"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.

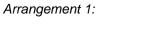
Performance Notes:

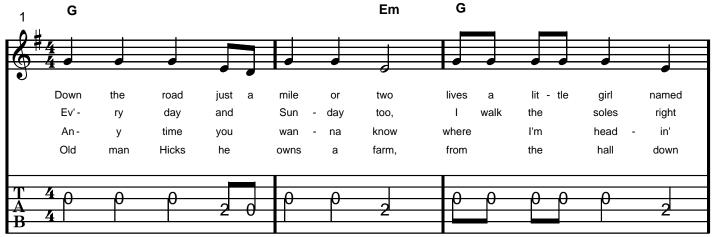
- 1. I chose the key of G for my arrangement. Flatt & Scruggs recorded it in A and other groups take it up another step to B. A lot depends on the vocalist. The key of G is a good place to start and work from there.
- 2. Arrangement 1 is the main melody line and an excellent simple solo break for the First Year Guitarist.
- 3. Guitar solo 2 blends some banjo style "cross picking" with some other tasty blues style runs.
- 4. I use a hammer on at measure two with the middle and ring fingers. This will keep the left hand into 3rd position, ready for the hammer at measure six. The open E string, at the end of measure six, you will want to quickly move the left hand back to first position for the remainder of the break.
- 5. 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".
- 6. The chords to this song are simple and work well with western swing style backup. The backup for Arrangement 2 uses the first position western swing chords. This technique can be used on a variety of songs with simple chord changes like this song.
- 7. Don't play this tune too fast; it should maintain a fast "walking" style with some punch.

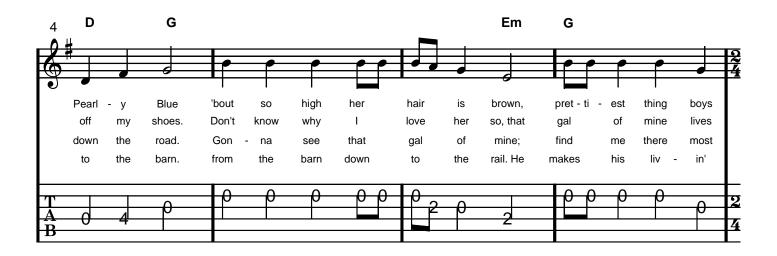
Down the Road

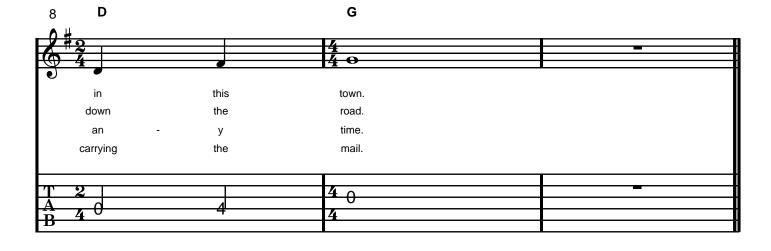
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Traditional Arrangement by Jay Buckey

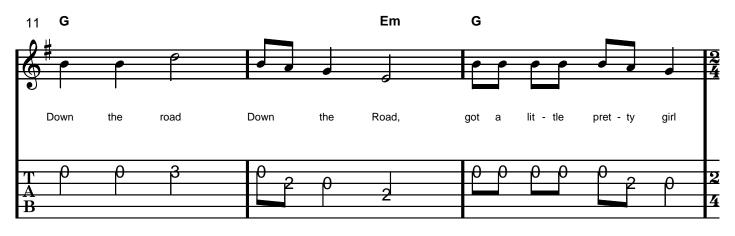


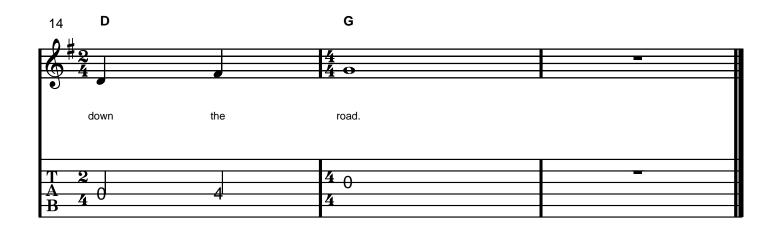






Chorus:





The complete arrangement for "Down the Road", including:

- The Guitar solo
- western swing backup arrangement
- multiple play along mp3s at slow, medium and faster tempos,
- with or without the Guitar
- with or without the lead and/or harmony vocals

on this page:

Guitar: http://jaybuckey.com/music_pages/downloads/isd/guitar_isd.htm