

Key: D
♩ = 90

Cumberland Gap

Traditional
Arr. Gary Breitbard, Pete Showman

1. Cum-ber-land Gap, Cum-ber-land Gap, we're all goin' down _ to Cum-ber-land Gap.
Cum-ber-land Gap, Cum-ber-land Gap, we're all goin' down _ to Cum-ber-land Gap.

This arrangement is based on the playing and singing of Gary Breitbard at the South Bay Monday-night old-time jam. Commonly the A part is played 4x (16 measures) as shown, with singing on 1 and 3 or 3 and 4, though Gary usually only does half that. There's a nice version by the Boston-area folk duo Notorious (Eden Macadam-Somer and Larry Unger) here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxaRov3Bmwg Thanks to Patti Bossert for helping with the transcription. Arr. and typeset into ABC by Pete Showman 7/2014; rev. 2 (4x A): 3/5/2015.

A few typical verses:

1. Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap, we're all goin' down to Cumberland Gap.
Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap, we're all goin' down to Cumberland Gap.
2. Pretty little girl if you don't care, leave my demijohn* sittin' right there;
If it ain't there when I get back, gonna raise hell in the Cumberland Gap.
3. Me and my wife and my wife's Pap, all went down to [the] Cumberland Gap;
Cumberland Gap, Cumberland Gap, we all went down to Cumberland Gap.

* Merriam-Webster says a demijohn is "a large narrow-necked bottle usually enclosed in wickerwork."
In this case it presumably contains liquor.