



# Building a Traditional Tune Repertoire

by Wendy Anthony

## Angeline The Baker

(Key of D)

### The Tune:

This traditional Appalachian fiddle tune, sometimes just called *Angeline*, is popular with beginner (and more advanced) Bluegrass players, as well as in Old-Time jams. This tune is not to be confused with Stephen Foster's song *Angeline Baker*, written in 1850, with a different melody & lyrics about a slave's love who was sold away.

**Angeline The Baker**  
Traditional Arranged by Wendy Anthony

**Part A**  
D G D

**Part B**  
D G 1. D 2. D D

**Part C**  
G D D G 1. D 2. D

Listen to the Angeline The Baker MIDI,  
with intro & open string, chord note voicing (Variation 2):  
[120](#) & [160](#) bpm

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## Techniques:

- **Overview of Tune:** The main transcript is a simplified version of the tune, and is an easy, popular tune for beginners. This tune can be played at many different tempos, & though the simple version can also be played easily at quicker speeds, it sounds quite beautiful played slowly and clearly. Variation 2, with open string chord note voicing, gives a full, richer sound.
- **Chords:** This tune only uses 2 chords: the D (I) chord is used most often, changing to a G (IV) chord in the 4th measure of both Parts A & B. Measures 7 & 15 contain a quick chord change from D on the first beat, followed by G on the third beat, before returning to D at the beginning of the next measure.
- **Pick Strokes:** Pick all 1/4 notes with Downstrokes & all paired 1/8 notes with Down/Upstrokes. Note that as this tune contains many 1/4 notes, most of the pick strokes are played as Downstrokes. Measures 1, 5 & 6 (also 8, 9, 13, 17 & 18, in Variation 2) have a syncopated rhythm, produced by playing a dotted 1/4 note (the equivalent timing of 3 - 1/8 notes) with a Downstroke, followed by an 1/8 note, played with an Upstroke.

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## Variations:

1. **Add/Replace Notes:** For variety, add extra open string notes (Measure-1); use hammer-ons (M-1&2); repeat notes to produce different rhythm (M-4); replace 1/4 notes with 1/8 notes (M-11); change 1/4 notes to 1/8 notes & add syncopated rhythm (M-13).

**Angeline The Baker - Variations**

The image shows a musical score for 'Angeline The Baker - Variations' in 4/4 time. It is divided into Part A and Part B. Part A consists of measures 1 and 2, and Part B consists of measures 4, 11, and 13. The score includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The guitar part is shown with a six-string staff with strings labeled E, A, D, G from top to bottom. Chord diagrams are provided for each measure, and pick strokes (D for downstroke, U for upstroke) are indicated below the staff. A hammer-on (H) is marked above the second measure of Part A. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and dotted quarter notes.

2. **Open String, Chord Voicing:** Play open strings to include chord note voicings, creating a rich, full sound.

## Angeline The Baker

Traditional

Arranged by Wendy Anthony

**Part A**

D

E  
A  
D  
G

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

6

T  
A  
B

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

**Part B**

D

T  
A  
B

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

10

T  
A  
B

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

14

T  
A  
B

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

3. **Lyrics:** Lyrics have been a recent addition, and can vary, depending on the source. They are about a middle aged woman who makes her own choices in life. I've included some popular verses.

Chorus:

Angeline the Baker, Angeline the Baker  
Angeline, Angeline, won't you please be mine?

Verses:

The first time I saw Angeline, was at the county fair  
Her daddy chased me halfway home, and told me to stay there.

Angeline the Baker, her age is forty-three  
I give her candy by the peck, but she won't marry me.

Angelina Baker, Angeline I know  
Wish I'd married Angeline, twenty years ago.