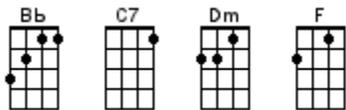


# John Henry

Traditional circa 1850's



**INTRO: / 1 2 3 4 / 1 2 3**

Well John **[F]** Henry was a little **[F]** baby  
**[F]** Sittin' on his daddy's **[C7]** knee  
He picked **[F]** up a hammer and a **[Bb]** little piece of steel  
And cried **[F]** "Hammer's gonna **[Bb]** be the death of **[F]** me, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
**[F]** Hammer's gonna **[C7]** be the death of **[F]** me"

Well John **[F]** Henry was a little baby  
**[F]** Sittin' on his daddy's **[C7]** knee  
He picked **[F]** up a hammer and a **[Bb]** little piece of steel  
And cried **[F]** "Hammer's gonna **[Bb]** be the death of **[F]** me, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
**[F]** Hammer's gonna **[C7]** be the death of **[F]** me"

Now the **[F]** Captain he said to John Henry  
"I'm gonna **[F]** bring that steam drill a-**[C7]**round  
I'm gonna **[F]** bring that steam drill out **[Bb]** on these tracks  
I'm gonna **[F]** knock that **[Bb]** steel on **[F]** down, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
I'm gonna **[F]** knock that **[C7]** steel on **[F]** down"

John **[F]** Henry told his Captain  
"Lord, a **[F]** man ain't nothin' but a **[C7]** man  
Well **[F]** 'fore I let that **[Bb]** steam drill beat me down  
I'm gonna **[F]** die with a **[Bb]** hammer in my **[F]** hand, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
**[F]** Die with a **[C7]** hammer in my **[F]** hand"

John **[F]** Henry drivin' on the right side  
That **[F]** steam drill drivin' on the **[C7]** left  
Says **[F]** "fore I let your steam **[Bb]** drill beat me down  
Gonna **[F]** hammer my-**[Bb]**self to **[F]** death, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
I'll **[F]** hammer my fool **[C7]** self to **[F]** death"

Well the **[F]** Captain said "John Henry  
What **[F]** is that storm I **[C7]** hear?"  
John **[F]** Henry said "That ain't no **[Bb]** storm, Captain  
That's **[F]** just my **[Bb]** hammer in the **[F]** air, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
That's **[F]** just my **[C7]** hammer in the **[F]** air"

John **[F]** Henry said to his shaker  
**[F]** "Shaker, why don't you **[C7]** sing?  
'Cause I'm **[F]** swingin' 30 pounds from my **[Bb]** hips on down  
Yeah **[F]** listen to my **[Bb]** cold steel **[F]** ring, Lord **[Dm]** Lord  
**[F]** Listen to my **[C7]** cold steel **[F]** ring"

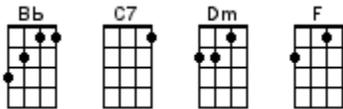
## INSTRUMENTAL:

John [F] Henry said to his [F] shaker  
[F] "Shaker, why don't you [C7] sing?  
'Cause I'm [F] swingin' 30 pounds from my [Bb] hips on down  
Yeah [F] listen to my [Bb] cold steel [F] ring, Lord [Dm] Lord  
[F] Listen to my [C7] cold steel [F] ring"

That John [F] Henry, he hammered in the mountains  
His [F] hammer was striking [C7] fire  
But he [F] worked so hard, it [Bb] broke his heart  
And John [F] Henry [Bb] laid down his hammer and [F] died, Lord [Dm] Lord  
John [F] Henry laid [C7] down his hammer and [F] died

Well now [F] John Henry he had him a woman  
Her [F] name were Polly [C7] Ann  
She walked [F] down to those tracks, picked up [Bb] John Henry's hammer  
And [F] Polly drove [Bb] steel like a [F] man, Lord [Dm] Lord  
[F] Polly drove that [C7] steel like a [F] man

Well [F] every, every Monday morning  
When the [F] bluebird, he begin to [C7] sing  
You can [F] hear John Henry from a [Bb] mile or more  
You can [F] hear John [Bb] Henry's hammer [F] ring, Lord [Dm] Lord  
You can [F] hear John [C7] Henry's hammer [F] ring [F]  
I say you can [F] hear John [Bb] Henry's hammer [F] ring, Lord [Dm] Lord  
You can [F] hear John [C7] Henry's hammer [F] ring [F]↓



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