

thirty more

Ceilidh Soc
Favourites

book


two

Hello Ceilidh Monsters!

Welcome to the second edition of ceilidhsoc's favourite tunes!

This book is filled with some of our favourite tunes, many of which will be played at our sessions and events.

How to Use This Book: Any way you find fun! The tunes in this book have been grouped together in sets of tunes that flow with one another, but you could learn them singly, mix them up, pair them with other tunes you know, or basically whatever takes your fancy! You don't need to learn them all to come along to our sessions.

If folk music is new to you, keep an eye out for the tunes marked with  as these are a bit more approachable and beginner friendly! It is worth pointing out that in folk music the dots are more like guidelines than actual rules, other players might play them slightly differently, add their own twiddly bits, or play them in different keys. Aim to be flexible when playing with others, listen to them, and you'll be just fine!

Some Session Etiquette:

- Mute your mic! It's great to play along, but if you're at an online session you don't want your sound to overlap with the person leading the tune!

-Take turns! the person leading the session will probably make sure everyone gets a chance to be heard, but try not to lead too many tunes in a row if other people want to have a go.

-Tune Info! Where you can please share the name of the tune/s you want to play, with the key signature or tune type if possible.

-Listen! The session will be a lot more fun if you pay attention to what everyone else is playing.

-Don't be afraid to lead tunes!

Anything Else?

If anyone wants any of these tunes transposed into a different key or clef, or access to the abc files, please message the facebook page, or contact our Music Officer.

Don't forget to check out the first set of Ceilidhsoc's 30 Favourite Tunes on www.ceilidhsoc.org

When you play dance music it's very important to play a tune that fits the dance being called. Different dances have different rhythms, and lengths.

Callers will usually ask you for 32 bar tunes or 48 bar tunes.

Types of tune:

Polkas - These are the fast gallopy tunes played at the start and the end of ceilidhs. They are rarely used for called dances and people just do their own thing when you play them.

Reels - These are one of the main things you will always be asked for if you're playing for dance. If you're a classical player experiencing the joys of folk for the first time it's worth noting that we write them in 4/4 when they really only have two beats per bar.

Jigs - Played in 6/8, these are characterised by their "skippity skippity" rhythm, and have 3 notes to a beat. If a caller asks for 32 bars it's usually fine to play either 32 bar jigs or reels, but be careful you don't mix these up with 48 bar jigs!

Slip Jigs - These are played in 9/8, and can catch you out if you aren't expecting it. If a caller wants you to play slip jigs they will specifically ask for them.

Hornpipes - These are played swung, which gives them their characteristic "hop step" rhythm. You'll quite often see them written straight, or with dotted quavers, and you're aiming for a level of swung that's somewhere in between.

Waltzes - You'll often be asked to play a waltz at a ceilidh, adding in one or two slow dances gives us all a break! Waltzes are played in 3/4, and at a much more steady and flowy pace.

Examples of all these tunes shouldn't be hard to find on youtube, and keep an eye on the facebook page for our Tune of the Week videos to watch or play along!

Rustle was feeling very helpful, and may pop up throughout this book to offer friendly advice!

Polkas

Denis Murphy's

Musical score for Denis Murphy's Polka, consisting of four staves of music in 2/2 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, Em, A, D, G, A, D, A. The score includes first and second endings.

John Ryan's

Musical score for John Ryan's Polka, consisting of four staves of music in 2/2 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Chords are indicated above the notes: D, G, D, D, G, D, A, D, G, D, A, D, D, A, D, A, D. The score includes first and second endings.

In the A part of John Ryan's players often take it in turns to lead the melody, with the other players joining in on the first two notes of each phrase.



Polka

Ffidl Ffadl

Trad

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is composed of quarter and eighth notes. Chord annotations G, C, G, and D are placed above the first four measures. The second staff continues the melody, with chord annotations G, C, Am, and D. The third staff features a repeat sign at the beginning, followed by the melody with chord annotations C and D. The fourth staff also begins with a repeat sign and contains the melody with chord annotations C and D. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

32 Bar Reels

Chinese Breakdown

Musical score for 'Chinese Breakdown' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of eight staves of music. The first staff begins with a D chord. The second staff has A7 and D chords. The third staff has D, D7, and G chords. The fourth staff has Em, A7, and D chords. The fifth staff has D and A7 chords. The sixth staff has A7 and D chords. The seventh staff has D, D7, and G chords. The eighth staff has Em, A7, and D chords. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Ragtime Annie

Musical score for 'Ragtime Annie' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a D chord and includes a repeat sign. The second staff has A7 and D chords, with first and second endings marked '1' and '2'. The third staff has D, D7, and G chords. The fourth staff has Em, A, and D chords, also with first and second endings marked '1' and '2'. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

More 32 Bar Reels

Soldier's Joy

Musical notation for Soldier's Joy, 32-bar reel in D major, 4/4 time. The notation consists of four staves. The first staff starts with a D chord and ends with an A7 chord. The second staff has D, D, A7, and D chords. The third staff has D, A7, D, and A7 chords. The fourth staff has D, A7, D, A7, and D chords. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Morpeth Rant

Musical notation for Morpeth Rant, 32-bar reel in D major, 4/4 time. The notation consists of four staves. The first staff has D, G, A, D, and A chords. The second staff has D, G, A, D, G, and D chords, with a triplet of eighth notes under the first D. The third staff has D, Em, A7, and D chords. The fourth staff has Bm, Em, A7, and D chords. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

You might see different versions of the B part of Soldier's Joy, but these are just different ornaments played over the same thing. Mix it up or just play your favourite!



Even More 32 Bar Reels

Staten Island

Chords: D, G, A, G, D, Em, A, D, G, A, D, A7, D, D, A, D, A, C, D, A, D, A7, D

Three Around Three

Chords: G, D, G, C, G, Am, D, G, D, G, C, G, D, G, G, C, G, D, G

32 Bar Jigs

Tenpenny Bit

Musical score for Tenpenny Bit, a 32-bar jig in G major and 6/8 time. The score consists of four staves of music with chord markings: Am, G, Am, Em, Am, G, Em, Am, Am, G, Em, Am.

The Irish Washerwoman

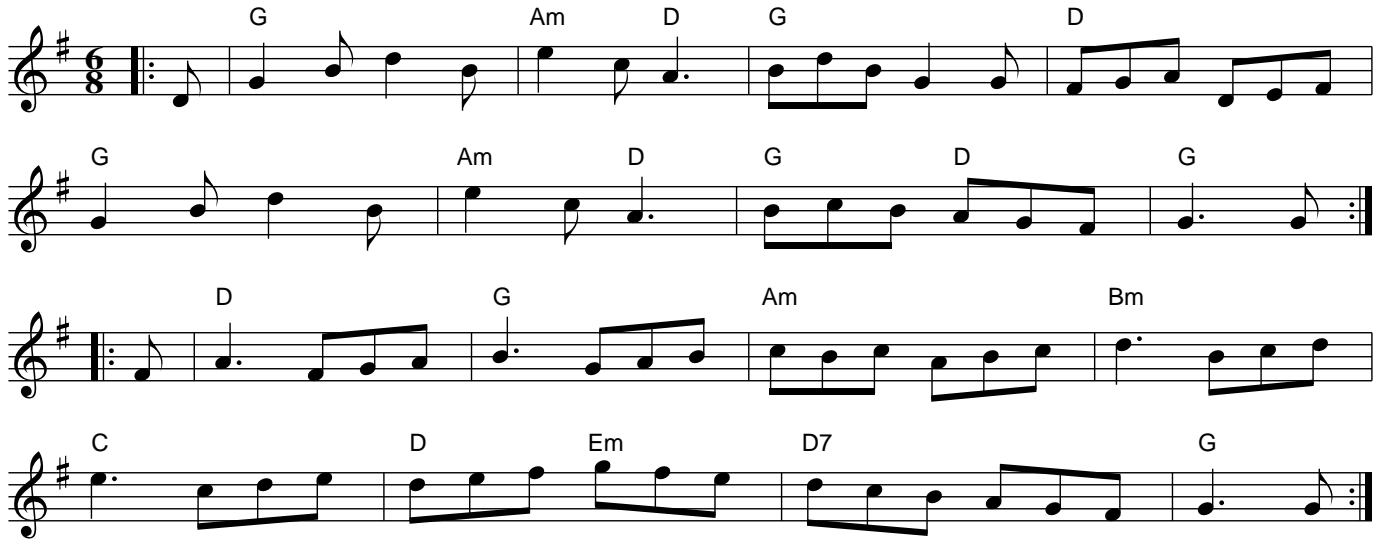
Trad

Musical score for The Irish Washerwoman, a 32-bar jig in G major and 6/8 time. The score consists of four staves of music with chord markings: G, Am, D, G, C, D, G, G, D, C, D, G.

More 32 Bar Jigs

 The Devil's In Dublin 

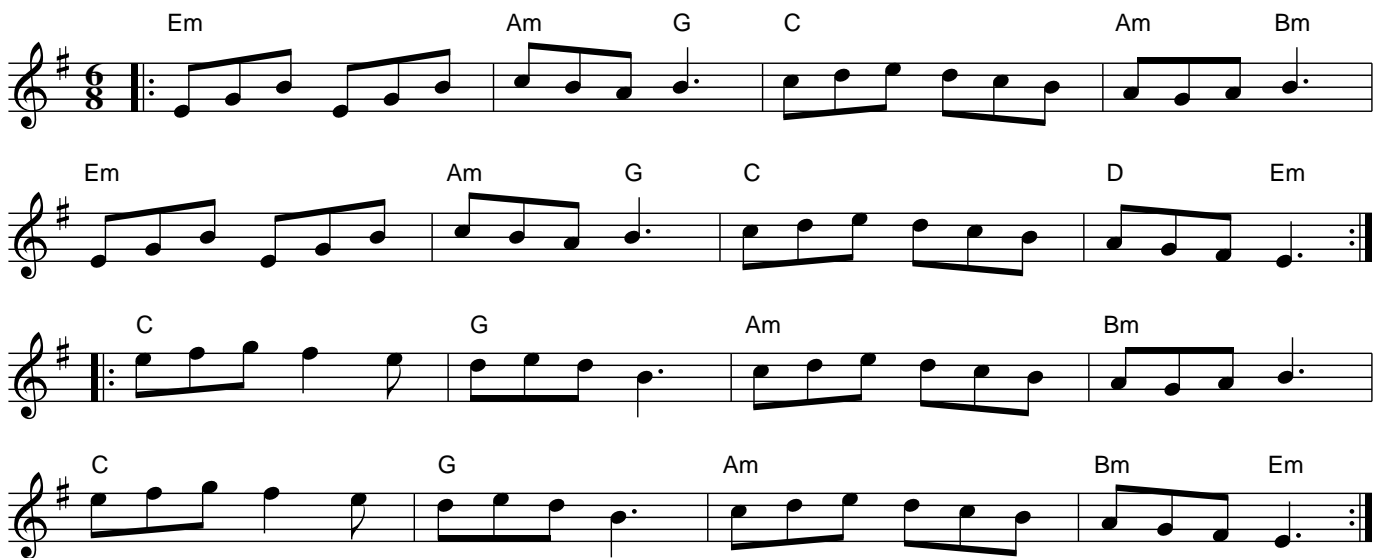
Trad



Musical score for 'The Devil's In Dublin' in G major, 3/8 time, 32 bars. The score consists of four staves of music with the following chord progressions:

- Staff 1: G, Am, D, G, D
- Staff 2: G, Am, D, G, D, G
- Staff 3: D, G, Am, Bm
- Staff 4: C, D, Em, D7, G

The Plane Tree



Musical score for 'The Plane Tree' in G major, 3/8 time, 32 bars. The score consists of four staves of music with the following chord progressions:

- Staff 1: Em, Am, G, C, Am, Bm
- Staff 2: Em, Am, G, C, D, Em
- Staff 3: C, G, Am, Bm
- Staff 4: C, G, Am, Bm, Em

Flowy 32 Bar Jigs

Indian Point

Rick Mohr

Em C

D 1 Em D 2 Em D C

Em C D Em D

Em C D Em

The Coleraine

Am G Am E

Am G Am E Am

C G Am E

Am E Am Dm Am E Am

These are very pretty flowy tunes, and they often get played for contra too - another dance style you're likely to come across in Sheffield!



48 Bar Jigs

Merrily Kiss the Quaker

Some dances specifically want longer tunes - don't play normal jigs or reels when the dance lasts 48 bars!



Musical score for 'Merrily Kiss the Quaker' in G major, 6/8 time. The score consists of six staves of music. The first five staves are in treble clef, and the sixth staff is in bass clef. Chord progressions are indicated above the notes: G, C, D, G, C, D, G, C, D, G, G, D, Em, Bm, C, G, Am, D, G. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Morgan Rattler

Musical score for 'Morgan Rattler' in G major, 6/8 time. The score consists of six staves of music. The first five staves are in treble clef, and the sixth staff is in bass clef. Chord progressions are indicated above the notes: D, G, A, D, G, A, Bm, A, G, G, A, Bm, A, G, A, D, Em, D, G, A, D, Em, G, A. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

More 48 Bar Jigs

Dingle Regatta

Musical score for Dingle Regatta, a 48-bar jig in G major and 6/8 time. The score consists of six staves of music with various chords and repeat signs.

Chords: G, D, G, D7, G, D7, G, D, G, D7, G, G, D, G, G, D7, G.

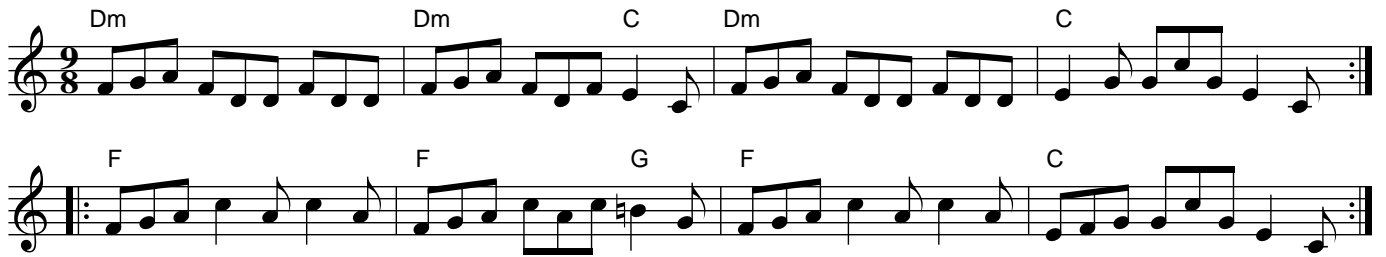
Sweets of May

Musical score for Sweets of May, a 48-bar jig in G major and 6/8 time. The score consists of six staves of music with various chords and repeat signs.

Chords: G, D, G, G, Am, D, G, D, G, D, 1 G, 2 G, E7, Am, Em, Am, E7, Am, Em, Am, E7, 1 Am, 2 Am, A7, D, C, D, D7, G, D, 1 G, 2 G.

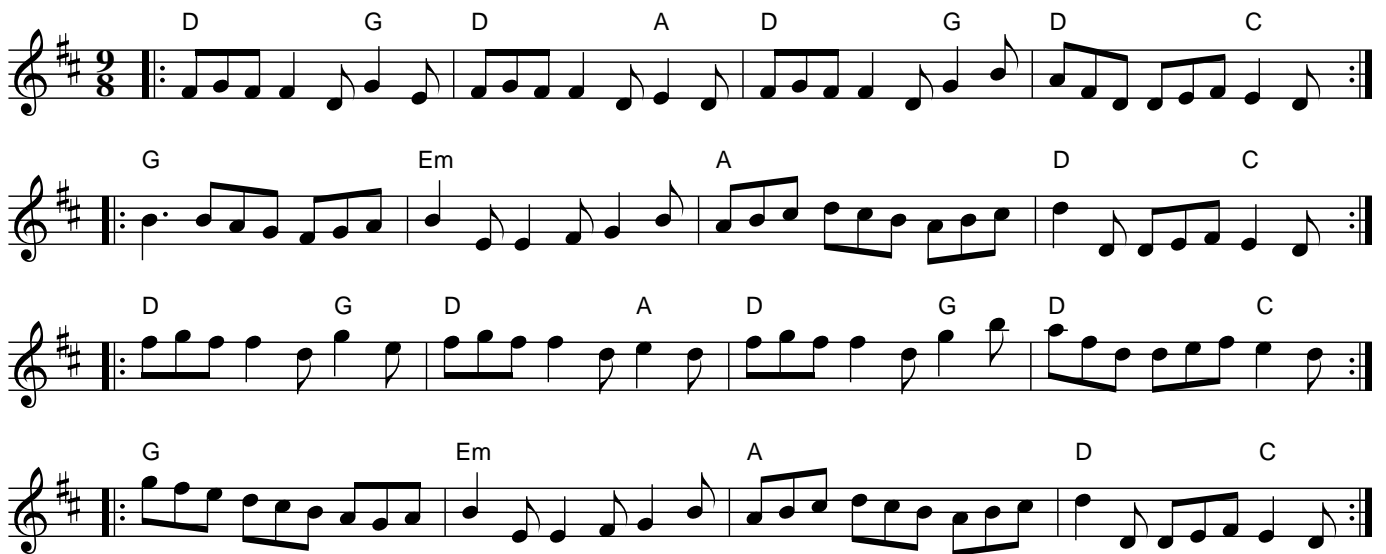
Slip Jigs

Mad Moll



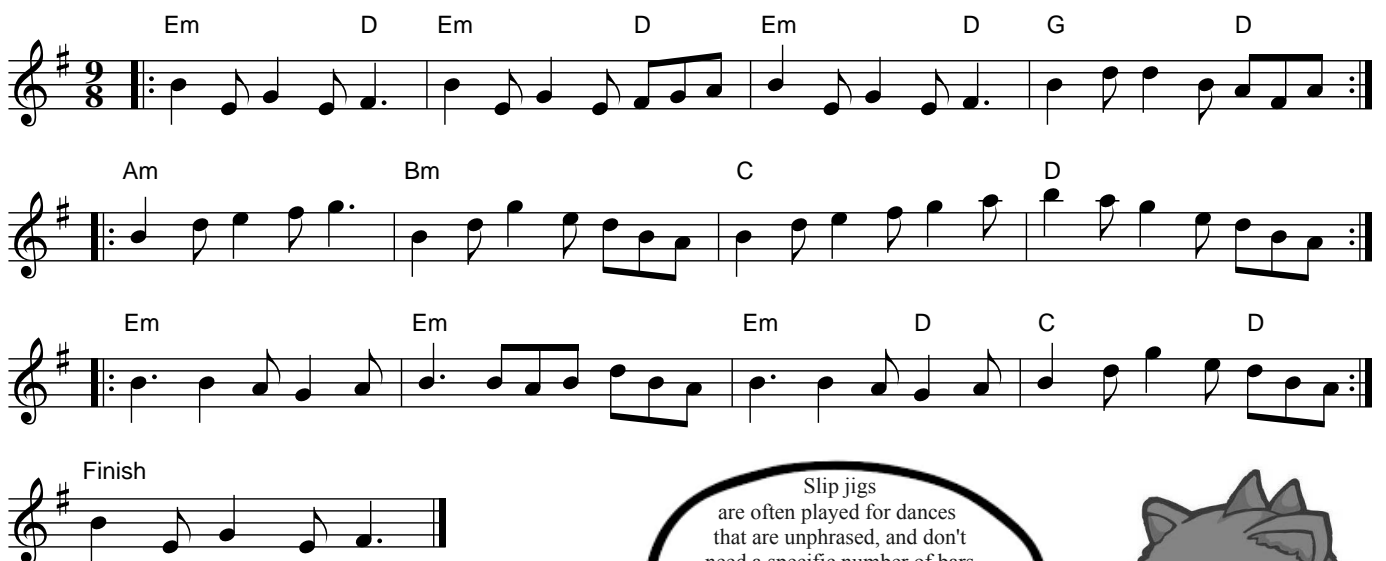
Mad Moll musical notation in 3/8 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. Chords are indicated above the first staff: Dm, Dm, C, Dm, C. Chords are indicated below the second staff: F, F, G, F, C.

Foxhunter's



Foxhunter's musical notation in 3/8 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. Chords are indicated above the first staff: D, G, D, A, D, G, D, C. Chords are indicated below the second staff: G, Em, A, D, C. Chords are indicated above the third staff: D, G, D, A, D, G, D, C. Chords are indicated below the fourth staff: G, Em, A, D, C.

The Butterfly



The Butterfly musical notation in 3/8 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. Chords are indicated above the first staff: Em, D, Em, D, Em, D, G, D. Chords are indicated below the second staff: Am, Bm, C, D. Chords are indicated above the third staff: Em, Em, Em, D, C, D. The fourth staff is labeled "Finish" and shows a final melodic phrase.

Slip jigs are often played for dances that are unphrased, and don't need a specific number of bars in the tune - this means the tunes don't have to be the same length if you're playing for something like a simple Strip the Willow!



Hornpipes

Harvest Home

Trad

Swung

D A A 3 3

D A D

A 3 D 3 A D A 3 A D A D A7 3 3

D A D

The Goodnatured Man

Swung

G Am D7

G C Am D7 G

G Am D A D D7

G C Am D G

Don't forget to swing these!
Hop step hop step hop step...



Hornpipes

The Rights Of Man

Swung Em D

Em D B7 Em

Em D

Em D B7 Em

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the Hornpipe 'The Rights Of Man'. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo/style is 'Swung'. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The second staff ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The third staff begins with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The fourth staff ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Em, D, B7, and Em.

Linehope Lope Linhope Loup

Trad.

Swung D G D Em A

D G D Em A D

D Em A D

D Em A

1 D 2 D

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for the Hornpipe 'Linehope Lope' (also known as 'Linhope Loup'). It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo/style is 'Swung'. The piece consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The second staff ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The third staff begins with a repeat sign and a double bar line. The fourth staff ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, G, Em, A, and D. The final staff includes first and second endings, labeled '1 D' and '2 D' respectively.

Token Playford Tunes

Childgrove

Musical score for 'Childgrove' in 4/4 time, key of D minor. The score consists of four staves of music with the following chords: Dm, Dm, Gm, Am, Dm, Bb, Am, Dm, F, C, Dm, A7, F, C, Dm, A7, Dm.

The Parson's Farewell

Musical score for 'The Parson's Farewell' in 4/4 time, key of C major. The score consists of three staves of music with the following chords: Am, G, F, Em, Em, C, C, G, G, Am, Em, Am, Am.

These aren't together as a set, but they are both Playford tunes! These are lovely tunes that fit specific dances. Playford is danced quite a lot in Sheffield, and is what came before the ceilidh dances we love!



Waltzes

Margaret's Watz

Musical score for 'Margaret's Watz' in 3/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of three staves of music. Above the first staff are chords: A, D, E, A, F#m, E, A. Above the second staff are chords: A, D, E, A, D, E. Above the third staff are chords: A, D, A, E, A, E, A.

Midnight on the Water

Musical score for 'Midnight on the Water' in 3/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of three staves of music. Above the first staff are chords: D, Dmaj7, D6, D, D G, D, A7, D. Above the second staff are chords: D, D, Em, Bm. Above the third staff are chords: G, D, D G, D, A7, D.

Sometimes you'll be asked for a waltz so it's handy to have a couple that you know. These ones sound beautiful when they're played swung!

