

Nigel Gatherer's Irish Collection



The Galway Hornpipe (traditional)

Musical score for The Galway Hornpipe, featuring five staves of music with treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (D major). The notes are written in a simplified notation style, with accidentals and stems. The notes are:
 Staff 1: Ḋ F# A Ḋ A F# Ḋ E Ḋ E F# G F# E Ḋ F# A Ḋ C# Ḋ F#
 Staff 2: E F# E Ḋ C# B A B A G A C# Ḋ F# A Ḋ A F# Ḋ E Ḋ E F# G F# G
 Staff 3: A Ḋ C# B A B A G A C# Ḋ Ḋ A F# Ḋ Ḋ E F# F# G F# E Ḋ C#
 Staff 4: B A B C# B C# Ḋ E E F# E Ḋ C# B A A A C# E A A B C#
 Staff 5: Ḋ C# Ḋ E F# Ḋ A F# G F# G A B Ḋ C# B A Ḋ C# B A B A G A C# Ḋ Ḋ A F# Ḋ



Like many hornpipes, this one is liberally sprinkled with arpeggio patterns. If we analyse the A part, we can see that the first bar is entirely based on the D major arpeggio. Following that, the second bar is a little run up the scale.

The second phrase starts again with a D arpeggio pattern

followed by two triplets on the E and A strings, then the same pattern but on the A and D strings.

The third phrase is a repeat of the first, and the fourth phrase contains the triplet pattern again, and a final arpeggio pattern.

Diagram illustrating the structure of the A part of the hornpipe, showing four phrases with annotations:

- Phrase 1: D arpeggio (DF#A) | run up scale
- Phrase 2: D arpeggio | triplet pattern | pattern repeated
- Phrase 3: phrase 1 repeated
- Phrase 4: triplet pattern | D arpeggio = resolution

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