

# OLD DAN TUCKER

Old-Time and Bluegrass Song- Daniel Decatur Emmett; **DATE:** 1841; Published in 1843; **CATEGORY:** Early Country and Bluegrass Songs; **RECORDING INFO:** Fiddlin' John Carson- 1924; Uncle Dave Macon- 1925; Homer and the Barnstormers; **OTHER NAMES:** Dan Tucker; **NOTES:** In Richard Walser's *'North Carolina Legends'*, 1980, is the legend of 'Old Dan Tucker', where it is said that he was born in London in 1714, and moved with his parents to Bath Town, North Carolina six years later. He is said to have married Margaret DeVane in 1740 and moved to what is now Randolph County and built a cabin there. Daniel Decatur Emmett wrote the song from black sources and published it in 1843. The *Dan Tucker* melody used was by Bob Wills in "Stay All Night" and is similar to the *Johnny Booker* songs.

Old Dan Tuck-er's a fine old man, washed his face in a fry - ing pan.

Combed his head with a wag - on wheel. Died with a tooth - ache in his heel.

*Chorus* Get out the way old Dan Tuck-er. You're too late to get your sup-per.

Sup-per's gone and din - ner's cook-in'. Old Dan Tuck-er just stands there look-in'.

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G D  
Old Dan Tucker's a fine old man, Washed his face in a frying pan,  
G D G  
Combed his hair with a wagon wheel, Died of toothache in his heel.

G C D G  
**Chorus:** Get out the way old Dan Tucker, You're too late to get your supper,  
C D G  
Supper's gone and dinner's a-cookin', Old Dan Tucker's just stands there lookin'.

Old Dan Tucker he come to town, Riding on a billygoat, leading a hound,  
Hound dog bark and the billygoat jump, Threwed Dan Tucker on top of a stump.

Old Dan Tucker, he got drunk, Fell in the fire and he kicked up a chunk,  
Red hot coal got in his shoe, Oh my Lawdy how the ashes flew.

Old Dan Tucker, he come to town, Swinging the ladies round and round,  
First to the right and then to the left, And then to the gal that he loved best.

And now old Dan is a dead gone sucker, And never will go home to his supper,  
Old Dan he has had his last ride, And the banjo's buried by his side.