

A Fig for a Kiss

Irish/Scottish/English
Robert Bremner Collection 1757

♩. = 160

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a treble clef staff for the melody and a bass clef staff for the accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 9/8. The melody line consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The accompaniment line features a steady eighth-note bass line. Chord markings (Em, D, C, G) are placed above the melody staff to indicate the harmonic structure. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

"A Fig for a Kiss" is a very nice little 9/8 jig. The melody line for this version is taken from Scottish music publisher Robert Bremner's 1757 collection. Bremner collected tunes in Scotland, Ireland and England, and sold books in all three, so you can call this Scottish, Irish and English.

In the fourth bar of the B part, try to hold the C chords note as long as you can, shortening the following F# to the merest whisper of itself. If you are playing this as a performance piece, you might fermata the C and draw it out for almost a full three beats - longer if it suits you, and put a breath after it. Give it a try.

The harmony, accompaniment part is intended for guitar and should sound an octave lower than written. If your backup player is not playing guitar, they can play it an octave lower, or two octaves lower, depending on the instrument.