

Here Come Jack with a Fiddle on His Back

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/4. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a key signature change to one sharp and a time signature of 2/4. Chords D and G are indicated above the staff. The second staff has a first ending bracket labeled '1.' above it. The third staff has a second ending bracket labeled '2.' above it. The fourth staff has chords A7, D, G, D, and A7 indicated above it. The fifth staff has first and second endings labeled '1.' and '2.' above it, with a chord D indicated below the staff.

"Here Come Jack with a Fiddle on His Back", also known as "Jaybird Died of the Whooping Cough" is an old time breakdown in D Major. The parts are played AABB. These words were probably sung to the 'B' part of the tune:

Here comes Jack with a fiddle on his back;

Inquirin' his way to the frolic.

Titon (2001) says the tune is a local south-central Kentucky tune.

The banjo tablature is by John Letscher.

It was recorded in the field by Bruce Greene in 1976 in Metcalf, County, Ky., from the playing of Sammie Walker.

It was printed in Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994),

Titon's **Old-Time Kentucky Fiddle Tunes** (2001) (appears as "Here Come Jack with a Fiddle on His Back, Going to the Frolic").