

Needlecase

The image shows a musical score for the tune "Needlecase". It is written in D Major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The score is divided into two sections, A and B. Section A consists of two staves of music, and Section B also consists of two staves. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, G, D, A7, D in the first staff; G, A7, D in the second staff; D, G, D, A7, D in the third staff; and G, A7, D in the fourth staff.

"Needlecase", also known as "Needle Case" or "Needle in the Case" is an old-time breakdown in D Major. The parts are played AB, AABB or sometimes BBAA.

It was one of the tunes described as a "popular old-time tune" that the **Clarke County Democrat** of May 9, 1929, predicted would be "rendered in a most approved fashion" at an upcoming contest in Grove Hill, Alabama.

Tennessee musician Sam McGee popularized the tune with his finger-picked banjo recording, while Vermont fiddler Pete Sutherland adapted it as a fiddle tune. Tennessee musician Sam McGee popularized the tune with his finger-picked banjo recording, while Vermont fiddler Pete Sutherland adapted it as a fiddle tune.

It was printed in Silberberg's **Tunes I Learned at Tractor Tavern** (2002), Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021) and Songer's **Portland Collection, vol. 2** (2005).

It was recorded by The McGee Brothers and Arthur Smith on **The McGee Brothers and Arthur Smith** (1964), Bob Carlin on **Fiddle Tunes for Clawhammer Banjo** (1980) and Mike Seeger on **Southern Banjo Sounds** (1998).

I first it heard it played by Debbie McClatchy at Sunhearth.