

# Alice's Restaurant

Words and music by Arlo Guthrie

This transcription, taken from the original performance of "Alice's Restaurant" on the album of the same name, shows the chorus to Arlo Guthrie's most famous song and the accompaniment for it that was a touchstone guitar part for a generation of folk fingerpickers. The guitar accompaniment provides a plethora of hip ragtime moves in a tidy 16 bars,

including ascending bass runs, subtle blue notes, and ragtimey chord voicings. You can find the complete spoken lyrics on-line at [www.arlo.net](http://www.arlo.net). There you can also take a virtual tour of the church immortalized in the song, and even read a tribute to officer Obie, the arresting officer in the incident that inspired the song.

—Dylan Schorer

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a vocal line, a piano accompaniment line, and a guitar fingerings line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

**System 1:** Chords: G, Am, G/B, C, A7. Lyrics: YOU CAN GET AN - Y - THING YOU WANT AT

**System 2:** Chords: D9, G6, C, G, Am, G/B, C, A7. Lyrics: AL - IC - E'S RES - TAU - RANT YOU CAN GET AN - Y - THING YOU WANT AT

**System 3:** Chords: D9, G, Am, A#dim, G/B, C. Lyrics: AL - IC - E'S RES - TAU - RANT WALK RIGHT IN IT'S A -

The guitar fingerings line shows specific fretting and picking patterns for each measure, including techniques like triplets and ascending runs.

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11

F D7/F#

ROUND THE BACK JUST A HALF A MILE FROM THE RAIL-ROAD TRACK

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are "ROUND THE BACK JUST A HALF A MILE FROM THE RAIL-ROAD TRACK". The second staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a treble clef. The third staff is the guitar chord diagram, showing fingerings for the left hand. Chords are indicated as F and D7/F# above the staff.

14

C A7 D9 G6 C

YOU CAN GET AN - Y - THING YOU WANT AT AL - IC - E'S RES - TAU - RANT

The second system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are "YOU CAN GET AN - Y - THING YOU WANT AT AL - IC - E'S RES - TAU - RANT". The second staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a treble clef. The third staff is the guitar chord diagram, showing fingerings for the left hand. Chords are indicated as C, A7, D9, G6, and C above the staff.