

# ***“DOWN THE ROAD”***

You will hear this song played at most bluegrass festivals, coast-to-coast, on stage and in the campgrounds. One of the most famous versions is by Flatt & Scruggs. My arrangement closely follows theirs.

## ***Performance Notes:***

1. I chose the key of G for my arrangement. Flatt & Scruggs recorded it in A and other groups take it up another step to B. A lot depends on the vocalist. The key of G is a good place to start and work from there.
2. There are two fiddle solos. The first is rather straight forward, based on the G major pentatonic scale. The second is similar but with more “blue” notes giving it a more “grassy” flavor.
3. Solo 2, measures seven and eight, the fingering is a little tricky. There is a double E played with the open E string and fourth finger on the A string. Then, at measure eight, I play the D note with the fourth finger followed by the third finger for D flat, then middle for C. The index finger will slide from the B flat to B natural. This will keep this passage cleaner. Too many slides would blur the lick.
4. Measure nine is shortened into 2/4 time, then at measure ten, we go back to 4/4. This is a common feature in old-time-bluegrass. You’ll find this similar “kick” effect in other songs, like “Clinch Mountain Backstep”.
5. Don’t play this tune too fast; it should maintain a fast “walking” style with some punch.

# Down the Road

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Traditional  
Arrangement by Jay Buckey

Verses:

1 **G** **Em** **G**

Down the road just a mile or two lives a lit - tle girl named  
Ev - ry day and Sun - day too, I walk the soles right  
An - y time you wan - na know where I'm head - in'  
Old man Hicks he owns a farm, from the hall down

T 4 4 3 3 3 1 0 3 3 1 3 3 3 3 3 1

4 **D** **G** **Em**

Pearl - y Blue 'bout so high her hair is brown,  
off my shoes. Don't know why I love her so, that  
down the road. Gon - na see that gal of mine;  
to the barn. from the barn down to the rail. He

T 0 2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 3 1

7 **G** **D** **G**

pret - ti - est thing boys in this town.  
gal of mine lives down the road.  
find me there most an - y time.  
makes his liv - in' carrying the mail.

T 1 1 1 1 3 2 4 4 3

Chorus:

11 **G** **Em** **G**

Down the road Down the Road, got a lit - tle pret - ty girl

T 1 1 5 | 1 0 3 1 | 1 1 1 1 1 0 3

A

B

14 **D** **G**

down the road.

T 2 | 4 |

A 4 0 2 | 4 3 |

B 4

The complete arrangement for “Down the Road”, including:

- multiple solo arrangements
- multiple play along mp3s at slow, medium and faster tempos,
- with or without the Fiddle
- with or without the lead and/or harmony vocals

on this page:

Fiddle (Standard Music Notation): [http://jaybuckey.com/music\\_pages/downloads/isd/fiddle\\_isd.htm](http://jaybuckey.com/music_pages/downloads/isd/fiddle_isd.htm)

Fiddle Tablature: [http://jaybuckey.com/music\\_pages/downloads/isd/fiddle\\_tablature\\_isd.htm](http://jaybuckey.com/music_pages/downloads/isd/fiddle_tablature_isd.htm)