

MAMA DON'T 'LOW

Traditional Old-Time and Bluegrass Song; **DATE:** Early 1900's; **CATEGORY:** Early Country and Bluegrass Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Riley Puckett-1928 Roots RL-701, LP (1971), cut# 10; Allen Brothers; Shelton Brothers; J. E. Mainer's Mountaineers; Cow Cow Davenport; **OTHER NAMES:** No Low Down Hangin' Around; Mama Won't Allow No Low Down Hangin' Around; Mama Don't Allow; **NOTES:** First recorded by Riley Puckett as *Mama Won't Allow No Low Down Hangin' Around* in 1928, the exact source of this skiffle song is unknown. The melody is quite popular and has been used in a variety of songs from both black and white sources including "Mama Don't 'low no Easy Riders Here," "The Crawdad Song," versions of "Frog Went a Courtin'," Woody Guthrie & the Almanacs "Pittsburgh Town," and Mississippi Fred McDowell's "My Babe." Alan Lomax collected a version entitled "Cap'n Don't 'Low no Truckin'" in his 1939 field recording trip.

Ma - ma don't 'low no ban - jo play - ing round here Ma - ma don't 'low no
 ban - jo play - ing round here We don't care what Ma - ma don't 'low gon - na
 pick that ban - jo a - ny how Ma - ma don't 'low no ban - jo play - ing round here.

© 2006 by Mel Bay Publications, Inc. BMI
 All Rights Reserved.

G
 Mama don't 'low no banjo playing round here
D
 Mama don't 'low no banjo playing round here
G **C**
 We don't care what mama don't 'low. Gonna pick my banjo anyhow,
G **D** **G**
 Mama don't 'low no banjo playing round here.

Mama don't 'low no guitar playing round here
 Mama don't 'low no guitar playing round here
 I don't care what mama don't 'low. Gonna play my guitar anyhow,
 Mama don't 'low no guitar playing round here.

Mama don't 'low no talking round here
 Mama don't 'low no talking round here
 I don't care what mama don't 'low. Gonna shoot my mouth off anyhow,
 Mama don't 'low no talking round here.

Mama don't 'low no singing round here
 Mama don't 'low no singing round here
 I don't care what mama don't 'low. Gonna sing my head off-anyhow,
 Mama don't 'low no singing round here.