

## The Irish Washerwoman

The musical score is written in G Major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It is divided into two main sections: Part A and Part B. Part A spans the first two staves, and Part B spans the last three staves. The key signature is G Major. The time signature is 6/8. Chords G, D7, C, and G are indicated above the notes. Fingerings 1 and 2 are shown for certain notes.

"Irish Washerwoman", in Gaelic, "*An Bhean Niochain Eireannach*", also known as "The Washerwoman", "Corporal Casey", "The Country Courtship", "Dargason", "Free Masons", "Irishwoman", "The Irish Wash-Woman", "Irish Waterman", "Jackson's Delight", "The Melody of Cynwyd", "Paddy McGinty's Goat," "The Wash Woman", "The Scheme", "Star at Liwis" or "Yr Hen Olchyddes" is an Irish, English, Scottish and American double jig in G Major (most versions, 'B' part is in G Mixolydian in some Scottish versions), D Major (Clinton) or F Major (Petrie). The parts are played AA'B (Breathnach), AABB (most versions), AA'BB' (Gow, Perlman) or AABBC (Ashman). It is probably an Irish jig although there is some argument for English origins.

It was printed in Aird's **Selection of Scotch, English, Irish and Foreign Airs, vol. 4** (1796), Ashman's **Ironbridge Hornpipe** (1991), Bayard's **Dance to the Fiddle** (1981), Breathnach's **CRÉ 2** (1976), Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Carlin's **The Gow Collection** (1986), Cole's **1000 Fiddle Tunes** (1940), Ford's **Traditional Music of America** (1940), Gow's **A Third Collection of Strathspey Reels &c for the Piano-forte, Violin and Violoncello** (1792), Johnson's **Kitchen Musician No. 6: Jigs** (1982), Johnson's **Kitchen Musician No. 8: 28 Country Dances** (1988), Karpeles & Schofield's **A Selection of 100 English Folk Dance Airs** (1951), Kerr's **Merry Melodies, vol. 1** (c. 1880), O'Neill's **O'Neill's Irish Music** (1915), O'Neill's **Dance Music of Ireland: 1001 Gems** (1986), Perlman's **The Fiddle Music of Prince Edward Island** (1996), Raven's **English Country Dance Tunes** (1984), Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883), Stewart-Robertson's **The Athole Collection** (1884), and many others.

It has been recorded by just about everyone.

I play this tune in a medley with:

The Boys of Wexford and/or  
Gary Owen  
in this section

and/or

The Flowers of Edinburgh and/or  
Scotland the Brave  
in the Celtic section.