

Yellow Rose of Texas

Traditional

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The diagram shows a guitar fingerboard with six strings and frets 1 through 26. The key signature is D major (F# and C#) and the time signature is 2/4. Chord changes are indicated by letters above the staff: D, G, D, A7, D, A7, D, A7, D, A7, D, A7. The notation includes fret numbers (0-17), accidentals (sharps, naturals), and articulation marks (accents, slurs, slurs with 'H' for hammer-ons, slurs with 'SI' for slides, and a 'Po' for pull-off). A 3-4 measure repeat sign is used in measures 10, 14, 18, and 22. A circled cross symbol is present at the end of measure 14. The diagram is divided into systems of four measures each, with measure numbers 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, and 26 marking the start of each system.

D A7 D

30

2. D

35

G D A7 1. D

40

2. D A7

44

D A7

48

1. D 2. D D

52

I first learned this tune from Doug Tanner, an old time fiddle player living in western Massachusetts. I had known Doug back in the early seventies, when we often ran into each other as fledgling musicians in the jam sessions and bars in and around the so-called "Cambridge music scene." I had not seen him in many years, until I ran into him at the Winterhawk festival in the Berkshires about ten years ago. He had matured, blossomed really, into a tremendous musician, with a complete mastery of traditional fiddling. He taught me this tune at Winterhawk. Doug is now playing in a band called the Gypsy Wranglers. He can also sound like Stephan Grapelli when he wants to.

This tune is obviously closely related to the song by the same name, which I think is the official state song, or something. The

melody is simple, and the arrangement here is not too difficult. I actually play the second string hammer in measures 13 and 17 a little later than I've shown in the tablature, at about the same time the fifth string is picked, but I think it will be easier to hear and to learn the way I've written it here. There is a double stop in measure 14 that you roll into from the first string that may take some practice.