

Forked Deer

The musical score for "Forked Deer" 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 'A' and a 'D' chord. The second staff features chords G, A7, D, G, and A7. The third staff includes chords D and G, followed by a first ending with a 'D' chord and a second ending with a 'D' chord, and concludes with a boxed 'B' and an 'A7' chord. The fourth staff has chords D, A7, D, A7, G, D, and A7. The fifth staff contains chords D, A7, D, G, a first ending with a 'D' chord, and a second ending with a 'D' chord.

"Forked Deer" also known as "Forked Buck", "Forky Deer", "Forked-Horn Deer", "Forked Deer Hornpipe", "Hounds in the Horn", "Long-Horned Dee", "Deer Walk", "Bragg's Retreat", "Old Pork Bosom" and "Van Buren" is a Widely known old-time American breakdown in D Major. Many older versions have several more parts than the two that are commonly played in modern times, and Jeff Titon (2001) suggests that the influence of the recording industry had much to do with shortening and standardizing the parts of the melody. Clay County, W.Va. fiddler Wilson Douglas, heir to an older tradition, plays the tune in three parts, as did his mentor French Carpenter. Roscoe Parish of Coal Creek, Va. also had a third part. Blind northeastern Kentucky fiddler Ed Haley (1883–1951) played a five-part version, as did Charlie Bowman and Kentuckian J.W. Day.

Miles Krassen (1973) remarks the tune is very popular through most of the southern Appalachians, though it was not played by most of the Galax, Va. style bands.

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), R.P. Christeson's **Old Time Fiddler's Repertory**, vol. 1 (1973), Ford's **Traditional Music of America** (1940), Krassen's **Appalachian Fiddle** (1973), Milliner & Koken's **Milliner-Koken Collection of American Fiddle Tunes** (2011), Phillips's **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes**, vol. 1 (1994), Thede's **The Fiddle Book** (1967), Titon's **Old Time Kentucky Fiddle Tunes** (2001) and Songer's **Portland Collection** (1997).

It was recorded by Bruce Molsky & Bob Carlin, Charlie Bowman (1929), Eck Robertson, Tommy Jarrell (1976), The Red Clay Ramblers, John McCutcheon, Tommy Hunter (1976), Dan Gellert, The Highwoods String Band, Ed Haley, Jilson Setters (as Blind Bill Day 1928) French Carpenter, Uncle Am Stuart and Edden Hammons.