

The Old-Time Collection



Rock the Cradle, Joe (traditional)

Key: D Tuning: aDAE

Musical score for Banjo in 4/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of four systems, each with a treble clef staff and a banjo staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: D, G, A7, and D. The banjo staff shows fret numbers and picking patterns.

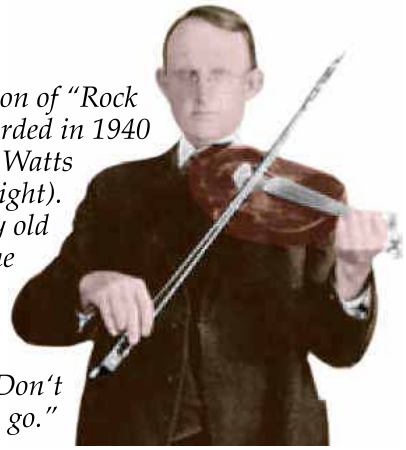
System 1: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (D major), 4/4 time. Chords: D, D, G, D. Fret numbers: 2 3, 5 5 3 2, 2 3, 5 5 3 2, 2 0 0, 3 0 2, 2 3 7, 5 0 0 0.

System 2: Treble clef. Chords: D A D, D A D, G, A7, D. Fret numbers: 0 3, 2 0 0 0 3, 2 0 0 0 2, 3 2 0, 0 4 0 2 4, 0 0 0 0.

System 3: Treble clef. Chords: A7, D, G, D. Fret numbers: 0 0, 0 2 4, 0 4, 3 2 0 0 0, 3 0 2 3 7, 5 0 0 0.

System 4: Treble clef. Chords: A7, D, G, A7, D. Fret numbers: 0 0, 0 2 4, 0 4, 3 2 0 0 0, 3 2 0, 0 4 0 2 4, 0 0 0 0.

An early recorded version of "Rock the Cradle Joe" was recorded in 1940 by Virginian fiddler John Watts "Babe" Spangler (pictured right). It's possibly related to a very old British ballad called "Rock the Cradle John." The American lyrics include "Rock the cradle, Lucy, Rock the cradle Joe, Rock the cradle, Lucy, Don't let the baby go."



Rock the Cradle Joe