

Deck the Halls

Traditional Yuletide and New Years' carol

Sing along with the Roaches @ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci_oI7Vf0wQ



E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Deck the halls with boughs of holly,

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Tis the season to be jolly,

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la la!

B⁷_{zus2/F#4} G^{#m}
Don we now our gay apparel,

A B⁷
Fa la la, la la la, la la la, la la la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Troll the ancient yuletide carol.

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
See the blazing yule before us,

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Strike the harp and join the chorus,

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

B⁷_{zus2/F#4} G^{#m}
Follow me in merry measure,

A B⁷
Fa la la, la la la, la la la, la la la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
While I tell of yuletide treasure!

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Fast a - - way the old year passes,

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,

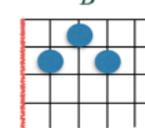
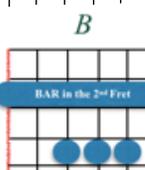
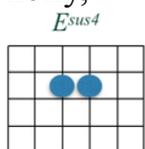
A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!

B⁷_{zus2/F#4} G^{#m}
Sing we joyous all together,

A B⁷
Fa la la, la la la, la la la, la la la la!

E E^{sus4} E B⁷_{zus2/F#4} E B E
Heedless of the wind and weather,

A E E^{sus4} E B⁷ E
Fa la la la la, la la, la la!



History

"**Deck the Halls**" (original English title: "*Deck the Hall*") is a traditional Yuletide and New Years' carol. The "fa-la-la" refrains were probably originally played on the harp. The tune is Welsh dating back to the sixteenth century (and perhaps much earlier), and belongs to a winter carol, *Nos Galan* ("New Year's Eve"). In the eighteenth century Mozart may have borrowed from the tune for a violin and piano duet, and later, Haydn in the song "New Year's Night."



Image from [AntiquesQ&A: Deck the Halls Victorian Style](#)

The old Welsh air is still popular as a dance tune in Wales, and was published in the 1784 and 1794 editions of the harpist Edward Jones's *Musical and Poetical Relics of the Welsh Bards*. Poet John Ceiriog Hughes wrote the first published lyrics for the piece in Welsh, titling it "Nos Galan" ("New Year's Eve").

Originally, carols were dances and not songs (e.g. "follow me in merry measure" as "measure" is a synonym for dance). Singers would compete with each other, verse for verse — known as *canu penillion dull y De* ("singing verses in the

southern style"). Consequently, tunes originally used to accompany carols became separated from the original dances, but were still referred to as "carols".

A collection of such sixteenth and seventeenth century dances performed at the Inns of Court in London are called the Old Measures. Dancing itself having been previously suppressed by the church was revived during the renaissance beginning in fifteenth century Italy.



Image from [AntiquesQ&A: Deck the Halls Victorian Style](#)

During the Victorian re-invention of Christmas "Deck the Halls" was turned into a traditional English Christmas song. The first English language version appeared in *The Franklin Square Song Collection*, edited by J.P. McCaskey in 1881 and published by Harper & Brothers in New York City.

Wikipedia