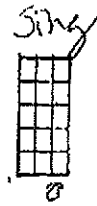


# Stand By Me Ben E King

Hear this song at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Us-TVg40ExM>  
(Playing for Change version, play along in this key)

From: Richard G's Ukulele Songbook [www.scorpex.net/Uke](http://www.scorpex.net/Uke)



3/21/17

Intro: [C] [Am] [F] [G7] [C]

[C] When the night has come [Am] and the land is dark  
And the [F] moon is the [G7] only light we'll [C] see

[C] No I won't be afraid no I [Am] won't be afraid  
Just as [F] long as you [G7] stand stand by [C] me

[C] So darling darling stand by me oh [Am] stand by me  
Oh [F] stand [G7] stand by me stand by [C] me

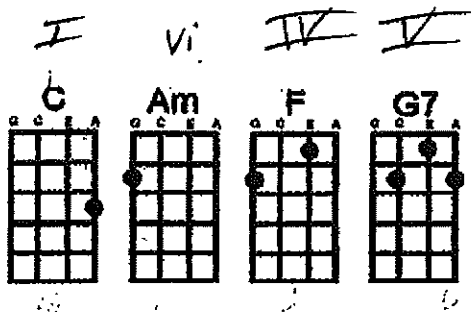
[C] If the sky that we look upon  
[Am] Should tumble and fall

Or the [F] mountain should [G7] crumble to the [C] sea

[C] I won't cry I won't cry no I [Am] won't shed a tear  
Just as [F] long as you [G7] stand stand by [C] me

[C] And darling darling stand by me oh [Am] stand by me  
Oh [F] stand [G7] stand by me stand by [C] me

[C] And darling darling stand by me oh [Am] stand by me  
Oh [F] stand [G7] stand by me stand by [C] me



As a variation:  
\* play open, then chord Am, F.  
G7 - partial open

see ukulele underground  
for other songs  
w/ these chords.

Transpose to  
G, Em, C, D

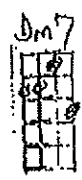
Happy Trails TUC 03-05-14



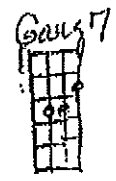
2vb

(REAL SLOW LOPING SHUFFLE:)

(INTRO:) /C /A7 /Dm7 G7 /C  
~~Happy trails to you, until we meet a gain~~



(VERSE:) /C / / / C#dim /G7  
 Happy trails to you, until we meet a-gain.  
 /Dm /G7 / (Gaug7) /C  
 Happy trails to you, keep smiling until then.  
 /C7 /F



Who cares about the clouds when we're to-gether?  
 /A7 /D7 G7  
 Just sing a song and bring the sunny wea-ther.  
 /C /A7 /Dm G7 /C  
 Happy trails to you, until we meet a---gain.

(BRIDGE:)

/C /A7 /Dm /  
 Some Trails are Happy ones, others are blue.  
 /G7 /  
 It's the way you ride the trail that counts.  
 /G7 /C  
 Here's a happy one for you.

(REPEAT VERSE, THEN TAG, WITH TREMOLO)

(TREMOLO STRETCH)

/C /A7 /Dm7(~) /G7(~) /C(~)  
 Happy trails to you, until we meet a-----gain.

C#dim = 0101

Gaug7 = 0331

# Ukulele Chord Chart (GCEA)

Key	Principal Chords			Relative Minor		
	I	IV	V <sup>7</sup>	VI <sup>m</sup>	II <sup>m</sup>	III <sup>7</sup>
	<b>C</b> 	<b>F</b> 	<b>G<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>Am</b> 	<b>Dm</b> 	<b>E<sup>7</sup></b> 
	<b>G</b> 	<b>C</b> 	<b>D<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>Em</b> 	<b>Am</b> 	<b>B<sup>7</sup></b> 
	<b>F</b> 	<b>B<sup>b</sup></b> 	<b>C<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>Dm</b> 	<b>Gm</b> 	<b>A<sup>7</sup></b> 
	<b>D</b> 	<b>G</b> 	<b>A<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>Bm</b> 	<b>Em</b> 	<b>F<sup>#7</sup></b> 
	<b>B<sup>b</sup></b> 	<b>E<sup>b</sup></b> 	<b>F<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>Gm</b> 	<b>Cm</b> 	<b>D<sup>7</sup></b> 
	<b>A</b> 	<b>D</b> 	<b>E<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>F<sup>#m</sup></b> 	<b>Bm</b> 	<b>C<sup>#7</sup></b> 
	<b>E<sup>b</sup></b> 	<b>A<sup>b</sup></b> 	<b>B<sup>b7</sup></b> 	<b>Cm</b> 	<b>Fm</b> 	<b>G<sup>7</sup></b> 
	<b>E</b> 	<b>A</b> 	<b>B<sup>7</sup></b> 	<b>C<sup>#m</sup></b> 	<b>F<sup>#m</sup></b> 	<b>G<sup>#7</sup></b> 

## 5. Basic Strum Patterns

Keep your strumming hand loose and use your wrist rather than your whole arm. If you strum your ukulele too close to the bridge it sounds very tinny (which might be an effect you want sometimes) The 'sweet spot' on a ukulele is usually where the neck hits the body. Most people use their pointy finger to strum. When you strum down, you should be hitting the strings with your nail. When you're strumming up, use the fleshy tip of your finger and keep a regular up/down movement going. But you can use your thumb or all or any of your fingers depending on the sound you want

D = down stroke; U = up stroke

Basic 4/4 - ballads            D \_ D \_ D \_ D \_  
   1    2    3    4

4/4 - variation                D \_ D U D \_ D U  
   1    2 & 3    4 &

In some styles you might emphasise certain beats e.g. folk and rock styles sometimes emphasise beats 2 and 4 (*blowing in the wind; jambalaya; you ain't going nowhere*)

Swing 4/4 (or blues)        D\_U D\_U D\_U D\_U  
   1&a 2&a 3&a 4&a

Basic 3/4 - Waltz              D \_ D \_ D \_  
   1    2    3

3/4 - variation                D \_ D U D U            (emphasises 1<sup>st</sup> beat of the bar)  
   1    2 & 3 &

There are endless variations on strumming patterns and there are no right or wrong patterns as long as 1: you play in time 2: all players are playing the same pattern

Many variations of the above patterns can be used. Different patterns suit different styles of song.

E.g. New Orleans rhythm (such as for Iko Iko)

D \_ \_ U \_ U D \_ \_ U D \_ D \_ \_ \_  
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Also similar to the "Bo Diddley" rhythm:

D \_ D U \_ U D \_ \_ U D \_ D \_ \_ \_  
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

(Used in songs like *Willie & the Hand Jive* **Eric Clapton** or *Not Fade Away* by **Buddy Holly** and *Faith* by **George Michael**)

## **20 Useful Strumming Patterns** **for Ukulele Players**

Strumming pattern #1 : d-d-d-d  
Strumming pattern #2 : du-du-du-du  
Strumming pattern #3 : d-du-d-du  
Strumming pattern #4 : d-d-du-du  
Strumming pattern #5 : d-du-du-du

Strumming pattern #6 : d-d-du-d  
Strumming pattern #7 : du-d-du-d  
Strumming pattern #8 : d-du-u-d  
Strumming pattern #9 : du-d-du-d  
Strumming pattern #10 : d-du-u-du

Strumming pattern #11 : xu-xu-xu-xu  
Strumming pattern #12 : du-xu-du-xu  
Strumming pattern #13 : d-du-xu-du  
Strumming pattern #14 : du-u-d-du  
Strumming pattern #15 : du-xu-xu-du

Strumming pattern #16 : du-du-u-du  
Strumming pattern #17 : du-xu-xu-xu  
Strumming pattern #18 : d-d-xu-xu  
Strumming pattern #19 : d-d-xu-du  
Strumming pattern #20 : d-d-u-du

(Experiment with these patterns – play them as written, mix & match, or create your own. Create distinctive accents.)

## The Wheels on the bus

The <sup>F</sup>wheels on the bus go round and round

<sup>C7</sup>Round and round, <sup>F</sup>round and round

The <sup>F</sup>wheels on the bus go round and round

<sup>C7</sup>All through the <sup>F</sup>town

The <sup>F</sup>people on the bus go up and down

<sup>C7</sup>Up and down, <sup>F</sup>up and down

The <sup>F</sup>people on the bus go up and down

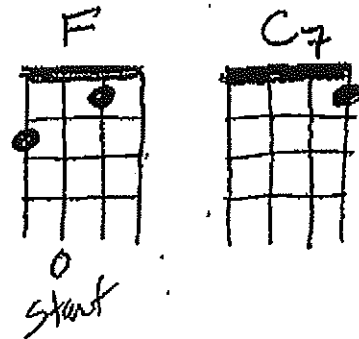
<sup>C7</sup>All through the <sup>F</sup>town

The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish....

The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep.....

The children on the bus make too much noise.....

The driver on the bus says "tickets please".....



**JAMBALAYA** (Hank Williams) Key of F major



**F** **C7**  
Goodbye Joe me gotta go me oh my oh  
**F**  
Me gotta go pole the pirogue down the bayou  
**C7**  
My Yvonne the sweetest one me oh my oh  
**F**  
Son of a gun we'll have big fun on the bayou

**Chorus**  
**F** **C7**  
Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and filet gumbo  
**F**  
Cause tonight I'm gonna see my ma cher amio  
**C7**  
Pick guitar fill fruit jar and be gay-o  
**F**  
Son of a gun we'll have big fun on the bayou

**F** **C7**  
Thibodaux Fontaineaux the place is buzzing  
**F**  
Kinfolk come to see Yvonne by the dozen  
**C7**  
Dress in style and go hog wild me oh my oh  
**F**  
Son of a gun we'll have big fun on the bayou

**Chorus**

**F** **C7**  
Settle down far from town get me a pirogue  
**F**  
And I'll catch all the fish in the bayou  
**C7**  
Swap my mon to buy Yvonne what she need-oh  
**F**  
Son of a gun we'll have big fun on the bayou

**Chorus**

# **Tulsa Time** recorded by Don Williams

written by Danny Flowers

C

I left Oklahoma driving in a Pontiac

G7

Just about to lose my mind

I was going to Arizona maybe on to California

C

Where the people all live so fine

My baby said I was crazy my momma called me lazy

G7

I was going to show 'em all this time

Cause you know I ain't no fooling

I don't need no more schooling

C

I was born to just walk the line

G7

Living on Tulsa time living on Tulsa time

Well you know I've been through it

When I set my watch back to it

C

Living on Tulsa time

Well there I was in Hollywood wishing

G7

I was doing good talking on the telephone line

But they don't need me in the movies

C

And nobody sings my songs guess I'm just a wasting time

Well then I got to thinking man

G7

I'm really sinking and I really had a flash this time

I had no business leaving and nobody would be grieving

C

If I went back to Tulsa time

G7

Living on Tulsa time living on Tulsa time

Gonna set my watch back to it

Cause you know I've been through it

C

Living on Tulsa time





# You Never Can Tell

By Chuck Berry, 1964

[C] It was a teenage wedding and the old folks wished 'em well  
 You could see that Pierre did truly love the madmoi[G7]selle  
 And now the young monsieur and madame  
 Have rung the chapel bell  
 C'est la vie say the old folks it goes to show you never can [C] tell

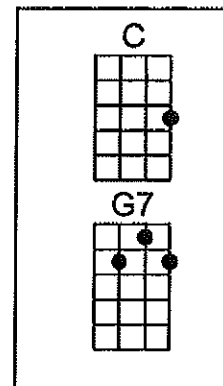
[C] They furnished off an apartment  
 With a two room Roebuck sale  
 The coolerator was crammed with TV dinners and ginger [G7] ale  
 But when Pierre found work  
 The little money comin' worked out well  
 C'est la vie say the old folks it goes to show you never can [C] tell

[C] They had a hi-fi phono boy did they let it blast  
 Seven hundred little records all rock rhythm and [G7] jazz  
 But when the sun went down the rapld tempo of the music fell  
 C'est la vie say the old folks it goes to show you never can [C] tell

## Instrumental verse

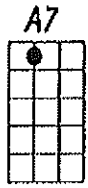
[C] They bought a souped up jitney 'twas a cherry red '53  
 They drove it down to New Orleans  
 To celebrate their anniversa[G7]ry  
 It was there that Pierre was wedded to the lovely mademoiselle  
 C'est la vie say the old folks it goes to show you never can [C] tell

[C] It was a teenage wedding and the old folks wished 'em well  
 You could see that Pierre did truly love the madmoi[G7]selle  
 And now the young monsieur and madame  
 Have rung the chapel bell  
 C'est la vie say the old folks it goes to show you never can [C] tell

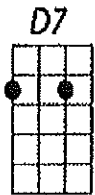


# 12-Bar Blues

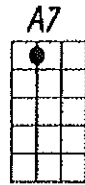
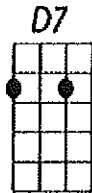
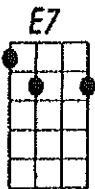
Syncopate the strum: Not 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +, Instead 1+ 2+ 3+ 4+



1 2 3 4    2 2 3 4    3 2 3 4    4 2 3 4



1 2 3 4    2 2 3 4    1 2 3 4    2 2 3 4



1 2 3 4    1 2 3 4    1 2 3 4    2 2 3 4

*E7 turnaround  
A7 end*

## Minor Pentatonic Scale in A

Nut    1    2    3    4    5

(O) ++----+----+ (O) +----+ (O) +---

(O) ++----+----+ (O) +----+ (O) +---

(O) ++----+ (O) +----+ (O) +----+---

(O) ++----+ (O) +----+----+ (O) +---



<sup>E7</sup> People passing by they would stop and say  
A Asus4 A  
Oh my that little country boy could play

A  
Go go  
Go Johnny go  
Go  
Go Johnny go  
D  
Go  
Go Johnny go  
A  
Go  
Go Johnny go  
E E7  
Go

A  
Johnny B. Goode  
A Asus4 A  
His mother told him "Someday you will be a man,  
Asus4 A  
And you will be the leader of a big old band.  
D  
Many people coming from miles around  
A Asus4 A  
To hear you play your music when the sun go down  
E7 E7 E7  
Maybe someday your name will be in lights  
A Asus4 A  
Saying Johnny B. Goode tonight."

A  
Go go  
Go Johnny go  
Go  
Go Johnny go  
D  
Go  
Go Johnny go  
A  
Go  
Go Johnny go  
E E7  
Go  
A  
Johnny B. Goode

This arrangement for the song is the author's own work and represents their interpretation of the song.  
You may only use this for private study, scholarship, or research.

*ukutabs.com*

# Johnny B. Goode

By Chuck Berry, 1958

Deep [G]down in Louisiana close to New Orleans  
Way back up in the woods among the evergreens  
There [C]stood a log cabin made of earth and wood  
Where [G]lived a country boy named Johnny B Goode  
Who [D7]never ever learned to read or write so well  
But he could [G]play the guitar just like ringin a bell

## Chorus

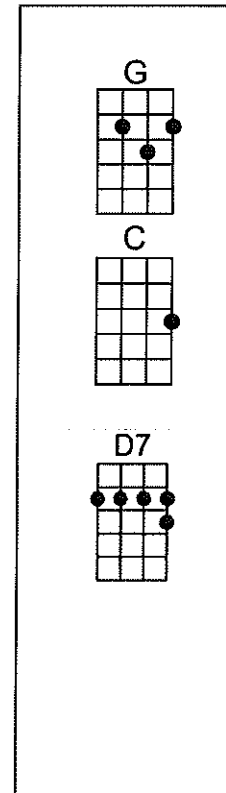
[G]Go! Go! Go, Johnny go! Go!  
Go, Johnny go! [C]Go!  
Go, Johnny, go! [G]Go!  
Go, Johnny, go! [D7]Go! Johnny B. [G]Goode

He used to [G]carry his guitar in a gunny sack  
Or sit beneath the tree by the railroad track  
Oh an [C]engineer could see him sitting in the shade  
[G]Strummin' to the rhythm that the drivers made  
[D7]People passing by they'd stop and say  
Oh [G]my but that little country boy can play

## Chorus

His [G]mother told him some day you will be a man  
And you will be the leader of a big old band  
[C]Many people coming from miles around  
And [G]hear you play your music till the sun goes down  
[D7]Maybe someday your name gonna be in light  
Sayin' [G]Johnny be Goode tonight

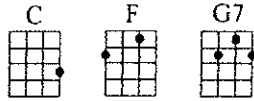
## Chorus



# No Particular Place to Go

Words and Music by  
CHUCK BERRY

FIRST NOTE



With a beat



Rid-ing a-long in my au-to-mo-bile.  
bile,  
go,  
boose,

My ba-by be-side me at the  
I was anx-ious to tell her the way I  
so we parked way out on the Ko-ko-  
still try-ing to get her belt un-



wheel:  
feel:  
mo.  
loose,  
I stole a kiss at the turn of a mile,  
So I told her soft-ly and sin- cere,  
The night was young and the moon was gold,  
all the way home I held a grudge,



my cu-ri-os-i-ty run-ning wild.  
and she leaned and whis-pered in my ear.  
so we both de-cid-ed to take a stroll.  
for the safe-ty belt that would-n't budge.



Cruis-ing and play-ing the ra-di-o with no par-tic-u-lar place to  
Cud-dling more and driv-ing slow with no par-tic-u-lar place to  
Can you im-ag-ine the way I felt? I couldn't un-fast-en her safe-ty  
Cruis-ing and play-ing the ra-di-o with no par-tic-u-lar place to



go. Rid-ing a-long in my au-to-mo-go.  
go. No par-tic-u-lar place to  
belt. Rid-ing a-long in my cal-a-

# Hound Dog

Leiber and Stoller, recorded by Elvis Presley 1956

12 Bar Blues  
Progression  
m a jor

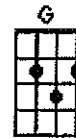
[No chord] You ain't nothin' but a [C]hound dog cryin' all the time  
You ain't nothin' but a [F]hound dog cryin' all the [C]time  
Well you ain't [G]never caught a rabbit  
And you [F]ain't no friend of [C]mine



[No chord] Well they said you was [C]high classed well that was just a lie



Yeah they said you was [F]high classed well that was just a [C]lie  
Well you ain't [G]never caught a rabbit  
And you [F]ain't no friend of [C]mine



[No chord] You ain't nothin' but a [C]hound dog cryin' all the time  
You ain't nothin' but a [F]hound dog cryin' all the [C]time  
Well you ain't [G]never caught a rabbit  
And you [F]ain't no friend of [C]mine

Instrumental: [C] [C] [C] [C] [F] [F] [C] [C] [G] [F] [C]

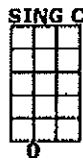


[No chord] Well they said you was [C]high classed well that was just a lie  
Yeah they said you was [F]high classed well that was just a [C]lie  
Well you ain't [G] never caught a rabbit  
And you [F]ain't no friend of [C]mine

Instrumental: [C] [C] [C] [C] [F] [F] [C] [C] [G] [F] [C]

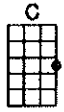
[No chord] Well they said you was [C]high classed well that was just a lie  
Yeah they said you was [F]high classed well that was just a [C]lie  
Well you ain't [G]never caught a rabbit  
And you [F]ain't no friend of [C]mine

[No chord] You ain't nothin' but a [C]hound dog cryin' all the time  
You ain't nothin' but a [F]hound dog cryin' all the [C]time  
Well you ain't [G]never caught a rabbit  
And you [F]ain't no friend of [C]mine



# ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK

4/4 1...2...1234



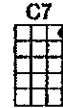
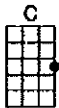
One, two, three o'clock, four o'clock rock

Five, six, seven o'clock, eight o'clock rock

Nine, ten, eleven o'clock, twelve o'clock rock



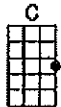
We're gonna rock around the clock tonight.



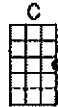
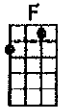
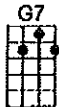
Put your glad rags on and join me hon', we'll have some fun when the clock strikes one,



We're gonna rock around the clock tonight



We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight



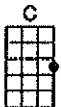
We're gonna rock, gonna rock around the clock tonight



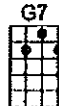
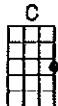
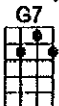
When the clock strikes two and three and four, if the band slows down we'll yell for more



We're gonna rock around the clock tonight



We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight



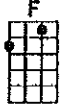
We're gonna rock, gonna rock around the clock tonight



p. 2 Rock Around the Clock



When the clock chimes ring five and six and seven we'll be rockin' up in 7th heaven



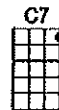
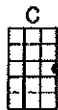
We're gonna rock around the clock tonight



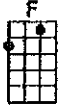
We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight



We're gonna rock, gonna rock around the clock tonight



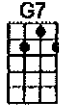
When it's eight, nine, ten, eleven too, I'll be goin' strong and so will you



We're gonna rock around the clock tonight



We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight



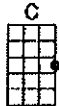
We're gonna rock, gonna rock around the clock tonight



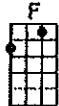
When the clock strikes 12 we'll cool off then, start a rockin' 'round the clock again



We're gonna rock around the clock tonight

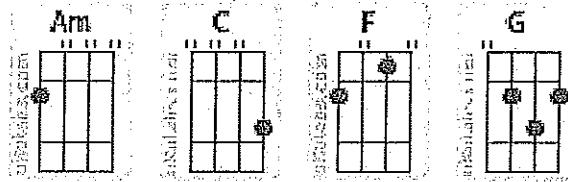


We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight



We're gonna rock, gonna rock around the clock (X3) tonight

Title	I Don't Know My Name
Artist	Grace VanderWaal
Album	I Don't Know My Name



C F  
 I don't know my name  
 Am G  
 I don't play by the rules of the game  
 C F  
 So you say I'm just trying  
 Am G  
 Just trying

C F  
 So I heard you are my sister's friend  
 Am G  
 You get along quite nicely  
 C F  
 You ask me why I cut my hair  
 Am G  
 And changed myself completely

F G  
 I am lost  
 Am G  
 Trying to get found  
 F  
 In an ocean of people  
 Please don't ask me any

C F  
 I don't know my name  
 Am G  
 I don't play by the rules of the game  
 C F  
 So you say I'm just trying  
 Am G  
 Just trying

C F  
 I now know my name!  
 Am G  
 I don't play by the rules of the game  
 C F  
 So you say I'm not trying

Am G  
 But I'm trying  
 C  
 To find my way

# Puff the Magic Dragon

Moderately ♩ = 145

Words and Music by  
Lenny Lipton and Peter Yarrow

**C** **Em**

1. Puff, the mag - ic dra - gon,  
 (2.) geth - er they would trav - el on a  
 (3.) drag - gon lives for - ev - er, but  
 (4.) Head was bent in sor - row,

**F** **C** **F**

lived by the sea and frod - icked in the  
 boat with bil - lowed sail; and Jack - ie kept a  
 not so lit - tle boys, and Paint - ed wings and  
 green scales fell like rain. Puff no long - er

**C** **Am** **D7** **G7**

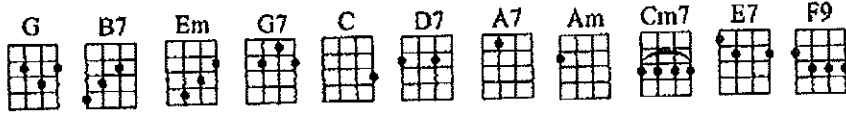
au - tumn mist in a land called Hon - ah - lee.  
 look - out perched on Puff's gi - gan - tic tail.  
 gi - ant rings make way for oth - er toys.  
 went to play a - long the Cher - ry Lane.

**C** **Em** **F**

Lit - tle Jack - ie Pa - per loved that ras - cal  
 No - ble Kings and prin - ces would bow when - ev'r they  
 One grey night it hup - pened Jack - ie Pa - per came no  
 With - out his life - long friend, Puff could not be

# Only You (And You Alone)

Words and Music by  
BUCK RAM and ANDE RAND



FIRST NOTE



Slowly, with feeling

G B7

On - ly you can make this world seem right. On - ly  
you can make this change in me. For it's

Em G7

you can make the dark - ness bright. On - ly  
true you are my des - ti - ny. When you

C 1. D7 B7 Em A7

you and you a - lone can thrill me like you do, and fill my heart with  
hold my hand, I

Am D7 2. Cm7 G

love, for on - ly you. On - ly un - der - stand the mag - ic that you

E7 A7 D7 G F9 G

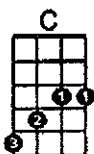
do. You're my dream come true, my one and on - ly you.

TRO - © Copyright 1955 (Renewed) Hollis Music, Inc., New York, NY

CHORDS USED IN "Joy to the World" by Three Dog Night  
THIS SONG

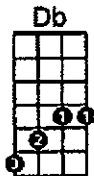
Sing

Verse 1:



Jeremiah was a bullfrog [C] [Db] [D]  
A very good friend of mine [C] [Db] [D]  
I never under[D7]stood a single [G]word he [Bb]said  
But I [D]helped him [Em7]to drink his [D]wine  
Yes he [G7]always had some [Em7]mighty fine [D]wine

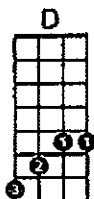
\* Try D → A  
Fingers ~~1234~~



Chorus:

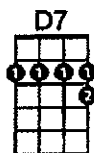
Singing [D]joy [A]to the [D]world  
[A]To all the boys and [D]girls  
Joy to the [D7]fishes in the [G]deep blue [Bb]sea  
[D]Joy to [A7]you and [D]me [C] [Db] [D]

\*

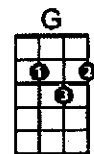


Verse 2:

If I were the king of the world [C] [Db] [D]  
Tell you what I'd do [C] [Db] [D]  
I'd throw away the [D7]cars and the [G]bars and the [Bb]wars  
And [D]make sweet [Em7]love to [D]you  
Said, [G7]make sweet [Em7]love to [D]you

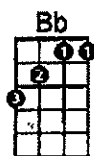


Chorus

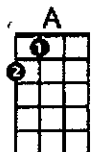
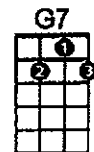
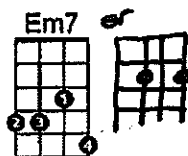


Verse 3:

You know I love the ladies [C] [Db] [D]  
I love to have my fun [C] [Db] [D]  
I'm a high life [D7]flyer and a [G]rainbow [Bb]rider  
A [D]straight shootin' [Em7]son-of-a-[D]gun  
I said, [G7]a straight shootin' [Em7]son-of-a-[D]gun



Chorus



# Green Cats Eat Ants

We use the words Green - Cats - Eat - Ants to help us remember the string names.  
Try singing them along to this song.

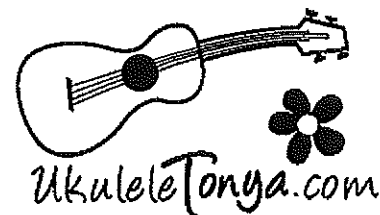
Musical score for the song "Green Cats Eat Ants". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The time signature is 4/4. The first system has the lyrics: "Green Cats Eat Ants Ants Ants Green Cats Eat Ants Ants". The second system has the lyrics: "Ants G C E A A A Green Cats Eat Ants Ants Ants". The guitar accompaniment uses a simple chord progression of G, C, E, and A.

Now try writing your own words to the song.  
I've left the letters G C E and A in to help you.

Musical score for writing lyrics. It starts with the number 10 in the top left corner. The score is a single line of music in 4/4 time, consisting of six quarter notes. The notes are G, C, E, A, A, and A. The letters G, C, E, and A are written below the notes to help with writing lyrics.

# Beginner Lesson • Reading Tablature

REV: January 2016



Sometimes ukulele songs (and those of other stringed instruments) are shown in tablature. In ukulele tablature, the four lines each represent one of the ukulele's strings; I've included the string names to the left of the line to show you. Note that the "bottom" line, is the "G" string.

- For many folks, tablature at first seems a bit "backwards" in where you'd guess the notes to be. It sometimes helps to think of holding up your ukulele to the tablature and you can "see" where the strings/notes are in relation to the lines.

The numbers on the line tell you which fret you need to press that string down. If there's a "0" it means you should pluck it as an open string (no fingers on any of the frets).

If you don't know how to read standard musical notation but you do learn to read tablature, you can quickly "teach" yourself to read simple musical notation by comparing the fingers you're using in the tablature to the note depicted directly above it in the standard notation. Then all you have to do is memorize the "letter name" of the fingers you're playing and you'll also learn to read the treble clef (no bass clef for ukulele--our instruments don't go that low).

Knowing how to read tablature allows you to venture into melody, not simply chords. You can also learn to play "chord-melody" style which blends playing melody with strumming chords; it's pretty impressive and not as difficult as it sounds.

- When you see an "X" on one (or more) of the lines, or when you see nothing at all on it, that means not to play that string at all. This is very different than having a "0" on a string—which means that you play that string but you play it "open" (with no finger on the string).

	F		B $\flat$		F
1	A		3 3		5 5 3
2	E	1 1			
3	C				
4	G				

← Compare the two "views" →

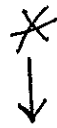
**Try it for yourself; pluck each note shown once. Do you recognize the song?**

1	A		3 3		5 5 3		1 1 0 0		3 3 1
2	E	1 1							
3	C								
4	G								

Here's how to "translate" it:

- Measure 1:** For the first two notes, hold down the second string (E string) at the first fret. For the second two notes, hold down the first string (A string) at the third fret.
- Measure 2:** For the first two notes, hold down the first string (A string) at the fifth fret. The third and final note in the measure is on the first string, third fret.
- Measure 3:** For this measure, you're playing entirely on the first string (A string). The first two notes are on the first fret; the second two notes are "open" (no fingers) on that string.
- Measure 4:** This measure is played entirely on the second (E) string. The first two notes are on the third fret; the last note is on the first fret.

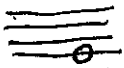
Now let's play a basic melody everyone knows using the notes we've learned on the C, E, and A strings. Observe the quarter notes and half notes, and play with your thumb.



## TWINKLE, TWINKLE LITTLE STAR

Children's Melody

15

\* Also 

Great melodies never stray too far from our hearts. Often they inspire parodies, like the classic "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star," which we also know as "Bah Bah Black Sheep" and "The Alphabet Song."

Little known and often neglected is the great body of work recorded in the 1920s and thirties by old-time country, blues, and jug bands. Their use of the ukulele demonstrates not only its percussive role, but also the full gamut of uke styling—from intricate strums, rolls, and fingerpicking to tremolo and single-string lead work—all, of course, complimented by scat singing, whistling, yodeling, and other vocal embellishments of the period. Some of these important bands were the Hillbillies, Fiddlin' Powers Family, Jimmie Rodgers, Memphis Jug Band, and DaCosta Woltz's Southern Broadcasters.



Arranged by Uke of Carl

# Ode To Joy

Beethoven

1 2 3 4

A E C G

C G C G

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The treble clef staff shows a melody in 4/4 time. The bass clef staff shows a guitar-style accompaniment with fret numbers (0, 1, 3, 3, 1, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 2) and a capo on the 1st fret. Chords C, G, C, and G are indicated above the staff.

5 C C7 F C

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The treble clef staff continues the melody. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers (0, 0, 1, 3, 3, 1, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0). Chords C, C7, F, and C are indicated above the staff.

8 G7 C G C

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The treble clef staff continues the melody. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers (2, 0, 0, 2, 2, 0, 0). Chords G7, C, G, and C are indicated above the staff.

10 G C G E7 Am D G

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The treble clef staff continues the melody. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers (2, 0, 1, 0, 0, 2, 0, 1, 0, 2, 0, 2, 3). Chords G, C, G, E7, Am, D, and G are indicated above the staff.

13 C C7 F C G7 C

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The treble clef staff continues the melody. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers (0, 0, 1, 3, 3, 1, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 0). Chords C, C7, F, C, G7, and C are indicated above the staff.

# Ode To Joy

Arranged by Uke of Carl

Beethoven

The musical score is arranged for two ukuleles (Uke 1 and Uke 2) in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a Uke 1 staff (treble clef) and a Uke 2 staff (bass clef). Chords C and G7 are indicated above the staves. The score includes melodic lines for both instruments and corresponding fretboard diagrams with fingerings.

**System 1:** Uke 1 starts with a C chord and plays a melodic line. Uke 2 plays a bass line. The system ends with a G7 chord.

**System 2:** Uke 1 starts with a C chord and plays a melodic line. Uke 2 plays a bass line. The system ends with a G7 chord.

**System 3:** Uke 1 starts with a C chord and plays a melodic line. Uke 2 plays a bass line. The system ends with a G chord.

2 <sup>15</sup> C C7 F **Ode to Joy** C G7 C

Uke 1

Uke 2

17 G C G C G E7 Am D G

Uke 1

Uke 2

21 C C7 F C G7 C

Uke 1

Uke 2

