

Country Dance *The Flowers of Edinburgh* Traditional Scottish

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The chords indicated are G, D, C, D7, Bmin, Emin, and G. The score includes first and second endings, marked with '1.' and '2.' above the notes. The first ending leads back to the beginning of the piece, and the second ending leads to a final cadence.

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The first time the Flowers of Edinburgh appeared in print was in Oswald's 1742 'Curious Collection of Scots Tunes. In Ireland the tune is played as a hornpipe and appears in O'Neill's book Dance Music of Ireland, c.1903. The title of 'Flower' in the name of a tune usually refers to a woman.

In his book, Complete Repository c1817, Gow states that the 'flowers' of Edinburgh was a reference to the magistrates of the town. Others say that the title refers to the old overcrowded city of Edinburgh fondly called 'Auld Reekie' which comes from the Norwegian word 'royk' meaning smoke.

Credit: Fiddler's Companion