

Cotton-Eyed Joe (1)

USA

Source: Digital Tradition / earliest date: 1927 (Ballad Index)
adaption, arrangement and typesetting by Klaus Stezenbach ©2006 www.kstetz.de

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a G chord and contains the lyrics: "1. Well, I come from no-- where as the wind blows,". The second staff continues with "where I am go-- ing, well, no-- bo - dy knows." and includes G, C, D, and G chords. The third staff repeats "Cot-ton - eyed Joe, Cot-ton - eyed Joe, where did you come from, where did you go?" with a G chord. The fourth staff concludes with "Where did you come from, where did you go,-- where did you come from, Cot-ton-eyed Joe?" and features G, C, D, and G chords, along with a key signature change to three flats and a time signature change to 4/4.

2. Mama's at the window, Mama's at the door,
she can't see nothin' but the Cotton-eyed Joe.
Cotton-eyed Joe, Cotton-eyed Joe...
3. Daddy held the fiddle, daddy held the bow,
he beat the hell out of Cotton-eyed Joe.
Cotton-eyed Joe, Cotton-eyed Joe...
4. Made himself a fiddle, made himself a bow,
made a little tune called the Cotton-Eyed Joe.
Cotton-eyed Joe, Cotton-eyed Joe...
5. Hadn't oughta been for Cotton-eyed Joe,
I'd a-been married some forty years ago.
Cotton-eyed Joe, Cotton-eyed Joe...
6. Whenever there's a dance all the women want to go,
and they all want to dance with Cotton-Eyed Joe.
Cotton-eyed Joe, Cotton-eyed Joe...
7. Daddy won't say, but I think he know,
whatever happened to Cotton-eyed Joe.
Cotton-eyed Joe, Cotton-eyed Joe...