

Moon Behind the Hill

The image displays a musical score for the piece "Moon Behind the Hill". The score is written on eight staves, all using a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a sharp sign, and a common time signature (C). The music is composed of various rhythmic values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and chords. The notation includes stems, beams, and slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots at the end of the eighth staff.

"Moon Behind the Hill", also known as "Moon Behind the Mountain" is an American reel in cut time and G Major. The parts are played AABB.

The tune feels more like a two-step or a polka than a reel.

The piece was popularized by West Virginia fiddler Melvin Wine (1909-2003), who played it at as a two-step at a moderately brisk walking pace, although it since has been recorded at faster speeds. It is an adaptation of a song air and although there is an Irish song called "Moon behind the Hill" (sung to the air "Harp that Once from Tara's Halls"), it is unlikely that this is the source for the song. A more plausible candidate for a precursor is "Moon behind the Hill", a popular parlor song by T. Brigham Bishop, published in Boston in 1858.

It was printed in Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 2** (1995) (appears as "Moon Behind the Mountain") and Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021).

It was recorded by Melvin Wine on **Legends of Old-Time Music** (2015) and **Vintage Wine** (1993) and Buck Mountain Band on **Moon Behind the Hills** (2006).