

GROUND HOG

Traditional Old-Time Song Tune and Breakdown. **DATE:** Circa 1850's; **CATEGORY:** Fiddle and Instrumental Tunes; **OTHER NAMES:** Groundhog; The Ground-Hog Song; Whistle-Pig; **RECORDING INFO:** Cockerham, Jarrell and Jenkins; Dillards; Doc Watson; Tommy Jarrell; Frank Proffit; **NOTES:** A well-known Appalachian folk song, nursery and fun song, and banjo tune. Brown says, "Its appearance in the Ozarks is doubtless due to immigration from Kentucky. It has not been found in the northern states, nor is it a Negro song." From Tommy Jarrell (solo fiddle) to Flatt and Scruggs, "Groundhog" is a bluegrass favorite. February 2nd (Groundhog Day) is the date when farmers and other folk congregate to see if the groundhog casts a shadow. This forecasts an early or late spring.

Shoulder up your gun and whistle up your dogs.

Shoulder up your gun and whistle up your dogs. We're

off to the woods for to catch a ground-hog. Ground-hog.

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G F G D
Shoulder up your gun and whistle up your dog,
F G D
Shoulder up your gun and whistle up your dog,
G F D G F G
We're off to the woods to catch a groundhog, groundhog.

Children all around, they screamed and cried,
Children all around, they screamed and cried;
They love a groundhog stewed and fried, and fried.

Yonder comes Rhody with a very big pole,
Yonder comes Rhody with a very big pole,
To run these groundhogs outta their hole, their hole.

I skin his hide and I tan his hide;
I skin his hide and I tan his hide;
Lordy, Lordy, Mammy, I got my pride, my pride.

Yonder comes sister with a twinkle and a grin,
Yonder comes sister with a twinkle and a grin,
Groundhog grease all over her chin, her chin.