

## The Fireman's Dance

Musical score for "The Fireman's Dance" in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of seven staves of music. The first staff (measures 1-3) is marked with a boxed 'A' and chords D and A7. The second staff (measures 4-7) has chords G, A7, D, and A7, with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 5. The third staff (measures 8-11) is marked with a boxed 'B' and chords D and A7. The fourth staff (measures 12-15) has chords D and A7. The fifth staff (measures 16-19) has a first ending (1.) and second ending (2.) both with chord D, followed by a boxed 'C' and chord A. The sixth staff (measures 20-23) has chords G, A7, D, and A. The seventh staff (measures 24-27) has chords G, A7, and D.

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"The Fireman's Dance" is a contra dance that was well known from the 19th century. It is a line dance with two lines facing each other and, sometimes, multiple parallel line sets. The A and B parts are repeated but often the C part is not. If the C part is played once, the dancers shout "Fire! Fire! Fire! Fire!" and pass through to meet the next set. It was printed in William F Bacon's **Squire's practical prompter; or, Ball room call book** (1887), **English Dance & Song** (1940), Ford's **Good Morning** (1926). It has been recorded by Paul Van Arsdale and Adam Hurt. The transcription is from Paul Van Arsdale with a few adjustments of hammered dulcimer idioms. This is the way the dance was played in western New York in the 1920's and 1930's. Some contradance websites state that the dance is not often done recently.