

# The Old Claddagh Ring (G major)

The Ould Claddagh Ring / The Auld Claddagh Ring / The Claddagh Ring / My Claddagh Ring

Waltz / Song Air

traditional (Ireland)

$\text{♩} = 180$

G C G G C G G D

The first system of the musical score. It consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff is a mandolin tablature with two staves, A and B. The A staff contains fret numbers (0, 2, 4, 5, 0, 5, 2, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 3, 0, 5, 2, 0, 5, 0, 2, 0, 2, 3, 0). The B staff contains fret numbers (0, 2, 4, 5, 0, 5, 2, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 3, 0, 5, 2, 0, 5, 0, 2, 0, 2, 3, 0). Above the treble staff, the chords G, C, G, G, C, G, G, and D are indicated above the corresponding measures.

Mandolin

G C G G C G D G

The second system of the musical score. It continues the melody and mandolin tablature from the first system. The chords G, C, G, G, C, G, D, and G are indicated above the measures.

G G Em C C G Em D

The third system of the musical score. The melody and mandolin tablature continue. The chords G, G, Em, C, C, G, Em, and D are indicated above the measures.

G C G G C G D G

The fourth system of the musical score. It concludes the main melody and mandolin tablature with a double bar line. The chords G, C, G, G, C, G, D, and G are indicated above the measures.

Variations:

G C G G C G G D

The first variation of the musical score. The melody and mandolin tablature are modified. The chords G, C, G, G, C, G, G, and D are indicated above the measures.

G C G G C G D G

The second variation of the musical score. The melody and mandolin tablature are modified. The chords G, C, G, G, C, G, D, and G are indicated above the measures.

G G Em C C G Em D

The first system of guitar notation consists of two staves. The treble staff is in G major (one sharp) and contains eight measures of music. The bass staff contains fret numbers for each measure. The chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Measure	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Chord	G	G	Em	C	C	G	Em	D
Treble Staff	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4
Bass Staff	0 2 3	5 2	5 0 2	3 2 3	0 5	0 3 0	5 2 0	5 0 2 0 5

G C G G C G D G

The second system of guitar notation consists of two staves. The treble staff is in G major (one sharp) and contains eight measures of music. The bass staff contains fret numbers for each measure. The chords are indicated above the treble staff.

Measure	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Chord	G	C	G	G	C	G	D	G
Treble Staff	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4	G4 A4 B4
Bass Staff	5 0 5	2 0	5 0 5	5 2 5	0 3 0	5 2 5	0 2 0	5

1. The Old Claddagh Ring, it belonged to my granny  
She wore it a lifetime, and gave it to me  
All through the long years, she wore it so proudly  
It was made where the Claddagh rolls down to the sea  
What tales it could tell, of trials and of hardship  
And of grand happy days, when the whole world did sing  
So away with your sorrow, it will bring luck tomorrow  
Sure everyone loves it, the Old Claddagh Ring

2. With the crown and the crest, to remind us of honour  
And clasping the heart that God's blessing would bring  
A circle of gold, always kept homes contented  
With true love entwined in the Old Claddagh Ring  
As she knelt at her prayers and thought of the dear ones  
Her soft gentle smile, it would charm a king  
On her worn hand, as she told me her story  
You could see the bright glint of the Old Claddagh Ring

3. It was her gift to me, and it made me so happy  
With this on my finger, my heart beats would ring  
No king on his throne could be half so happy  
As I am when wearing my Old Claddagh Ring  
When the angels above call me up to heaven  
In the heart of the Claddagh, their voices will sing  
"Away with your sorrows, you'll be with us tomorrow,  
Be sure and bring with you, the Old Claddagh Ring".

#### Discography:

##### Instrumental recordings:

1970s: Joe Cooley's Tapes  
1994: An Teallach Ceilidh Band: A Ship in Full Sail  
1988: McNamara's Band: Come into the Parlour  
1991: Michael Feeney's Irish Band: The Music of Ireland  
1995: Dick Black and his Band: Keep the Music Going  
1996: Matt Cunningham: The Spirit of Ireland  
2002: Dick Black and his Band: A Taste of Dick Black  
2009: Shaun Kelly Ensemble: Celtic Tranquillity  
2010: De Danann: Wonderwaltz  
2014: Malachy Doris: The Best of Malachy Doris  
2016: John Fiddy: Authentic Ireland I  
2019: Kanako Machida & Brian McGrath: Bridging the Gap  
2022: The Blackwater Céilí Band: Northern Landscape  
2024: P.J. Hernon & Marcus Hernon: Ceiliúradh 50 Bliain

##### Song recordings:

1977: Margo: A Toast to Claddagh  
1978: Kathleen Fitzgerald: The Hills of Donegal  
1983: Noel Henry's Irish Showband: Our Lady of Knock  
1994: The Shannon Singers: Golden Collection of Irish Songs  
1995: The Sean O'Neill Band: 50 Popular Irish Songs  
1996: Joe Heaney: Say a Song- Joe Heaney in the Pacific Northwest  
1997: Dermot O'Brien: Where the three Counties Meet  
2001: The Shannon Singers: The Fields of Athenry  
2004: Joe McShane: Places, Thoughts and Feelings