

Yankee Doodle

Narration (optional):

In the mid-1700s, before the Revolutionary War, the song “Yankee Doodle” was actually used by British soldiers to make fun of the colonists, or “Yankees,” in America.

The British were quite amused by the backwoods appearance and behavior of the colonists, and sang about it.

Despite the insulting lyrics, the Yankees adopted the song as their own, and made up their own lyrics.

They sang it with pride and exuberance, and by 1777 (the second year of the Revolutionary War), it had become an unofficial American anthem.

It is even said that it was played at Yorktown when Lord Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington, ending the Revolutionary War.

A great many versions of the lyrics have been created for “Yankee Doodle.” Some were written prior to the war, during the war, and afterwards as well.

In fact, new lyrics were being created during the Civil War, almost a century later.

Variations and parodies are still being created even today.

“Yankee Doodle” remains one of the most well-known, well-loved, and popular patriotic songs in America.

sing:

Yankee Doodle went to town a-riding on a pony.
He stuck a feather in his hat and called it macaroni.

parts 1 & 2 (optional divisi):

Yankee Doodle, keep it up. Yankee Doodle dandy.
Mind the music and the step, and with the girls be handy.

all:

Fath'r and I went down to camp along with Captain Gooding.
And there we saw the men and boys as thick as hasty pudding.

parts 1 & 2 (optional divisi):

Yankee Doodle, keep it up. Yankee Doodle dandy.
Mind the music and the step, and with the girls be handy.

all:

There was Captain Washington upon a slapping stallion,
a-giving orders to his men; I guess there was a million.

parts 1 & 2 (optional divisi):

Yankee Doodle, keep it up. Yankee Doodle dandy.
Mind the music and the step, and with the girls be handy.

Yankee Doodle, keep it up. Yankee Doodle dandy.
Mind the music and the step, and with the girls be handy.

Yankee Doodle dandy!

