

Fire in the Log

The musical score for "Fire in the Log" is written in D Major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a boxed letter 'A' above a 'D' chord. The second staff features chords A7, G, D, G, and A7. The third staff includes a first ending marked '1.' with a 'D' chord, a second ending marked '2.' with a 'D' chord, and a boxed letter 'B' above a 'D' chord. The fourth staff has chords G, A7, G, A7, and a first ending marked '1.' with a 'D' chord. The fifth staff has a second ending marked '2.' with a 'D' chord.

"Fire in the Log", also known as "Possum up the Gum Stump" or "Who Shit in Grandpa's Hat" is an American polka or reel in cut time and D Major. The parts are played AABB.

The tune is not widespread but was in the repertoire of Scioto County, southern Ohio, fiddler Jimmy Wheeler (1917-1987) as "Fire in the Log" although Wheeler said that it also had the alternate titles. The field recording was made by John Harrod.

The Quebecois tune "*Les Nocés à Lise*" has a cognate first strain, but the second strains differ.

The banjo tab is mostly from John Letscher who learned it at a jam in Gettysburg from Sandy Hofferth. I modified the banjo tab a bit to make it correspond more closely to the fiddle version.

John says this reminds him of Saturday nights at the *Unter Uns* which was the German club across the street from his home in Altoona.

John Lamancuso included the tune in his website collection.