

# Where Did You Get That Hat?

## Verse

Musical notation for the Verse, consisting of four staves of music in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. Chords are indicated by letters above the staff: C, G7, F, and C. The lyrics are written below the staff.

C G7  
Now how I came to get this hat, 'tis ver - y strange and fun - ny,  
Grand - fa - ther died and left to me his prop - er - ty and mon - ey;  
C G7 F C F G7  
And when the will it was read out, they told me straight and flat,  
C  
If I would have his mon - ey, I must al - ways wear his hat.

## Chorus

Musical notation for the Chorus, consisting of four staves of music in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. Chords are indicated by letters above the staff: C, G7, F, D, C, G7, C, G7, and C. The lyrics are written below the staff.

C G7  
"Where did you get that hat? Where did you get that tile?  
F G7 D C  
Is - n't it a nob - by one, and just the prop - er style?  
G7 C G7  
I should like to have one Just the same as that"  
C F C G7 C  
Where-'er I go, they shout "Hel - lo! Where did you get that hat?"

1. Now how I came to get this hat, 'tis very strange and funny,  
Grandfather died and left to me his property and money;  
And when the will it was read out, they told me straight and flat,  
If I would have his money, I must always wear his hat.

**Chorus:**

"Where did you get that hat? Where did you get that tile?  
Isn't it a nobby one, and just the proper style?  
I should like to have one Just the same as that!"  
Where'er I go, they shout "Hello! Where did you get that hat?"

2. If I go to the op'ra house, in the op'ra season  
There's someone sure to shout at me without the slightest reason.  
If I go to a concert hall to have a jolly spree,  
There's someone in the party who is sure to shout at me:  
Chorus

3. At twenty-one I thought I would to my sweetheart get married;  
The people in the neighbourhood had said too long we'd tarried.  
So off to church we went right quick, determined to get wed;  
I had not long been in there, when the parson to me said:  
Chorus

4. I once tried hard to be M.P. but failed to get elected,  
Upon a tub I stood, round which a thousand folks collected;  
And I had dodged the eggs and bricks (which was no easy task),  
When one man cried, "A question I the candidate would ask!"  
Chorus

5. When Colonel South, the millionaire, gave his last garden party  
I was amongst the guests who had a welcome true and hearty;  
The Prince of Wales was also there, and my heart jumped with glee,  
When I was told the Prince would like to have a word with me.

**Chorus:**

He said: "Where did you get that hat? Where did you get that tile?  
Isn't it a nobby one, and just the proper style?  
I should like to have one Just the same as that!"  
Where'er I go, they shout "Hello! Where did you get that hat?"



WHERE DID YOU GET  
**THAT HAT.**

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"Where Did You Get That Hat?" is a song composed by J.J. Sullivan.

Margaret Bradford Boni in *Songs of the Gilded Age* (1960) writes:

Sullivan, comedian and acrobatic dancer, home for vacation and searching in the attic for possible make-up material, came across an old plug hat, too small for his head and absurdly tall for his short, plump figure. Wearing it, he ventured into the street and was ridiculed and jeered at by a group of small boys, who yelled: "Where did you get that hat?" The phrase gave him the title for his celebrated song, one of the best-remembered hits of 1888, which for years after was sung and played everywhere.

The melody is based partly on a leitmotiv from Wagner's **Lohengrin**.

The song was sung by Gene Kelly in the 1949 film **Take Me Out to the Ball Game**.

It was also recorded by the English comedian Stanley Holloway.

I learned it (with a slightly altered melody) from Bob Carlin at Midwest Banjo Camp.