

Garfield's Blackberry Blossom

The musical score is written in G Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first staff is marked with a boxed 'A' and contains the first measure of the first A section. The second staff continues the first A section. The third staff is marked with a boxed 'B' and contains the first measure of the first B section. The fourth staff continues the first B section. Chord symbols G, C, G, D7, and G are placed above the notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

"Garfield's Blackberry Blossom", also known as "Blackberry Blossom" is an American reel in G Major. The parts are played AABB, AAB B' (Silberberg) or AAB BCC (Ed Haley).

It is from legendary northeast Kentucky fiddler Ed Haley (1885-1951), although it was also played by Kentucky fiddlers Buddy Thomas and J.P. Fraley.

This tune is simply labeled "Blackberry Blossom" on older recordings, but has picked up the "Garfield's" to distinguish it from the related, later tune by Arthur Smith. Jean Thomas, in her book **Ballad Makin' in the Mountains of Kentucky** states that she was told by an informant that the "Garfield's" name came from a General Garfield (later President Garfield) who heard it played on a harmonica.

The tune was Ed Haley's signature tune although he never commercially recorded it.

It was printed in Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002) and Titon's **Old Time Kentucky Fiddle Tunes** (2001).

It was recorded by Reed Island Rounders on **Wolves in the Wood**, Dick Burnett and Oscar Rutledge (1930), Buddy Thomas on **Visits** (1981) and Owen "Snake" Chapman on **Up in Chapman's Hollow** (1996).