

John Henry

Bluegrass Classic, Key of **C** My Key: ____

When John **1** Henry was, a little baby boy, sitting on the his papa's **5** knee
Well he **1** picked up a hammer and little piece of steel
Said **1** hammer's gon,na be the death of me, * Lord Lord
* **1** Hammer's gon,na be the **5** death of **1** me

The **1** captain, said to John Henry, I'm gonna bring, that steam drill a- **5** round
I'm gonna **1** bring, that steam drill out on the job, I'm gonna whup, that steel on down

John **1** Henry, told his captain, Lord a man, ain't nothing but a man
But be- **1** fore-I'd-let-your steam drill, beat me down
I'd **1** die, with a hammer in my hand

John **1** Henry, said to his shaker, Shaker, why don't you **5** sing
Because I'm **1** swinging thirty pounds, from my hips on down
1 Listen, to that cold steel ring

Now the **1** captain, said to John Henry, I believe, that mountain's caving **5** in
John **1** Henry, said right back to the captain
Ain't **1** nothing but my hammer sucking wind

Now the **1** man that invented, the steam drill, he thought, he was mighty **5** fine
But John **1** Henry drove fifteen feet, the steam drill, only made nine

John **1** Henry hammered in the mountains, his hammer, was striking **5** fire
But he **1** worked so hard, it broke his poor heart
He **1** laid down, his hammer and he died

Now John **1** Henry, had a little woman, her name was Polly **5** Ann
John **1** Henry took sick, and had to go to bed, Polly Ann, drove steel like a man

John **1** Henry had a little baby, you could hold him, in the palm of your **5** hand
And the **1** last words I heard, that poor boy say, my daddy was a steel driving man

So, **1** every, Monday morning, when the blue birds, begin to **5** sing
You can **1** hear John Henry, a mile or more, you can hear John Henry's hammer ring

* **Repeat the last line of every verse as shown. "Lord Lord" optional**