

Keep on the Sunny Side

Ada Blenkhorn/J. Howard Entwisle

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of G major (one sharp), and 2/2 time. It consists of 31 measures. The first 15 measures are the Verse, and the last 16 measures are the Chorus. Chords are indicated by letters (G, C, D7, G7) above the staff. Measure numbers 5, 10, 16, 21, 26, and 31 are placed at the beginning of their respective lines.

Verse

Measures 1-15:

- Measure 1: G
- Measure 2: C
- Measure 3: G
- Measure 4: D7
- Measure 5: G
- Measure 6: C
- Measure 7: G
- Measure 8: D7
- Measure 9: G
- Measure 10: C
- Measure 11: G
- Measure 12: D7
- Measure 13: G
- Measure 14: C
- Measure 15: G

Chorus

Measures 16-31:

- Measure 16: G
- Measure 17: C
- Measure 18: G
- Measure 19: D7
- Measure 20: G
- Measure 21: G7
- Measure 22: C
- Measure 23: G
- Measure 24: C
- Measure 25: G
- Measure 26: D7
- Measure 27: G
- Measure 28: C
- Measure 29: G
- Measure 30: D7
- Measure 31: G

1. There's a dark and a troubled side of life;
There's a bright and a sunny side, too;
Tho' we meet with the darkness and strife,
The sunny side we also may view.

Chorus

Keep on the sunny side,
Always on the sunny side,
Keep on the sunny side of life;
It will help us every day,
It will brighten all the way,
If we keep on the sunny side of life.

2. Tho' the storm in its fury break today,
Crushing hopes that we cherished so dear,
Storm and cloud will in time pass away,
The sun again will shine bright and clear.

Chorus

3. Let us greet with a song of hope each day,
Tho' the moments be cloudy or fair;
Let us trust in our Savior always,
Who keeps everyone in His care.

Chorus

"Keep on the Sunny Side" is a popular American song originally written in 1899 by Ada Blenkhorn (1858–1927) with music by J. Howard Entwisle (1866–1903). In 1899 Ada Blenkhorn was inspired to write the Christian hymn by a phrase used by her nephew. Blenkhorn's nephew was disabled and always wanted his wheelchair pushed down "the sunny side" of the street. The Carter Family learned of the song from A. P. Carter's uncle who was a music teacher and they recorded the song in Camden, New Jersey in 1928. "Keep on the Sunny Side" became their theme song on the radio in later years. A.P. Carter's tombstone has a gold record of the song embedded in it.

It was also recorded by Flatt and Scruggs and the Foggy Mountain Boys, June Carter Cash, Johnny Cash's daughter Rosanne Cash and June Carter's daughters Carlene Carter and Rosie Nix Adams.