

Walk Tall – Don Wayne (Val Doonican)

Arr: Amanda Males 01/10/2023 v2

<https://youtu.be/BL58-Sh94ms?si=fukbXDoUZXZFPz00>

"Walk Tall" is a country music song written by American songwriter Don Wayne. It was a number 3 hit on the UK singles chart in 1964 for Irish singer Val Doonican, becoming Doonican's first British chart success. [Doonican's version also reached no.2 in Ireland and no.29 in Australia. In the US, the song was recorded by Faron Young, whose version reached no.10 on the country music chart in late 1965.

[Intro]

[NC] Walk **[D]** tall

[Chorus]

Walk **[G]** tall, walk straight and look the **[D]** world right in the **[G]** eye
That's **[C]** what my mamma told me when **[G]** I was about knee high
She **[C]** said Son, be a proud man and **[G]** hold your head up high
Walk tall, walk straight and look the **[D]** world right in the **[G]** eye

[Verse 1]

All **[G]** through the years that I grew up Ma **[D]** taught these things to **[G]** me
But **[C]** I was young and foolish then and **[G]** much too blind to see
[C] I ignored the things she said as **[G]** if I'd never heard
Now I see and understand the **[D]** wisdom of her **[G]** words

[Chorus]

[Verse 2]

I **[G]** started goin' places where the **[D]** youngsters shouldn't **[G]** go
I **[C]** got to know the kinda girls it's **[G]** better not to know
I **[C]** fell in with a bad crowd and **[G]** laughed and drank with them
Through the laughter Mama's words would **[D]** echo now and **[G]** then

[Chorus]

[Verse 3 – key change]

I **[A]** got in trouble with the law and **[E7]** I'm in prison **[A]** now
[D] Through these prison bars I see things **[A]** so much different now
[D] I've got one year left to serve and **[A]** when my time is done
I'll walk tall and straight and make Ma **[E7]** proud to call me **[A]** son

[Chorus]

Walk **[A]** tall, walk straight and look the **[E7]** world right in the **[A]** eye
That's **[D]** what my mamma told me when **[A]** I was about knee high
She **[D]** said Son, be a proud man and **[A]** hold your head up high
Walk tall, walk straight and look the **[E7]** world right in the **[A]** eye
Walk tall, walk straight and look the **[E7]** world right in the **[A]** eye
Walk **[E7]** tall **[NC]** walk **[A]** tall