyt un tracht,  
 tracht un tracht a gantze nacht.  
 Vemen tsu nemen un nit far shemen,  
 vemen tsu nemen un nit far shemen.

Meydl, meyd, ch'vel bay dir fregen,  
 Vos kan vaksn, vaksn on regn?  
 Vos kon brenen un nit oyfhern?  
 Vos kon benken, veynen on treren?

Narisher bocher, vos darfstu fregn?  
 A shteyn ken vaksn, vaksn on regn.  
 Libeh ken brenen un nit oyfhern.  
 A harts kon benkn, veynen on treren

### HARMONY

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