

## Railroading through the Rockies

The musical score is written in D Major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two main sections, A and B. Section A is the first part of the tune, marked with a boxed 'A' at the beginning. It spans four staves of music. The first two staves each begin with a D chord, and the third and fourth staves each begin with an A chord. The melody is primarily eighth and quarter notes. A triplet of eighth notes appears at the end of the fourth staff. Section B is the second part of the tune, marked with a boxed 'B' at the beginning. It spans two staves. The first staff begins with a D chord, followed by a G chord, and then an A chord. The second staff begins with a D chord and ends with a double bar line. A triplet of eighth notes also appears in the second staff of section B.

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"Railroading through the Rockies" also known as "Railroading through the Rocky Mountains" is an old-time breakdown in D Major. The parts are played AB (Silberberg), ABB (Lamancusa), AABB (Phillips) or AABCC (Titon).

According to Jeff Titon (2001), source Jim Bowles (1903-1993) learned the tune from his uncle, Wash Carter, who called it "Goin' Down to Shirley's".

The tune is related to a large tune family that includes "Cricket on the Hearth", "Damon's Window/Damon's Winder", "The Devil in Georgia", "Grand Hornpipe", "Marmaduke's Hornpipe", "Mud Fence", "Ride the Goat over the Mountain", "Rocky Mountain Goat" and "Swiss Chalet."

The banjo tablature is by John Letscher.

It was printed in Lamancusa's **The Gettysburg Collection of Old-Time Fiddle Tunes** (2021), 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 Dan Gellert & Shoofly on **Forked Deer** (1986) and Jim Bowles on **I Kind of Believe It's a Gift** (c. 1986).