

The Glass of Beer

Reel

Traditional Ireland

Musical notation for 'The Glass of Beer' in treble clef, 4/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of four staves of music with various fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 0) written above the notes. The first staff includes a repeat sign and a double bar line. The second and fourth staves include first and second endings marked with '1.' and '2.'

Low Octave

Musical notation for 'The Glass of Beer' in low octave, treble clef, 4/4 time, key of D major. The piece consists of four staves of music with various fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 0) written above the notes. The first staff includes a repeat sign and a double bar line. The second and fourth staves include first and second endings marked with '1.' and '2.'

The Glass of Beer is a composition of Mayo born fiddler John McFadden (1847-1913) McFadden contributed several tunes to the O'Neill Collection of Irish Melodies published in Chicago in 1903. Barring or squashing one finger across two strings is an important technique to master in order to play this tune. The Low Octave version uses a second finger barre and instead of an open A string in the first measure. It is best to keep the barre held down while playing the A with the fourth finger to eliminate string crossing.