"Down the Road"

You will hear this song played at most bluegrass festivals, coast-to-coast, on stage and in the campgrounds. One of the most famous versions is by Flatt & Scruggs. My arrangement closely follows theirs.

**Performance Notes:**

1. I chose the key of G for my arrangement. Flatt & Scruggs recorded it in A and other groups take it up another step to B. A lot depends on the vocalist. The key of G is a good place to start and work from there.

2. There are two fiddle solos. The first is rather straightforward, based on the G major pentatonic scale. The second is similar but with more “blue” notes giving it a more “grassy” flavor.

3. Solo 2, measures seven and eight, the fingerings is a little tricky. There is a double E played with the open E string and fourth finger on the A string. Then, at measure eight, I play the D note with the fourth finger followed by the third finger for D flat, then middle for C. The index finger will slide from the B flat to B natural. This will keep this passage cleaner. Too many slides would blur the lick.

4. Measure nine is shortened into 2/4 time, then at measure ten, we go back to 4/4. This is a common feature in old-time-bluegrass. You'll find this similar “kick” effect in other songs, like “Clinch Mountain Backstep”.

5. Don’t play this tune too fast; it should maintain a fast “walking” style with some punch.
Down the Road

www.jaybuckey.com

Traditional
Arrangement by Jay Buckey

Verses:

G

Em G

Down the road just a mile or two lives a little girl named Ev'-ry day and Sun-day too, I walk the soles right
An-y time you wanna know where I'm head-in'
Old man Hicks he owns a farm, from the hall down

D G

Em

Pearl-y Blue 'bout so high her hair is brown,
off my shoes. Don't know why I love her so, that
down the road. Gon-na see that gal of mine;
to the barn. from the barn down to the rail. He

G D G

pret-tiest thing boys in this town.
gal of mine lives down the road.
find me there most any time.
makes his liv-in' carrying the mail.

Chorus:

G Em G D G

Down the road Down the Road, got a little pretty girl down the road.
The complete arrangement for “Down the Road”, including:

- multiple solo arrangements
- multiple play along mp3s at slow, medium and faster tempos,
- with or without the Fiddle
- with or without the lead and/or harmony vocals

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