

*Flatpicking Guitar Magazine*  
**Free E-Mail Newsletter Lesson**  
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**“Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine”**

In this month's free lesson we are providing you with a great old Irish tune, “Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine” as arranged by Tim May. Tim May and his wife, fiddle player Gretchen Priest-May, perform together in a band they call Plaidgrass. This band plays a wonderful combination of bluegrass, old-time, and Irish music. “Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine” is a song that they featured on their Plaidgrass CD, which was released several years ago. Additionally, Tim May and Dan Miller are getting ready to release a new book in February 2012 that features a selection of 20 Old-Time and Irish tunes. For each tune Tim and Dan have provided a melody-based version and a longer, more complex version. Additionally, for the Irish tunes they have provided alternative rhythmic ideas since in most Irish bands the lead instruments play the melody and the rhythm players provide the improvisation. Here we provide the melody-based arrangement of “Bonapart Crossping the Rhine” as it will appear in the new book.

This is a simple, and beautiful arrangement, that will be accessible to any flatpicker. We hope that you enjoy learning this tune!

# Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine

Arranged by Tim May

1

T  
A  
B

3

D

2 2 4 2 4 2 3 0 2 2 0 2 5 3 3 2

7

G D A

0 0 2 3 0 2 4 0 4 2 2 0 4 2 0 4 0

11

D

2 2 4 2 4 2 3 0 2 2 0 2 5 3 3 2

15

G D A D

0 0 2 3 0 2 4 2 4 0 2 3 0 3 3 0

# Bonaparte Crossing the Rhine (con't)

19 **D** **G**

2 2 0 2 3 | 5 5 5 5 5 | 0 0 2 0 2 | 3 3 3 3 2

23 **G** **D** **A**

0 0 2 3 0 | 2 4 0 4 | 2 2 2 2 0 | 4 2 0 2 4 0

27 **D**

2 2 4 2 4 | 2 3 0 | 2 2 0 2 5 | 3 3 2

31 **G** **D** **A** **D**

0 0 2 3 0 | 2 4 2 4 | 0 2 4 2 | 0