

## BRING US A BARREL

3/4

*English Traditional*

*Much like the Barley Mow, this song deals with the various sizes of storage containers. It is not all-inclusive.*

*C* *G7*  
A man who's a drinker takes ale from a pin  
*F* *G7*  
But he finds too little good stuff there within  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
Four and a half is its measure in full  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
Too small for a sup, not enough for a pull.

*Chorus:*

*C* *G7*  
So bring us a barrel and set it up right  
*C* *G7*  
Bring us a barrel to last out the night  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
Bring us a barrel no matter how high  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
We'll drink it up, lads, we'll drink it dry

*C* *G7*  
The brave little firkin, nine gallons in all  
*F* *G7*  
The ale it is good, but the size is too small  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
For lads who are drinkers like you and like I  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
The firkin poor barrel too swiftly runs dry.

*C* *G7*  
And when I am dying and on my death-bed  
*F* *G7*  
Place at my bedside a fine full hogshead  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
For if down below I must go when I die  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
Me and Old Nick, we will both drink it dry.

*C* *G7*  
 So roll out the puncheon and bring out the butts  
*F* *G7*  
 Them's the best measures before us to put  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
 For the pots will go 'round and the ale it will flow  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
 And we'll be content -- for an hour or so.

*C* *G7*  
 When drinking good ale it is best by the ton  
*F* *G7*  
 But never enough can be had in just one  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
 So pray all you drinkers who often run dry  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
 God-willing, our ale -- it will fall from the sky.

*C* *G7*  
 It's huffcaps and tosspots and marry-go-down  
*F* *G7*  
 The hogshead and firkin and cask will go 'round  
*C* *F* *C* *G7*  
 The ton and the barrel and some day there'll be  
*C* *F* *G7* *C*  
 Enough good brown ale to fill up the sea.

***The following are old measures for ale or beer.***

*pin* - 4 1/2 gallons or 1/2 firkin  
*firkin* - 9 gallons or 1/4 barrel  
*barrel* - 36 gallons  
*hogshead* - 54 gallons, 6 firkins or 1 1/2 barrels  
*puncheon* - 2 barrels or 1/3 of a ton  
*butt* - 3 barrels or 2 hogsheads  
*pipe* - 2 hogsheads or 1/2 ton  
*ton (also tun)* - 216 gallons or 2 pipes (6 barrels)

Modern quantities differ as well as gallon quantities if referring to wine, whiskey, or brandy.