

Molly Put the Kettle On

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a cut time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes and is marked with a boxed 'A'. Above the notes are chord symbols: A, D, E7, A, D. The second staff continues the melody and includes a first ending bracket over the final measure, with chord symbols A, D, E7, A, and 1. D, E7, A. The third staff is marked with a boxed 'B' and contains a triplet of eighth notes, with chord symbols 2. D, E7, A, A, D, E7, A. The fourth staff continues the melody with chord symbols D, E7, A, A, D, E7, A. The fifth staff shows two endings for the B section: 1. D, E7, A and 2. D, E7, A.

"Molly Put the Kettle On" is an American reel in cut time and A Major. It is usually played in AEae fiddle tuning. The parts are played AABB.

This version of "Molly put the kettle on" is from the playing of fiddler John Sharp (1894-1965), who was born in Kentucky, but who lived much of his life in Sharp's Place, northeastern Tennessee. Sharp was a member of a string band called the Kentucky Wildcats. He also played venues such as Democratic political rallies, dedication ceremonies, family reunions and weekly dances at Pickett State Park with members of his family (eight of his children learned to play instruments).

In 1949 Sgt. Alvin York, Medal of Honor recipient of World War I and a long-time friend and neighbor of Sharps, brought a record cutting machine and recorded some 25 sides of Sharp's playing.

The banjo tablature is by John Letscher who worked it up from the playing of Bruce Molsky & Bob Carlin.

It was recorded by John Sharp on **Sharp's Hornpipe vol. 1 and Bruce Molsky & Bob Carlin on Take Me as I Am** (1983) (Appears as the 1st part of the "John Sharp's Tunes" medley).