

# Avalon Quickstep

The musical score for "Avalon Quickstep" is written in D major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note D, and then a series of eighth and quarter notes. A box labeled 'A' is placed above the first measure of the second staff. The second staff continues the melody with a dotted quarter note A7, followed by eighth and quarter notes. The third staff features a G chord, an A7 chord, and a first ending bracket over two measures of D chords. The fourth staff begins with a box labeled 'B' and contains a melody with a dotted quarter note D, eighth notes, and a G chord. The fifth staff continues with G, A7, D, D, G, and D chords. The sixth staff has G, A7, and a first ending bracket over two measures of D chords. The seventh staff concludes with a second ending bracket over two measures of D chords.

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"Avalon Quickstep", also known as "Avalon Quick Step" and "New Charleston No. 1" is an American reel in cut time and D Major. The parts are played AABB (irregular).

The melody was first recorded in June, 1930, in San Antonio, Texas, by W.T. (Willie) Namour and S.W. Smith, Mississippi musicians and named for the hamlet of Avalon, Mississippi.

The Avalon area was home to a number of influential musicians, including blues guitarist John Hurt and the string band the Mississippi Possum Hunters, who all knew each other (Namour and Smith helped Hurt to get signed with Okeh Records). Apparently, the town was so obscure by the latter part of the 20th century that it could only be located with the help of old maps.

The alternate title was an attempt by Namour and Smith to cash in on association to the Charleston dance craze of the 1920's, however, the dance was named for the town of Charleston, Mississippi, near where the musicians lived.

The tune is irregular in that 'B' part has ten measures instead of the usual eight.

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Milliner & Koken's **The Milliner-Koken Collection of American Fiddle Tunes** (2011) and Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 2** (1995).

It was recorded by Namour and Smith on **Traditional Fiddle Music of Mississippi, vol. 1** (1975), Namour & Smith on **Volume 2: Complete Recorded Works (1930-1934)** (2013), Arm and Hammer String Band on **New England Conta Dance Music** (1977).