30 DAY akalele challenge



HOW TO PRACTICE

- 1. File your nails
- 2. Tune your ukulele
- 3. Review the previous day's lesson
- 4. Look over today's lesson notes
- 5. Watch today's video
- 6. Practice the content
- 7. Watch the video again to review
- 8. Play your favorite song or chords on ukulele
- 9. Clean your ukulele with the microfiber cleaning cloth
- 10. Tune ukulele before putting it away
- 11. Put your ukulele away in a safe place

UKE ZONE



Create a fun setting for you to look forward to your practice. This can be your zen zone:)

BUILDAHABIT

- Decide that you will practice every day even if you don't "feel" like it.
- Set an alarm one hour before you practice to remind you that your practice time is coming up.
- Set an alarm to start your practice.
- Practice at the same time every day.

I will finish this 30 Day Ukulele Challenge by _

(goal date)



Pre-requisite video 1 UKULELE BODY PARTS

Before you get started on the 30 day ukulele challenge, there is some information you need to know! I will be referring to different parts of the ukulele by name.

You can find the body parts video on the main YouTube channel



Pre-requisite video 2 HOW TO TUNE YOUR UKULELE

Tuning the ukulele will be a part of our daily routine, so you will need to know how to tune your ukulele before we start the challenge. I have created a video to help you learn how to tune your instrument using a clip-on tuner



DOWNLOAD A QR CODE READER ON YOUR SMARTPHONE OR TABLET!

When you scan this QR code, your phone will take you to the YouTube playlist!



VIDEO 1 Setting up

Checklist

- Ukulele
- Pencil
- Designated area for practice
- Tuner or tuning application
- ☐ Notebook or binder
- Book stand or music stand
- Nail clippers/nail file

Optional

Track your progress with video on instagram. Type #30dayUKEchallenge in the video's caption so that you can connect with other people participating in the challenge.



Follow your teacher @plazi



To do ist (There is a video to guide you through this)

- Subscribe to the Bernadette Teaches Music channel
- ☐ Turn on the notifications on the channel
- Get the necessary materials from the checklist above
- Set up your practice/playing space
- Print this e-book
- Set up an alarm to remind you to practice daily
- Decide that you will commit to this challenge
- Trim your fingerboard hand's nails
- Tell the people you live with that you will be doing this challenge

VIDEO 2 How to hold the ukulele

Most beginners hold the ukulele incorrectly because they want to see the fretboard and they want to see what their hands are doing. This is completely natural! Over time, however, this can lead to poor form and pain in the arms and wrists.

In this video we will work on developing proper form while holding the ukulele!



HOW TO HOLD THE UKULELE

- 1. Back to belly
- 2. Sound hole facing audience
- 3. Seat belt arm
- 4. Fingertips to waist
- 5. Thumbs up!
- 6. Curved fingerboard hand
- 7. Fingertips squeezing strings
- 8. Thumb falls down strings

Keep the ukulele's sound hole facing away from you.

HOMEWORK

Try not to look down at the ukulele when you hold it.
Look straight ahead and have the sound hole facing out.



Tag me on instagram to let me know you're taking on the challenge! I want to follow your journey!

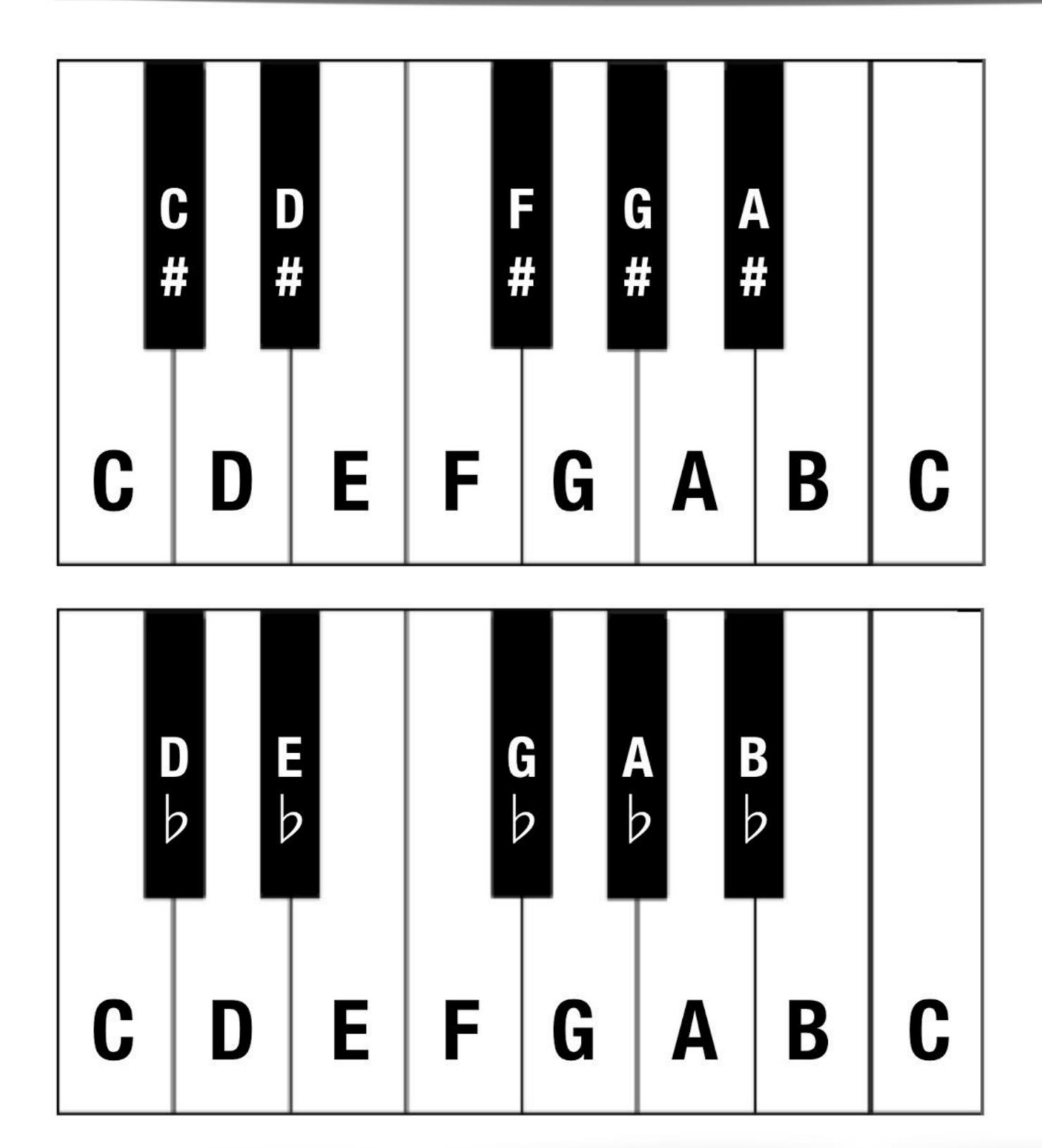
VIDEO 3 Chromatic scale

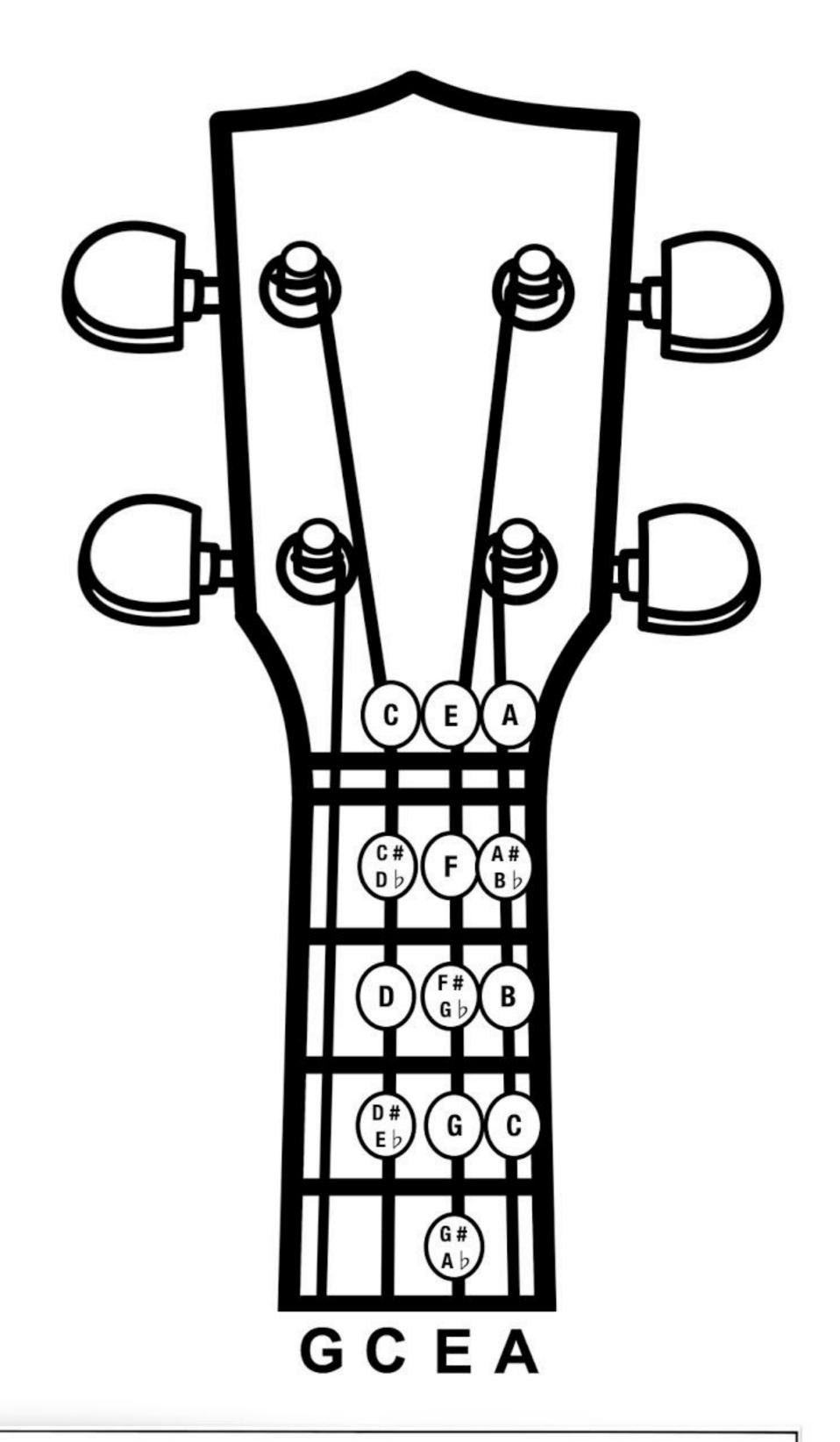
Today we will learn the names of the notes in our fingerboard.

When we go up the scale, we will use sharps

When we go down the scale, we will use flats





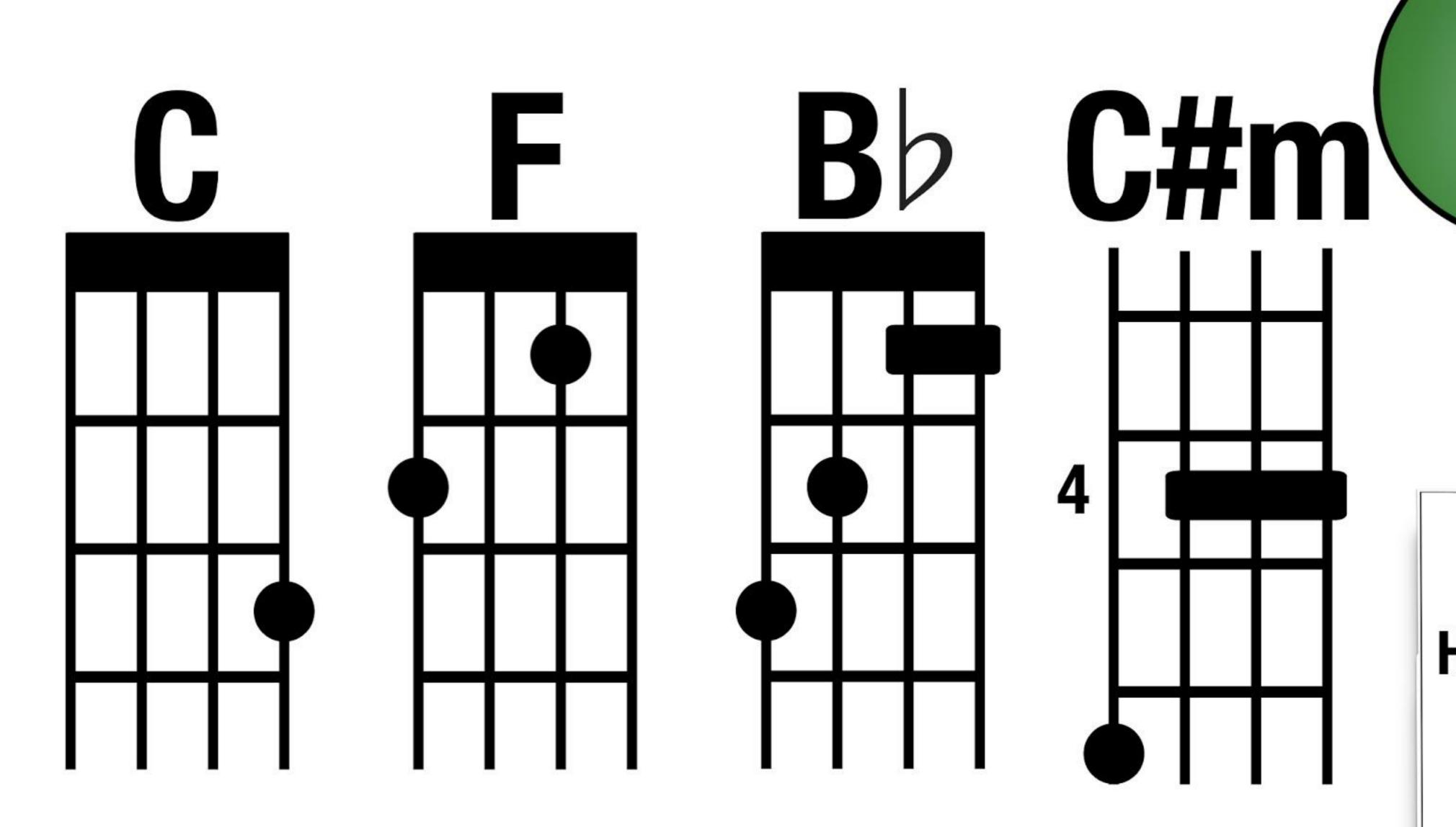


HOMEWORK

Play the chromatic scale going up and going down. After you are comfortable with the scale, keep your gaze forward. Say the note names as you play them.



The easiest way to become an independent player on ukulele is to learn how to read chord charts and tablature notation (more commonly referred to as "tab"). In this video we talk about how to read charts and tab. The most important part of today's practice is the homework!



-0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4

-0-1-2-3-

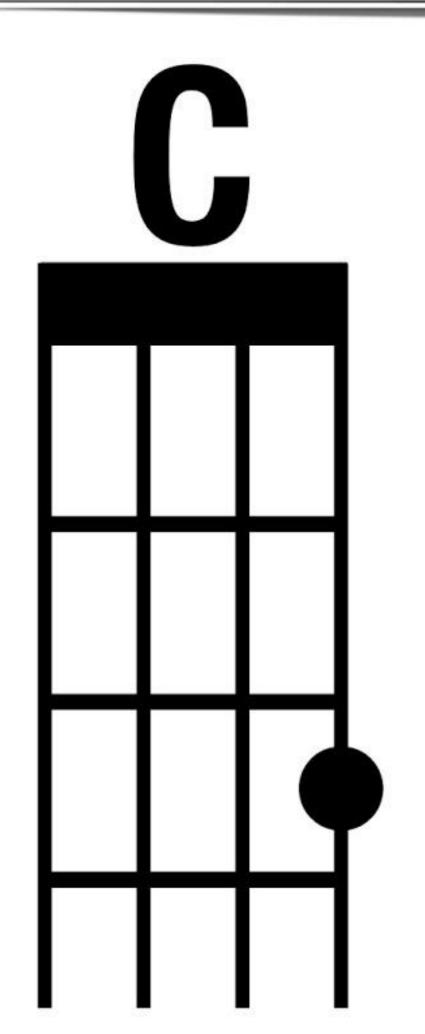
-0-1-2-3

Homework

Read the chromatic scale on the tab here

VIDEO 5 Getting a clean-sounding strum

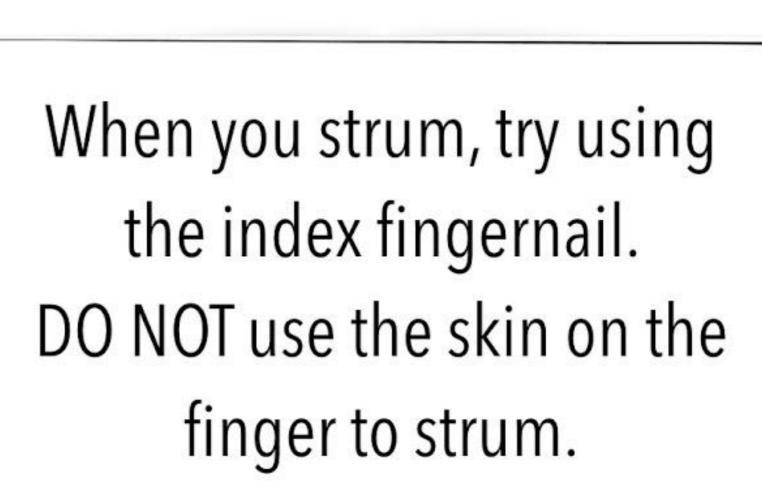
This video will help you get a clean, clear sound when you strum. This video may be too easy for many of the viewers, but I thought we could start with something that would get us all on the same page. If you've been growing your nails out, you will hear a difference in your strum!



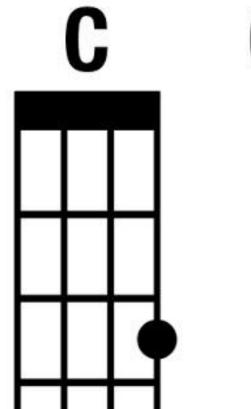
C chord strumming practice //// | ////

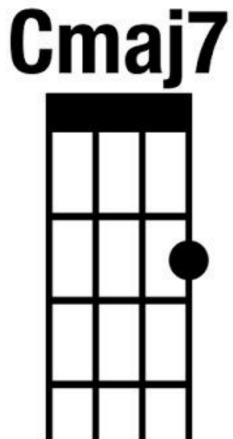
Row, row, row your boat

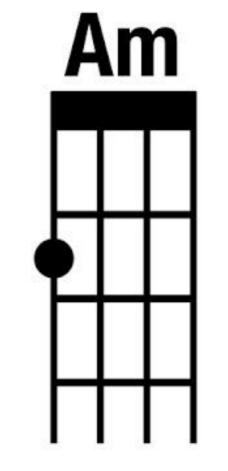
Row, row, row your boat Gently down the stream Merrily, merrily, merrily Life is but a dream



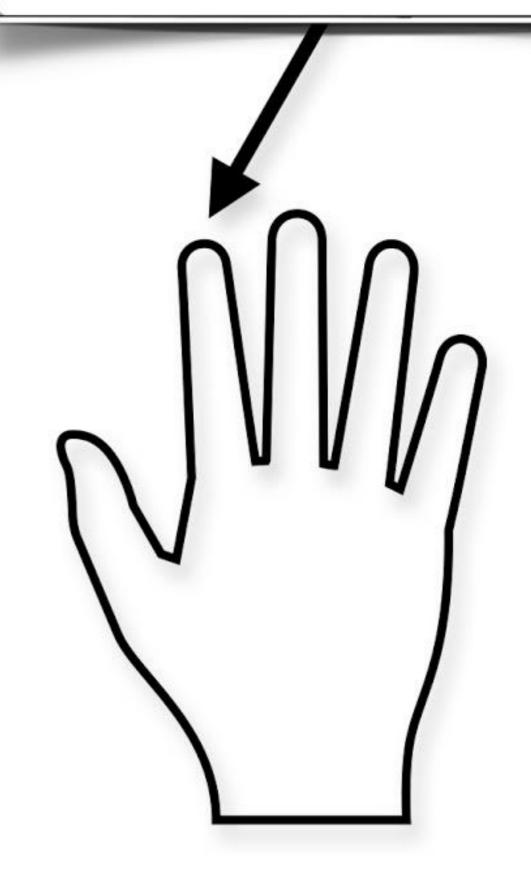
HOMEWORK Memorize the following chords







We will use these chords in a future lesson to learn *Imagine* by John Lennon

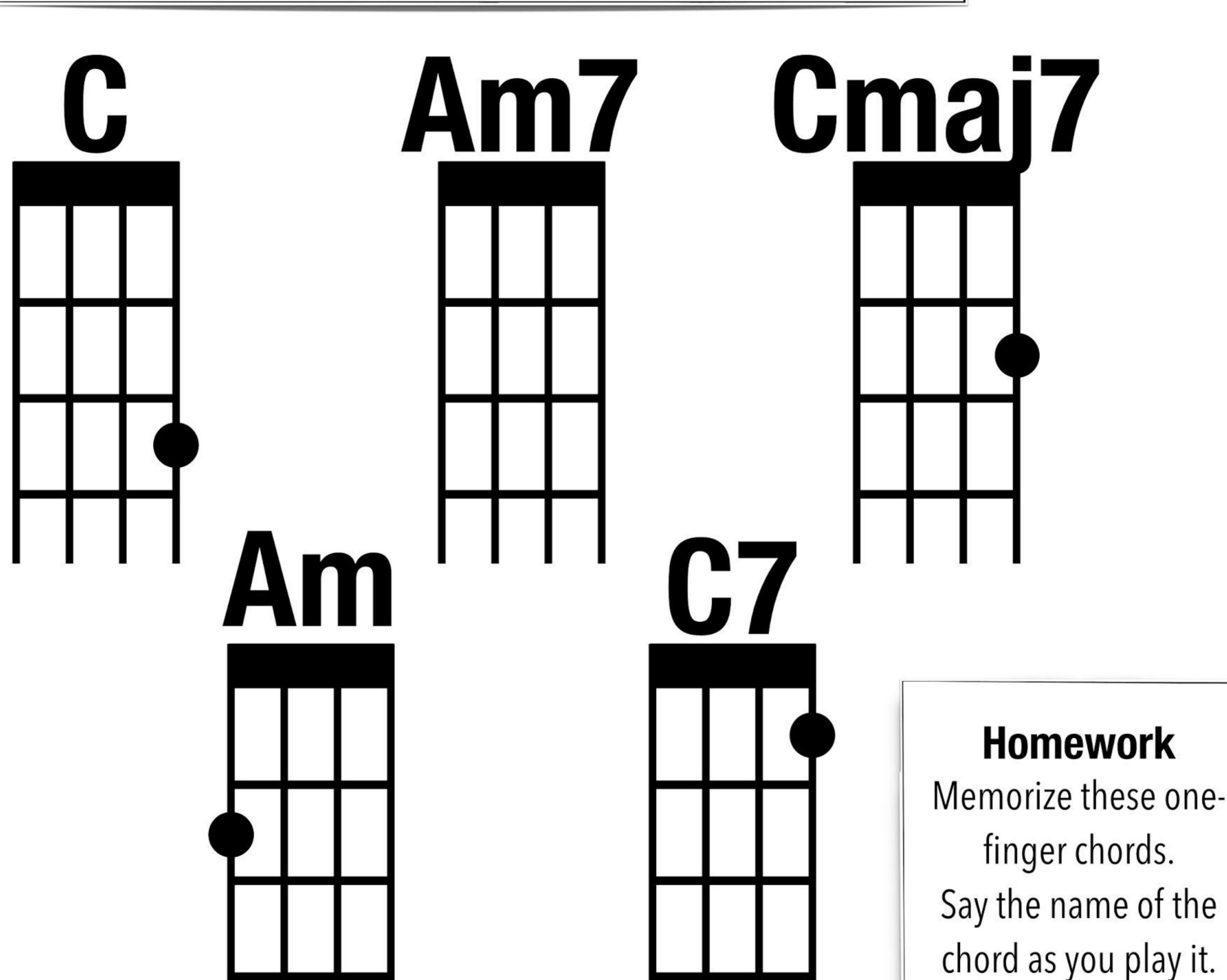


VIDEO 6 One-finger chords

In order to become a better musician and ukulele player, we will begin to build your chord inventory. This means that you will start memorizing ukulele chord names and shapes.

Watch today's video and memorize these chords.



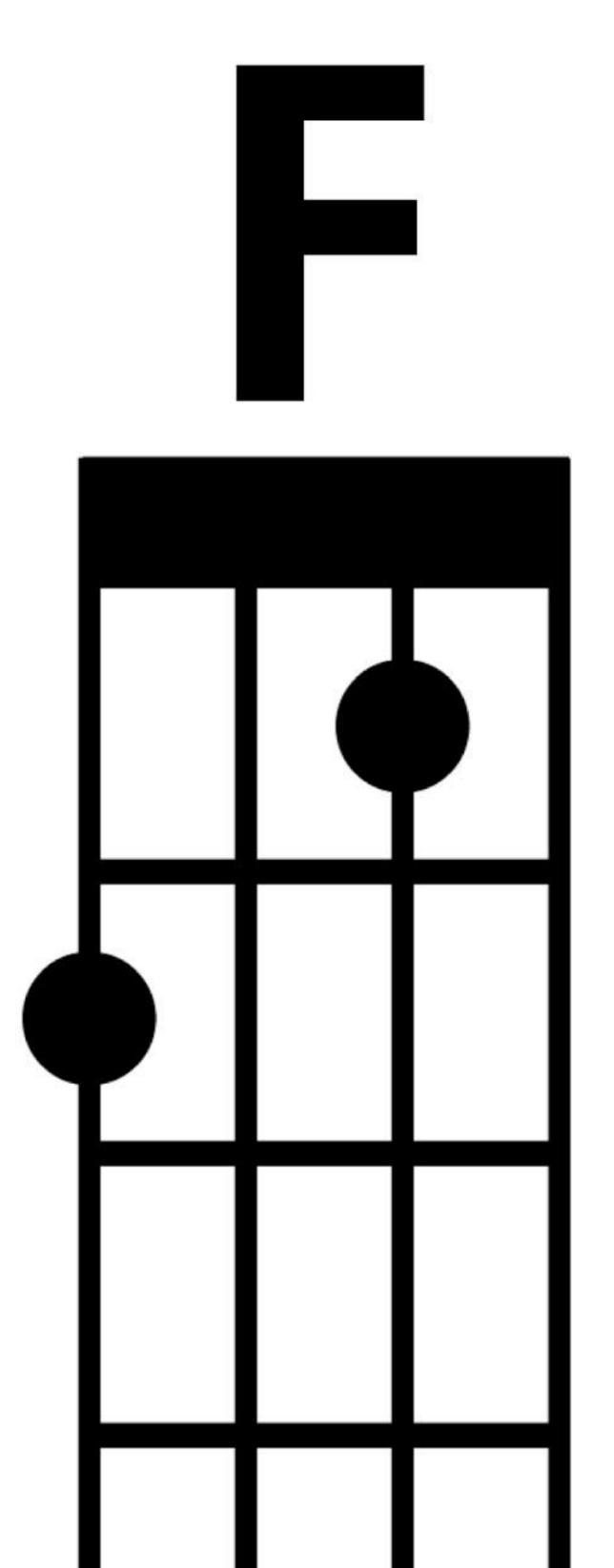


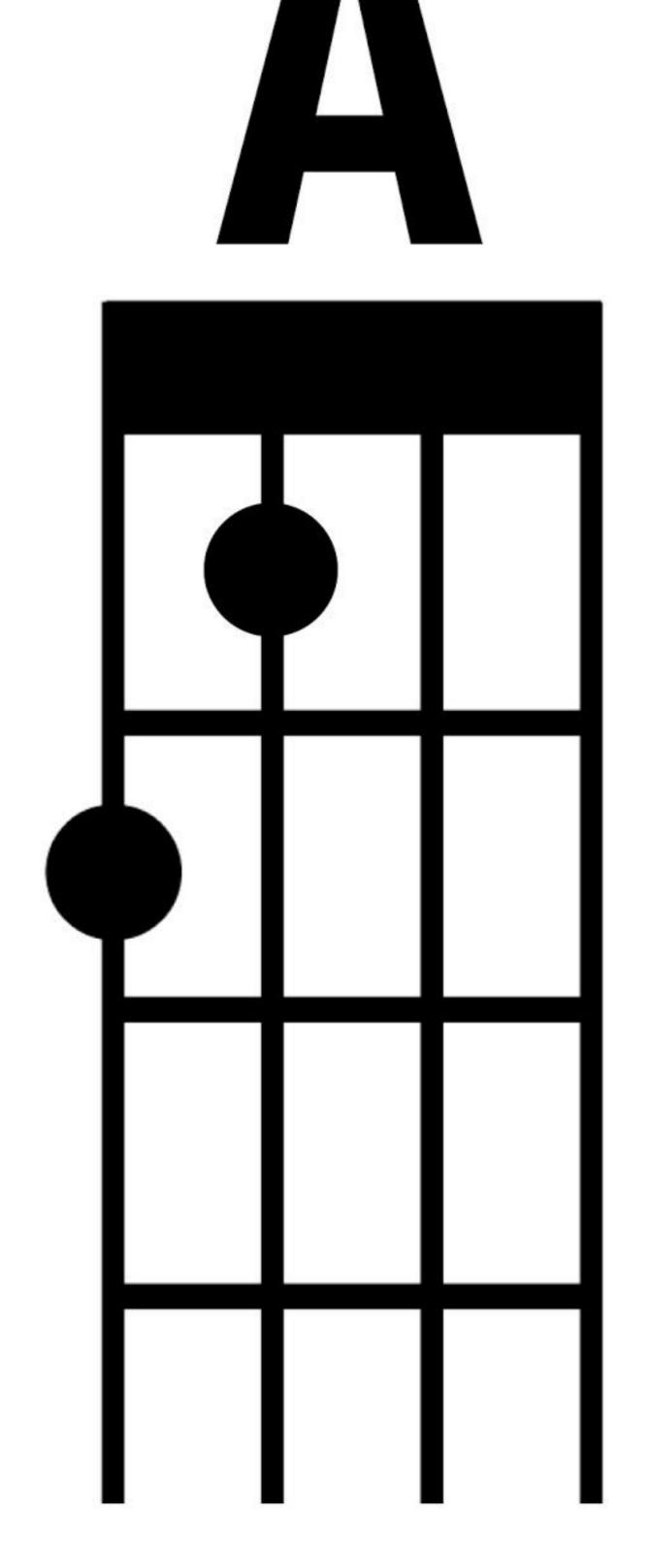
VIDEO 7 Two-finger chords

Today we continue to build your chord inventory by focusing on two-finger chords.

Keep your fingers curved as you play these chords and only touch the string the chord chart tells you to touch.

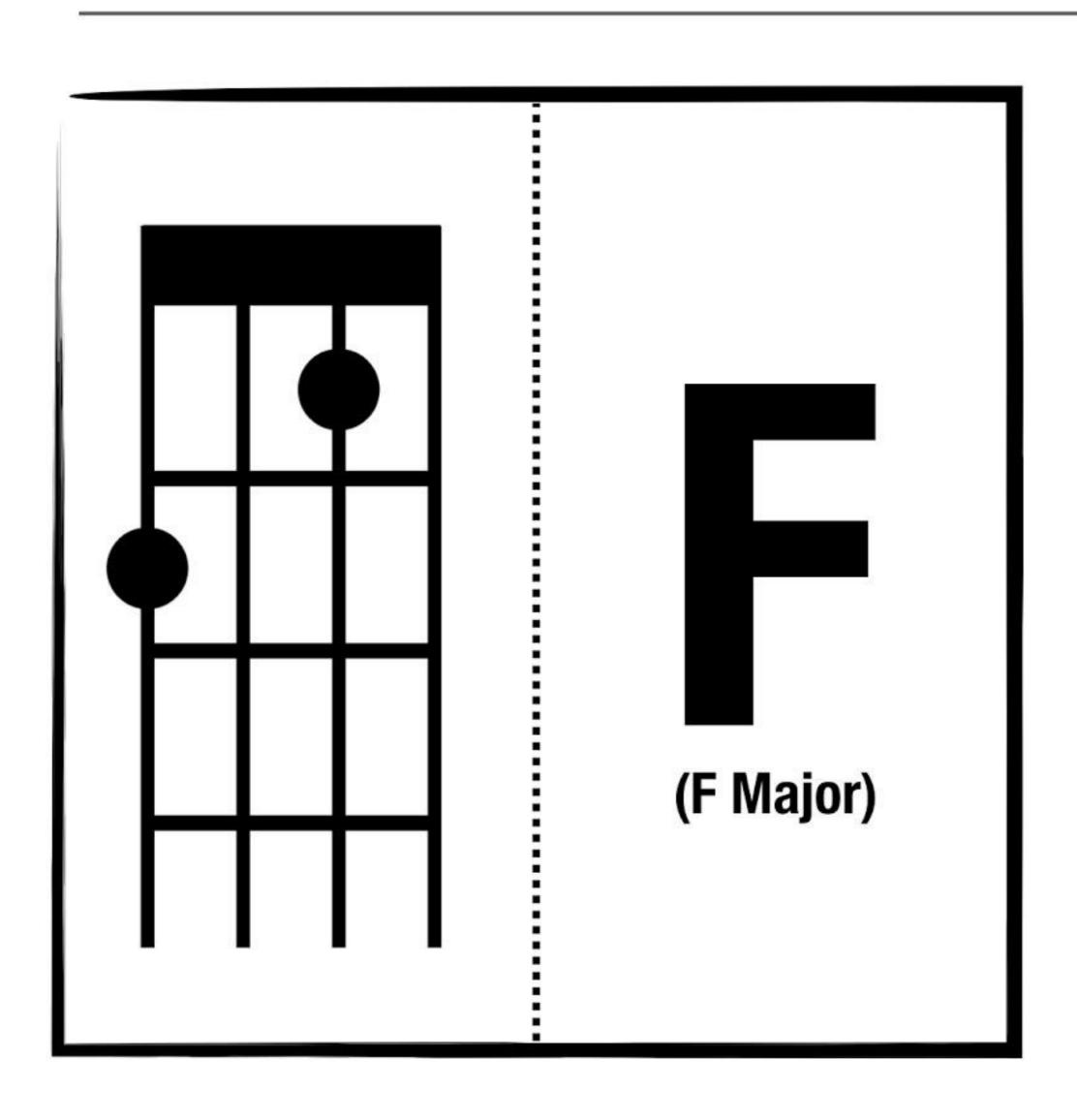


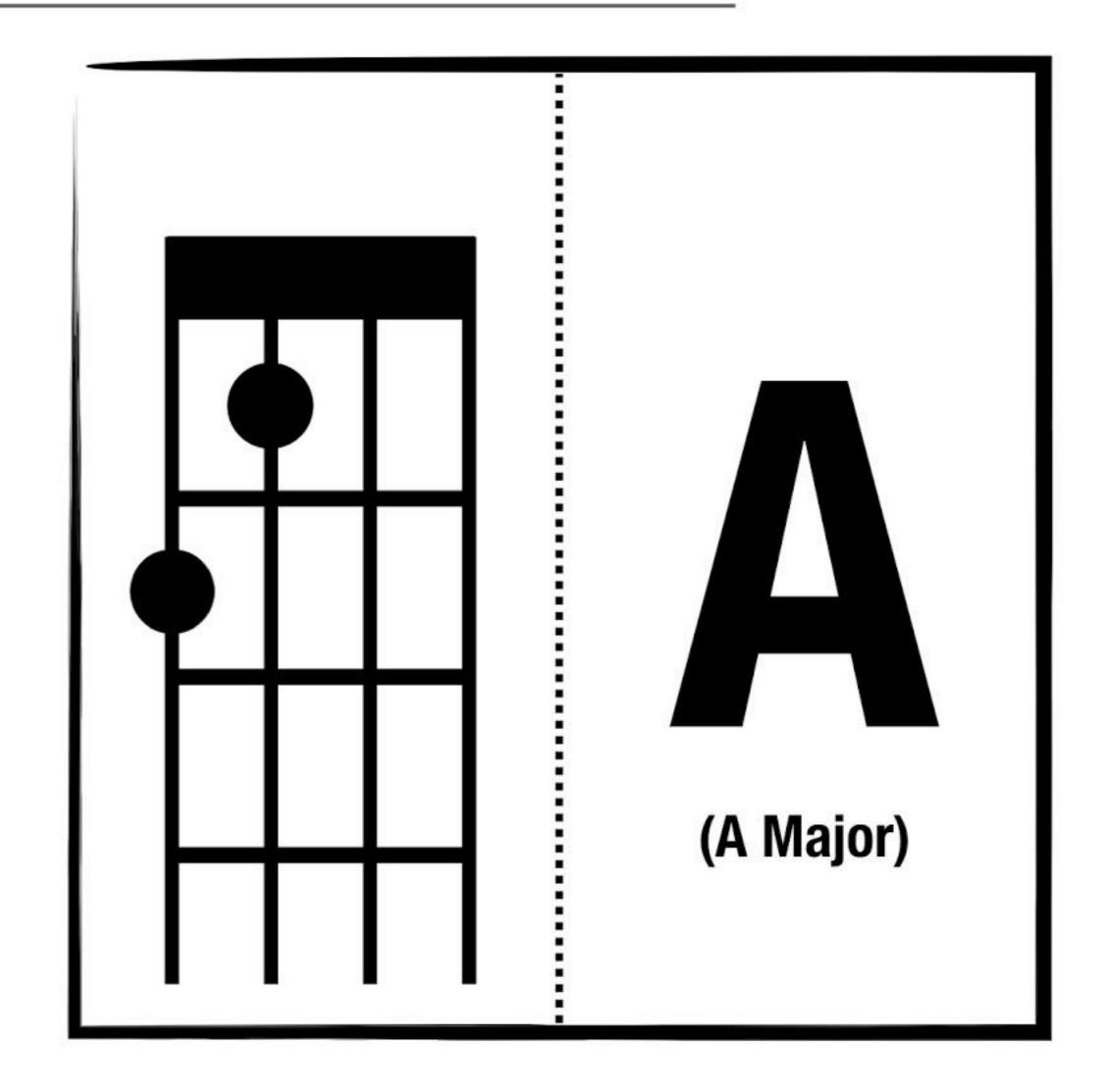


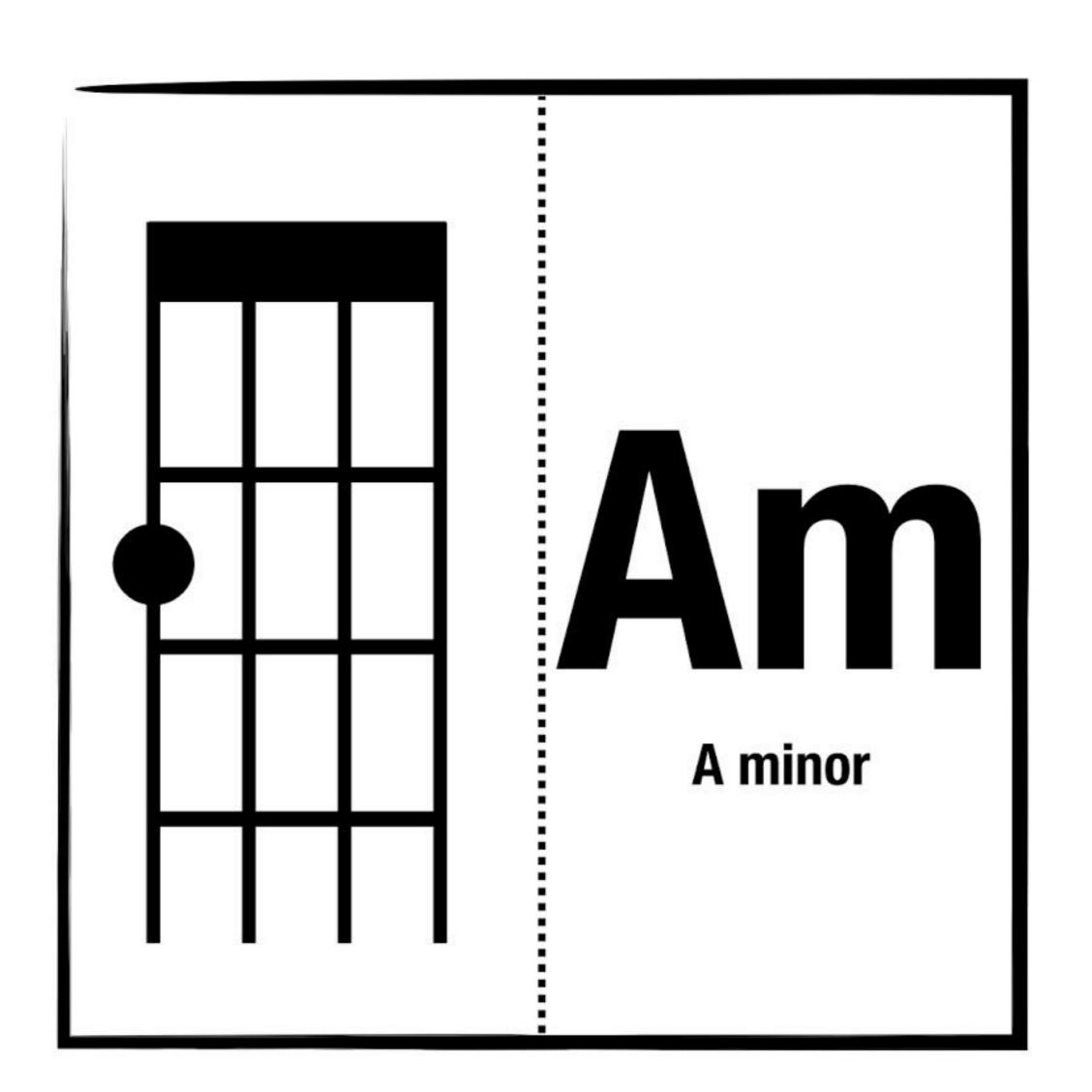


Homework

Use today to memorize these and review the ones we learned in the previous lesson.



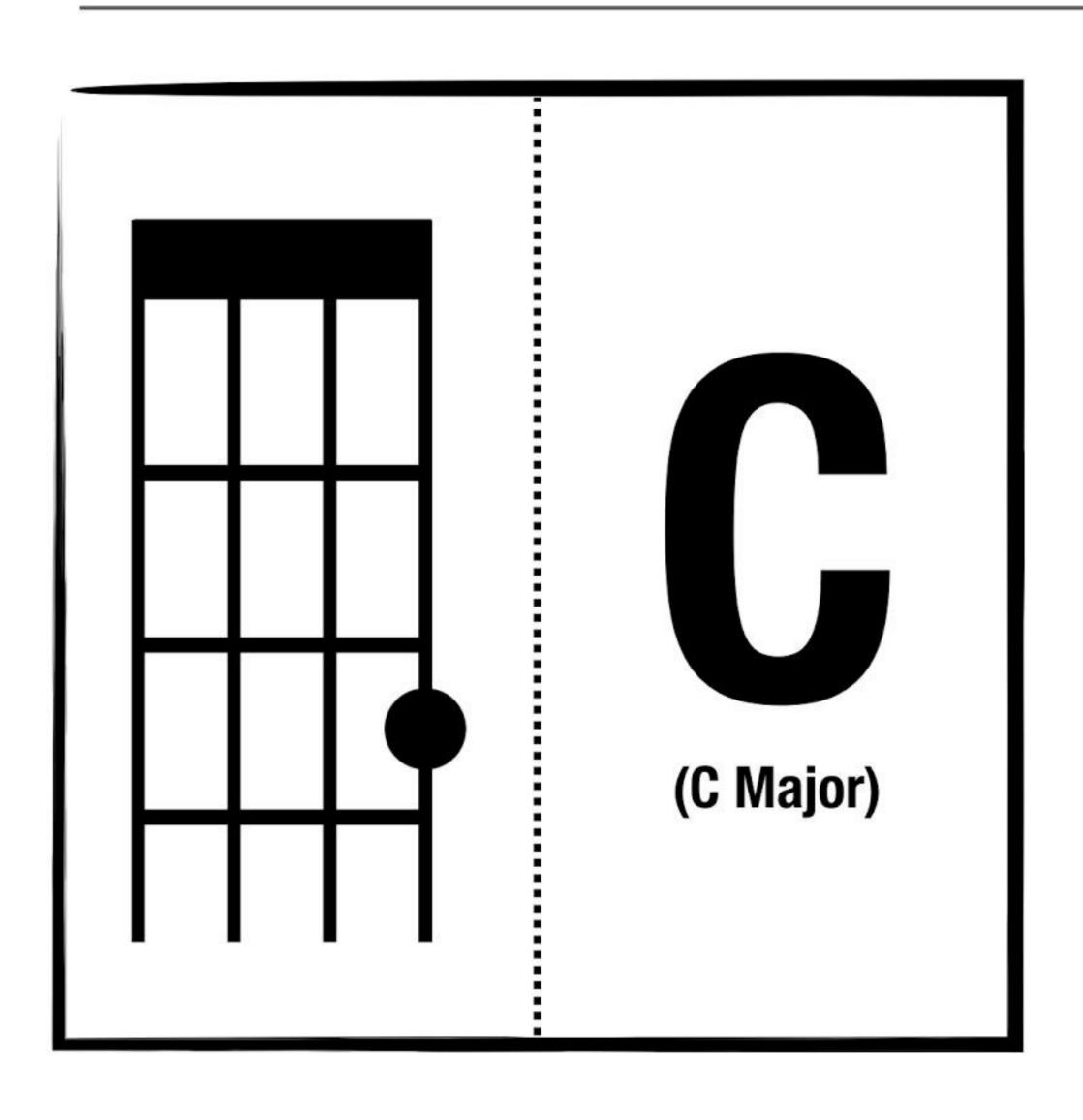


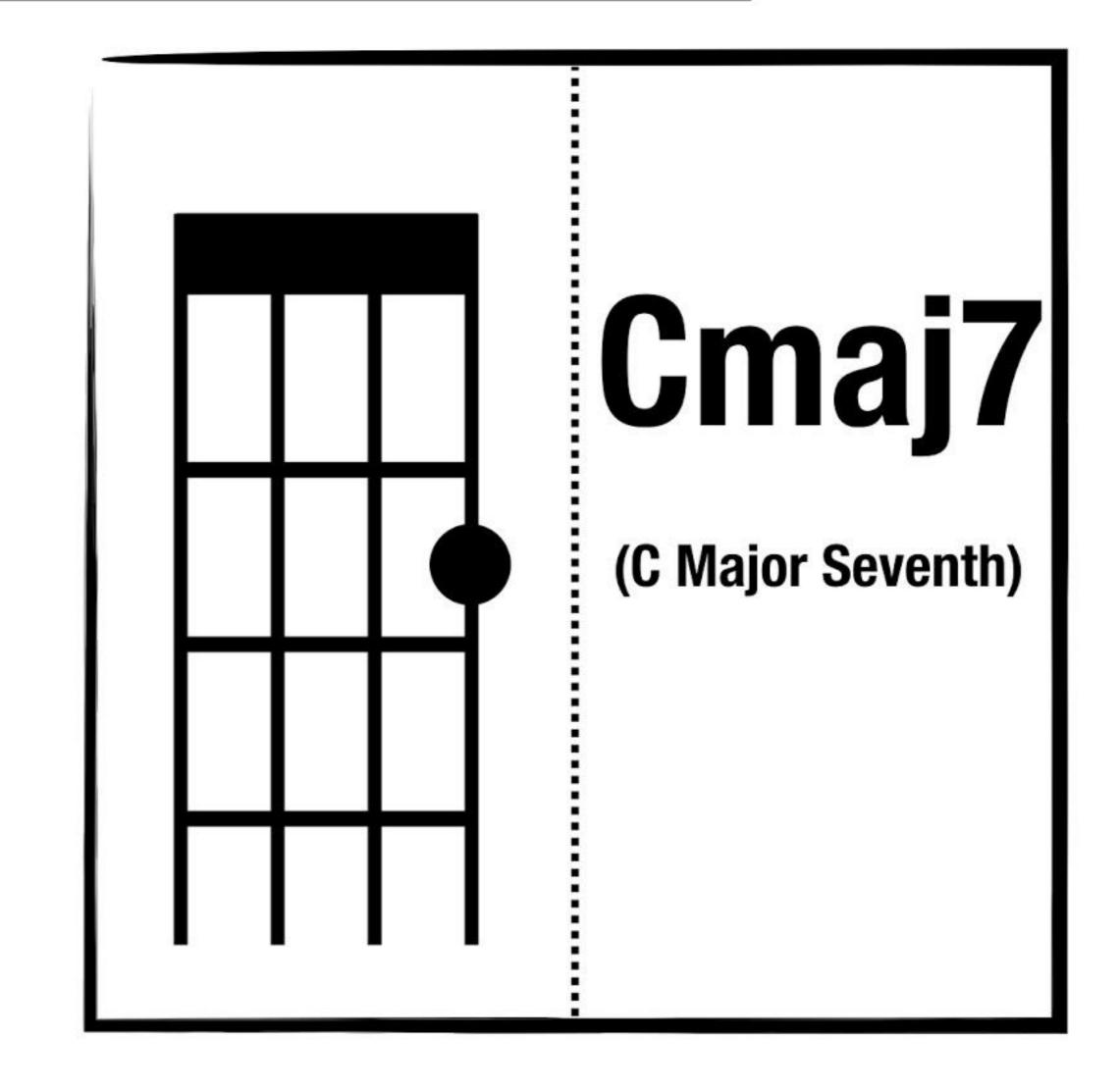


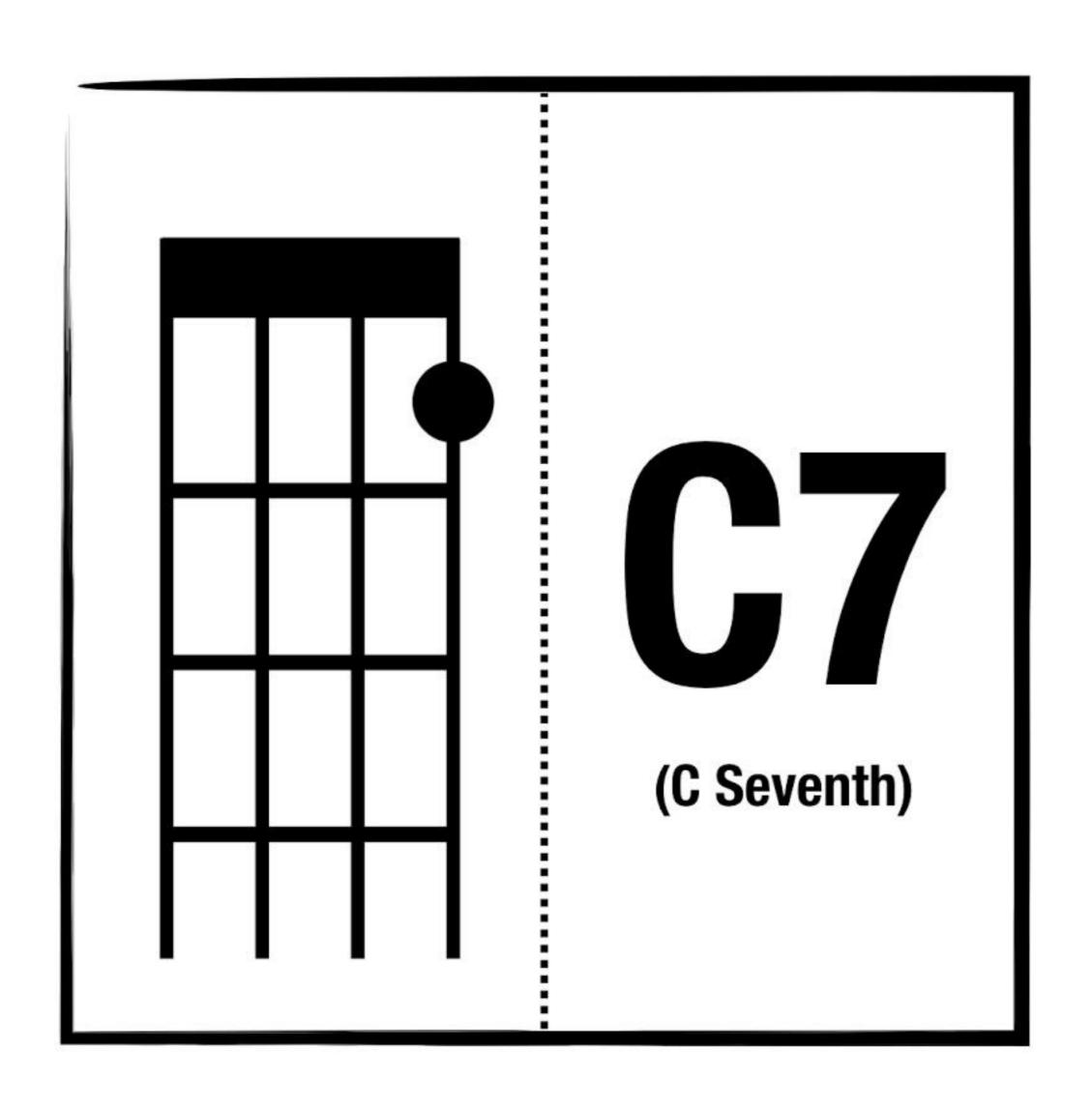
Homework Uke Chord Flash Cards

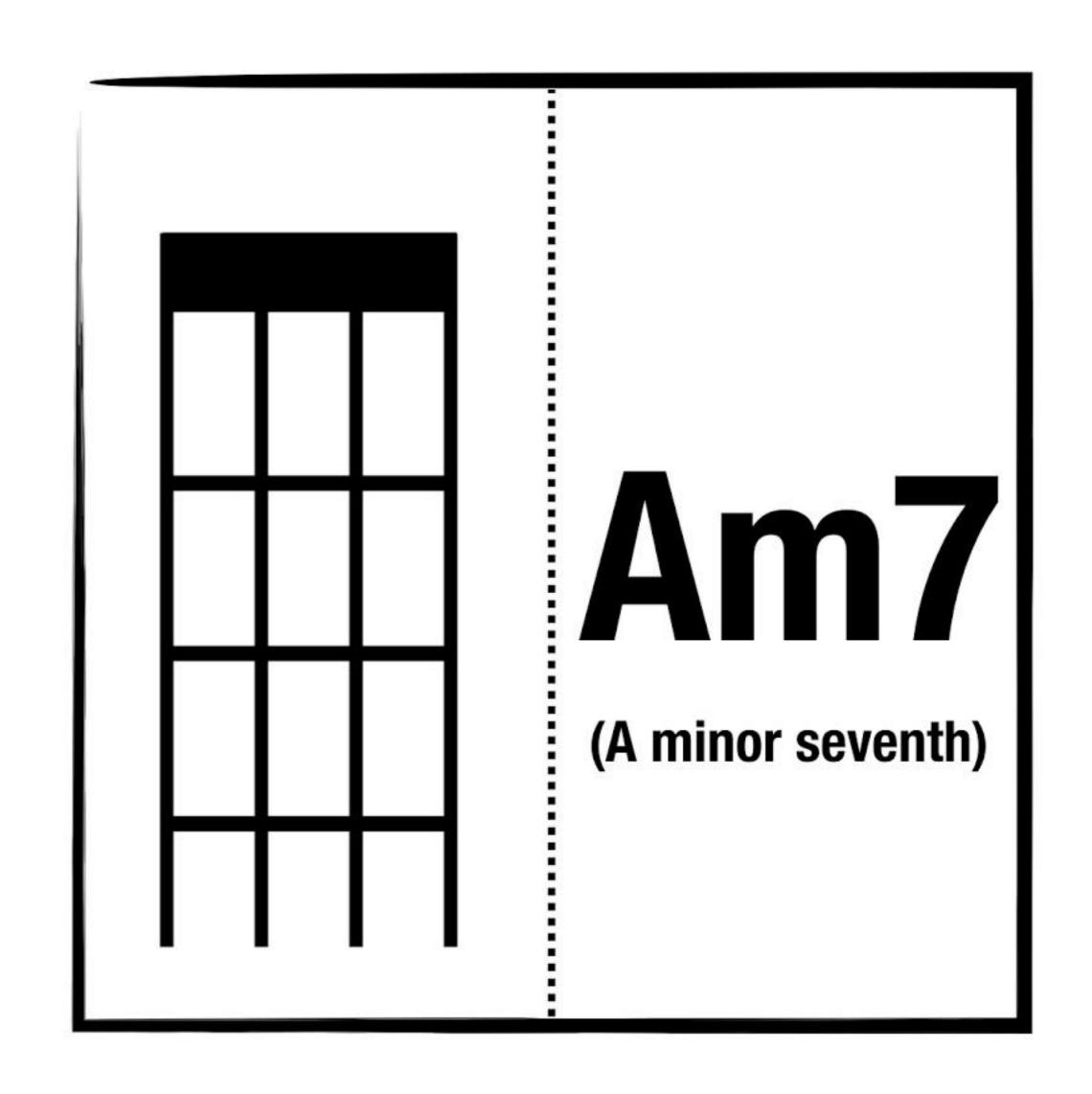
1) Cut out the boxes

- 2) Fold and glue them at the dotted line
 - 3) Test yourself. Look at the chord chart and try to name the chord you're looking at.





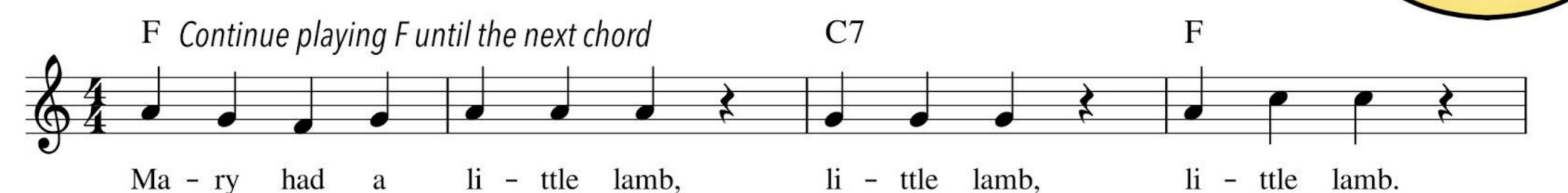


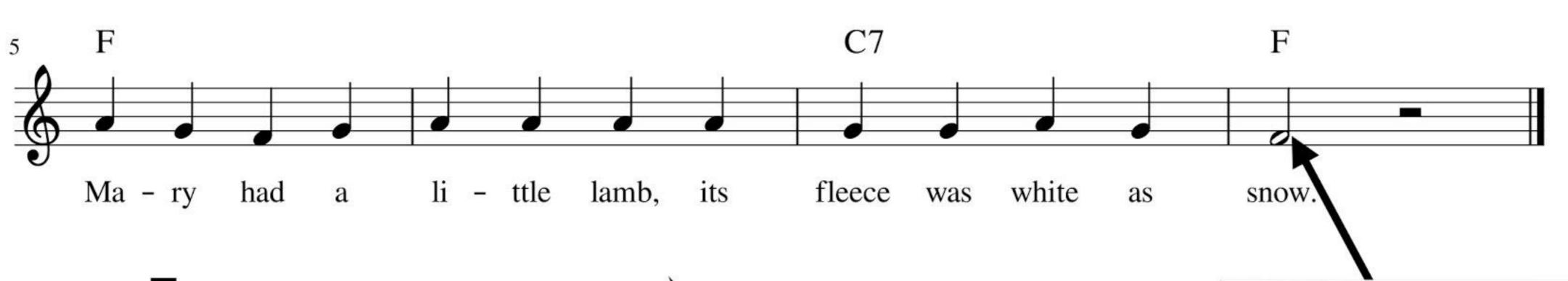


VIDEO 8 Your first song & switching chords

In this video we will learn how to strum & sing Mary Had A Little Lamb. The purpose of this video is to get a clean sound from each chord, master switching, and sing while strumming.

MAKY HAD A LII ILE LAMB





Quarter note

Every time you see one of these, strum downwards for one beat



Quarter rest

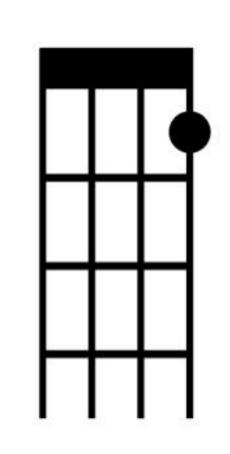
Every time you see one of these, stop playing for one beat.

Half note

Make this note 2 beats long for a pretty ending.

CHORDS USED F# C7



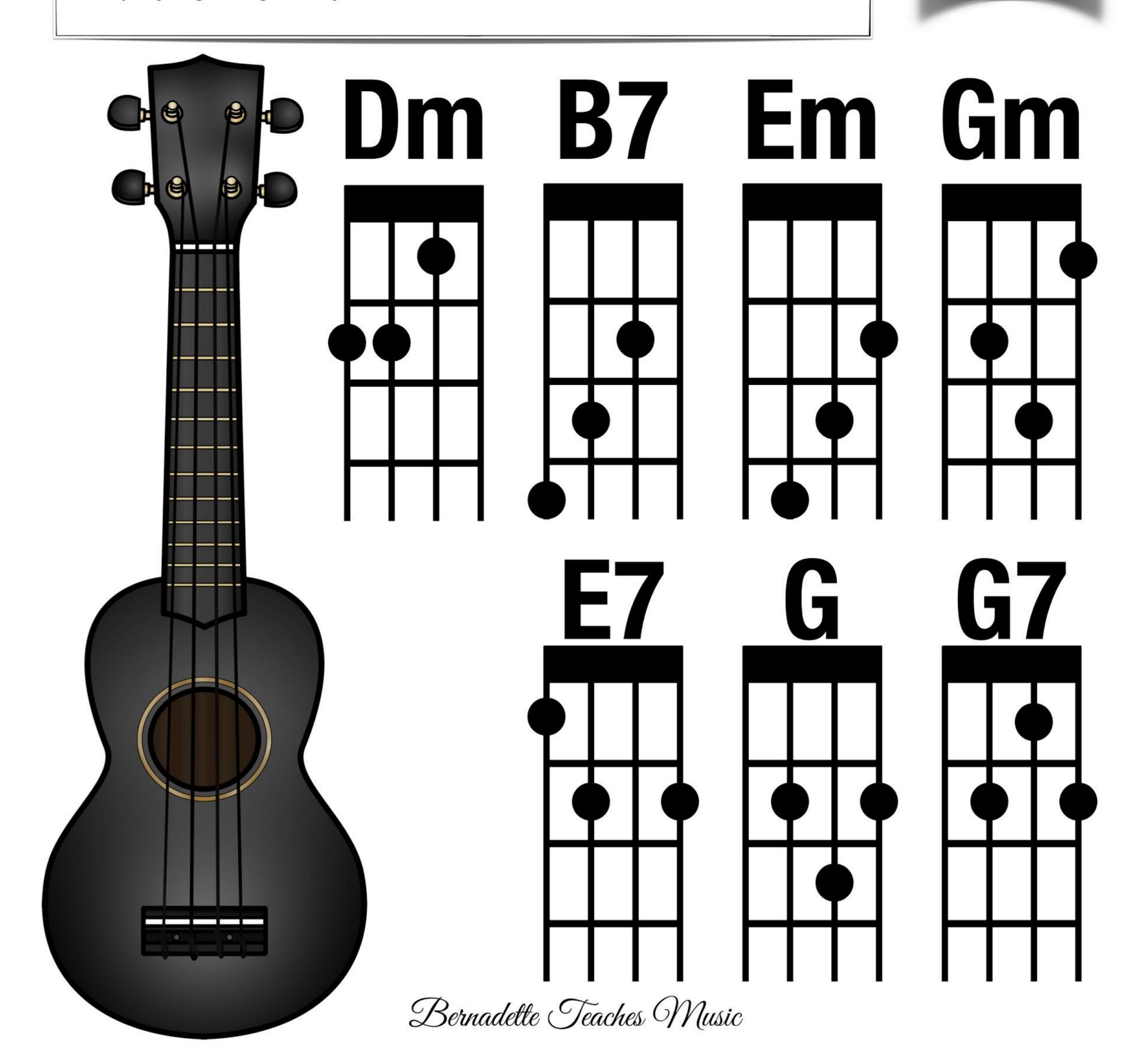


VIDEO 9 Playing three-finger chords

In this video we will play chords that require 3 fingers on the fretboard at the same time. We need this lesson because we will be playing *Imagine* by John Lennon soon.

Homework

Try to play all of these chords on your own and memorize them.



VIDEO 10 You Are My Sunshine

In this video we will play a song that uses three different chords. The lyrics below show the chords that you will be using today. The first chord is C and it will be played on the word "sunshine." Continue strumming C chord until the word "happy," where you switch to F.



C

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine

You make me happy when skies are gray

F

You'll never know dear, how much I love you

G7 C

Please don't take my sunshine away

Homework

Memorize the chords and lyrics to this song.

Try to make your switches as smooth as possible

Let the last note ring for a beautiful ending

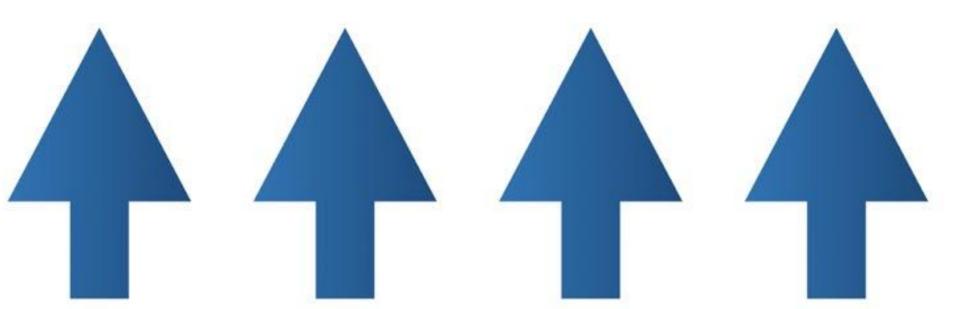
VIDEO 11 Strum with style

Strumming patterns change the sound of a song just like spices change the way a meal tastes. Without adding the spice of a strum, songs can sound bland!

Today we will work on adding some style to your music!



Up strum 4 4



Slap/Up



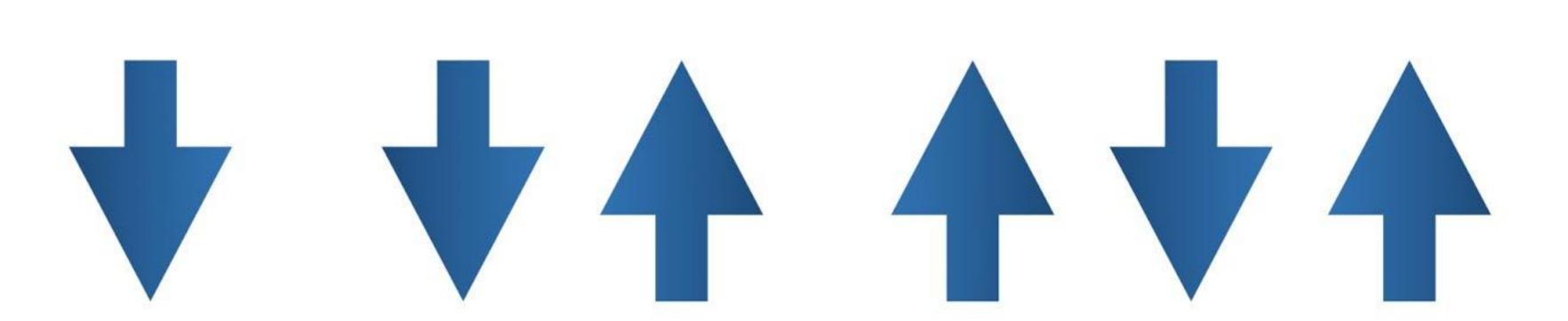
Slap/Down



Homework

Use 2-3 of these strumming patterns on Mary Had A Little Lamb or You Are My
Sunshine

Island Strum

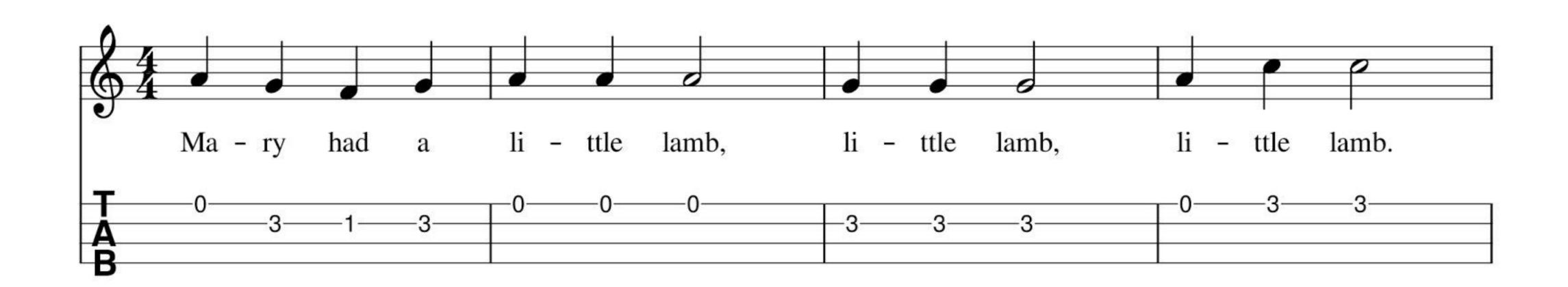


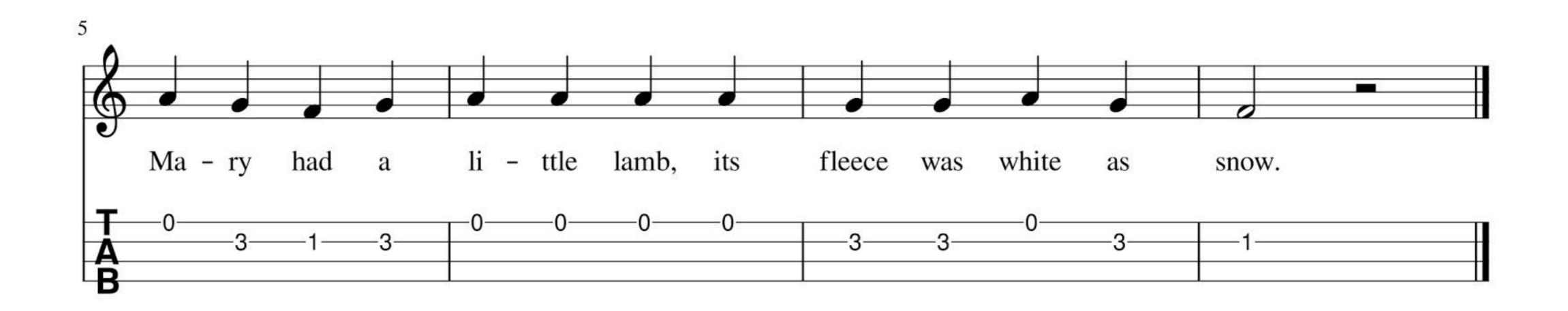
VIDEO 12 Reading tab - Mary Had A Little

Today we will practice reading tab using *Mary Had A Little Lamb*. I chose this song because we only need to read the tab on two strings/lines.

If you studied the chromatic scale (video 3), you can use the note names to guide you and check that you are playing the correct note.







Homework

Make each note in this song produce a clear tone.

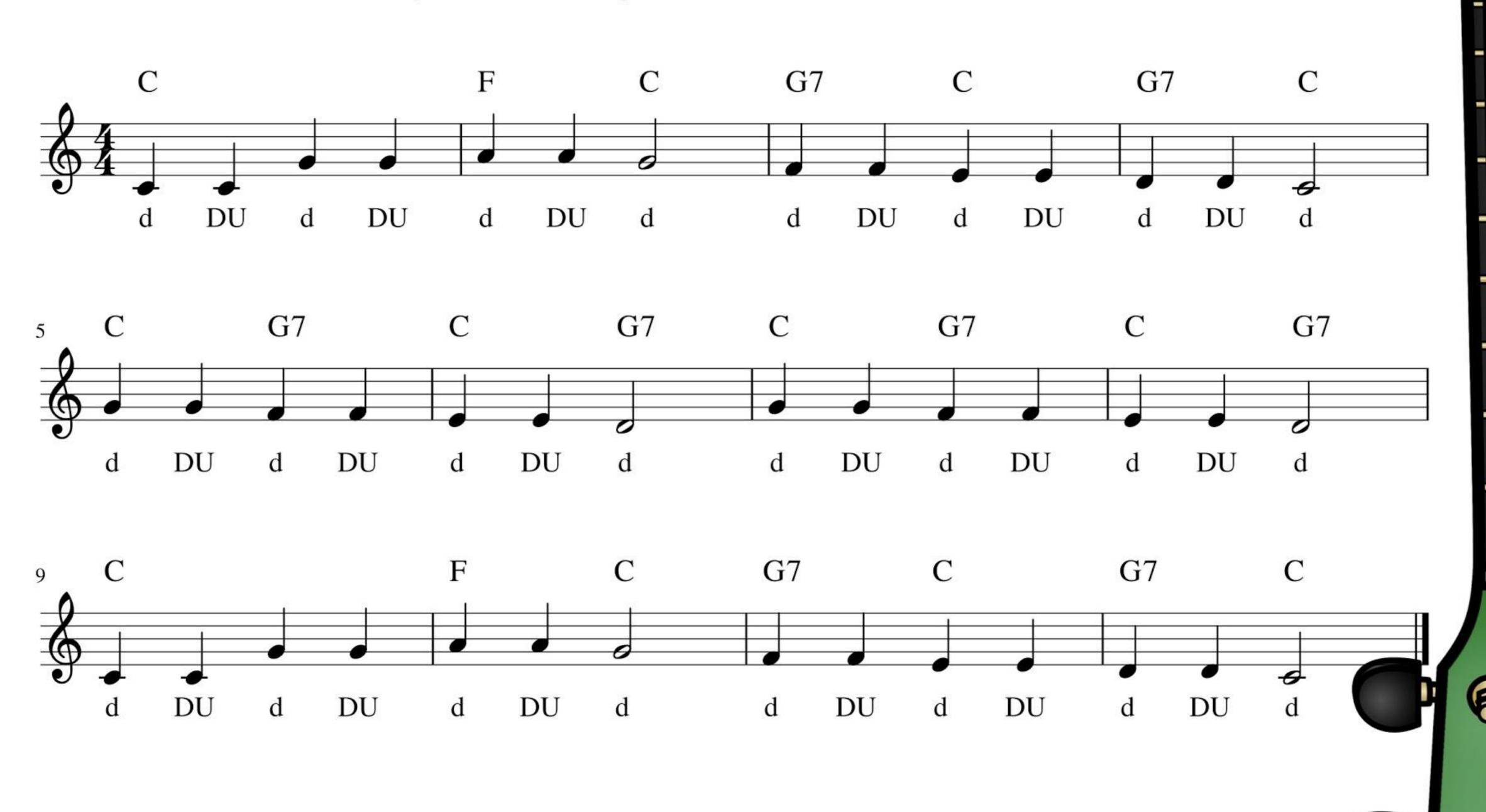
VIDEO 13 Adding a strumming pattern

Today we will learn another three-chord song and we will add a simple strumming pattern to it.

When you play the first down strum, only hit the string closest to your face (it's okay to hit two strings). On the second down strum, make your hand heavier and try to hit most/all of the strings. The upstrum should be normal.

Look under each beat to see how to strum it.

d - small strum D - heavy strum U - upstrum



VIDEO 14 Adding a chuck to your strum.

"Chucking" or "chunking" on the ukulele refers to a type of strum that adds a percussive sound as you play. It makes your ukulele sound a little bit like a snare drum.

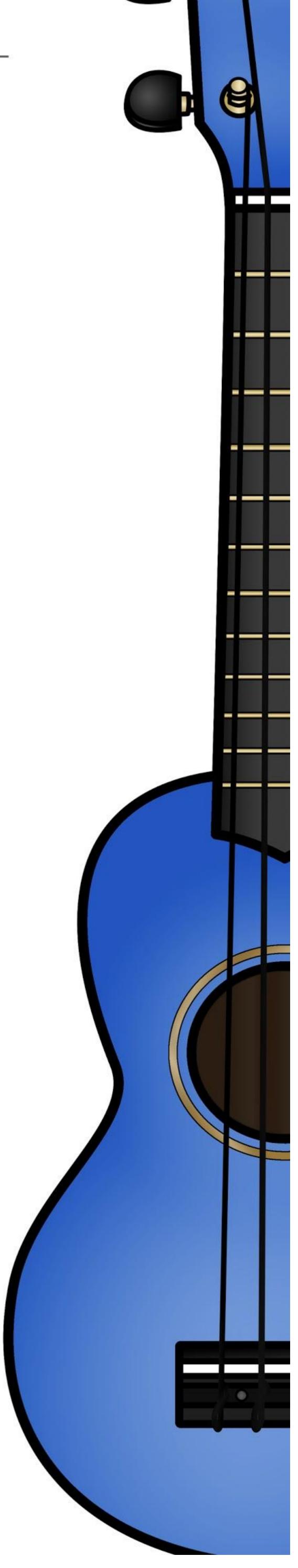
Just to keep things simple in this channel and in this resource we will refer to it as a "chuck." The chuck usually takes weeks to develop, so practice and perfect it daily.

How to chuck

- 1. Strum downwards with your index fingernail
- 2. Rotate the wrist after your strum
- 3. Mute the strings with the chubby part of your hand

Every time you follow these steps, try to do it a little faster. The "chuck" happens when you mute the strings quickly.

Tip: You will achieve the best results if you record yourself chucking and compare your technique to the video tutorial.



VIDEO 15 playing the song Imagine

Now that you have learned how to strum, how to read tab, and how to play chords that require one/two/three fingers, you are ready to start playing pop music!

Imagine has a few challenging chord changes, so spend time teaching your fingers the muscle memory for these.

Practice one section of the song each day.

Intro & Verse

C // Cmaj7 // F ////
C // Cmaj7 // F ////

Bridge

F // Am // Dm // F // G /// C / G7 /

Chorus

F // G // C / Cmaj7 / E7 //
F // G // C / Cmaj7 / E7 //
F // G // C / Cmaj7 / E7 //
F // G // C / //

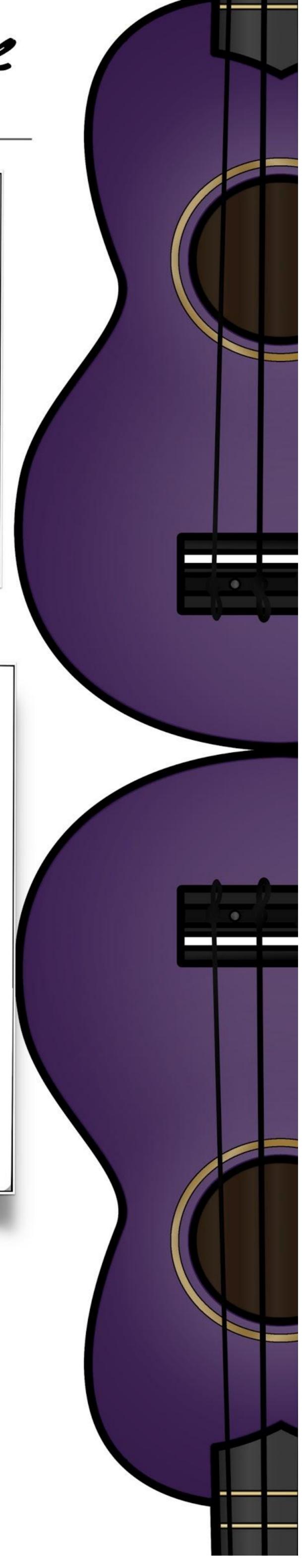
Homework

Master the intro/verse section on Day 1 of practicing.

Master the bridge on Day 2 of your practice.

Master the chorus on Day 3, 4, and 5 of your practice.

Try singing the lyrics on the sixth day of practicing.



Verse

Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky

Bridge

Imagine all the people living for today
Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion too

Chorus

Imagine all the people living life in peace, you
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will be as one

Verse

Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man

Chorus

Imagine all the people sharing all the world, you
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope some day you'll join us
And the world will be as one

Intro & Verse

C // Cmaj7 // F ////
C // Cmaj7 // F ////

Bridge

F // Am // Dm // F // G /// C / G7 /

Chorus

F // G // C / Cmaj7 / E7 // F // G // C / Cmaj7 / E7 // F // G // C / Cmaj7 / E7 // F // G // C ////

Imagine

VIDEO 16 Happy Birthday Tab

Here's a song you'll have to memorize.

Add it to your daily practice/warmup to make sure that your muscle memory kicks in and you remember it.

A tip: the song starts on the lowest-string on your uke:)





The 3 over the 4 is this song's time signature. We will talk more about time signature a little later in this challenge.

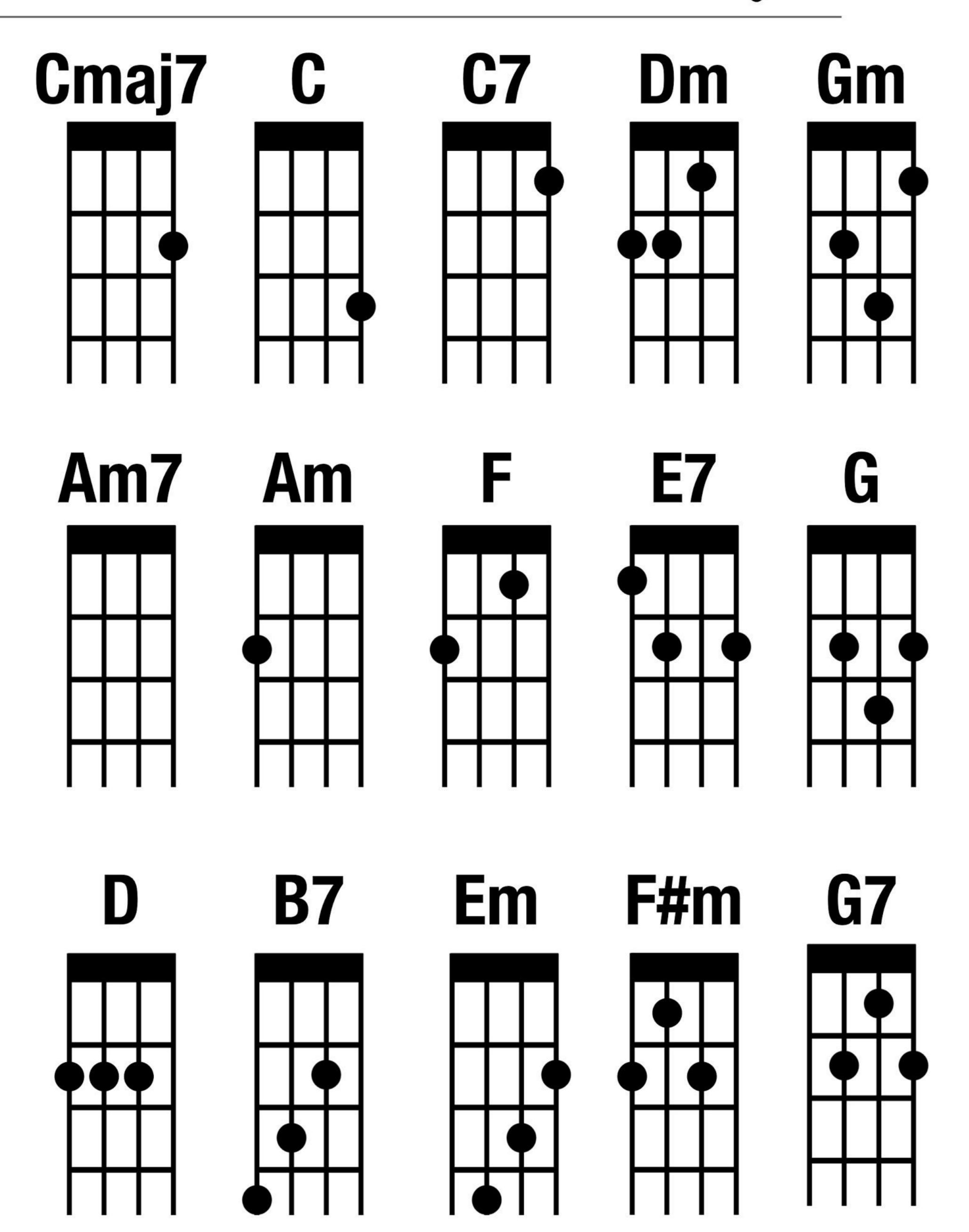
Tip: sing as you play!

This is a fermata.

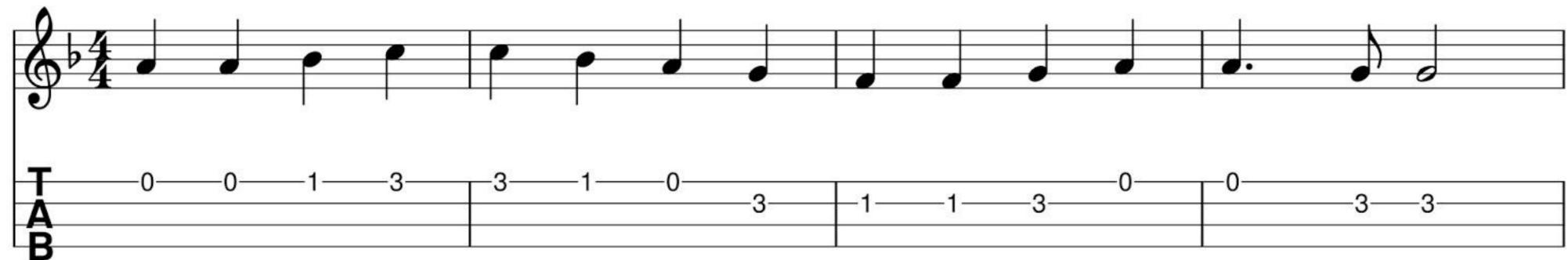
It tells the musician to hold the note before moving on to the next one.

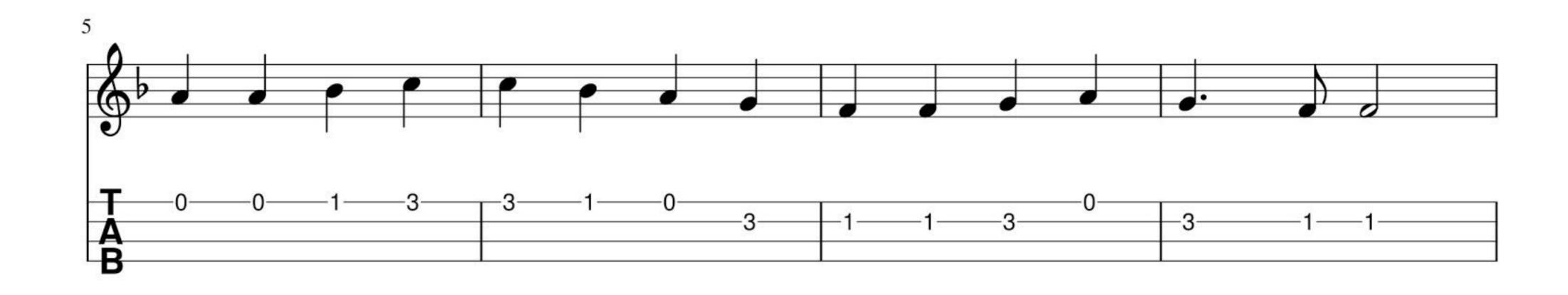
Homework

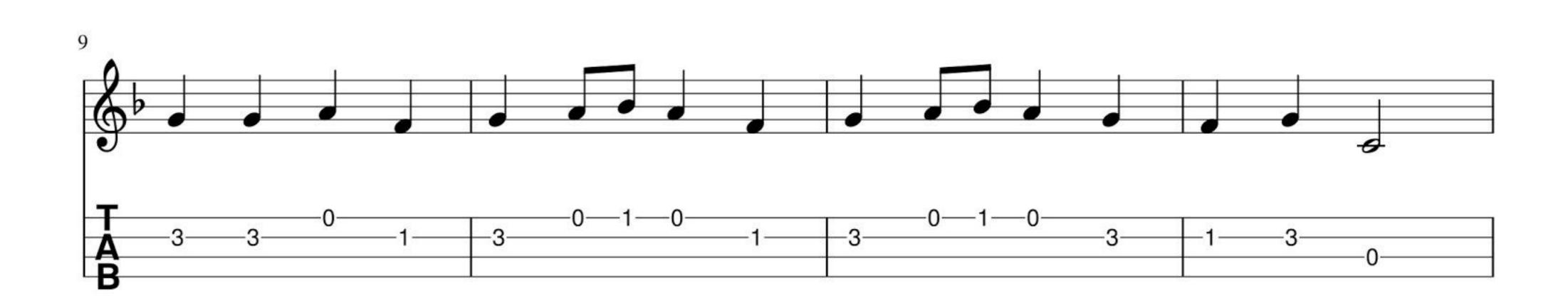
Memorize this song
Play it for your friend/neighbor/pet snake

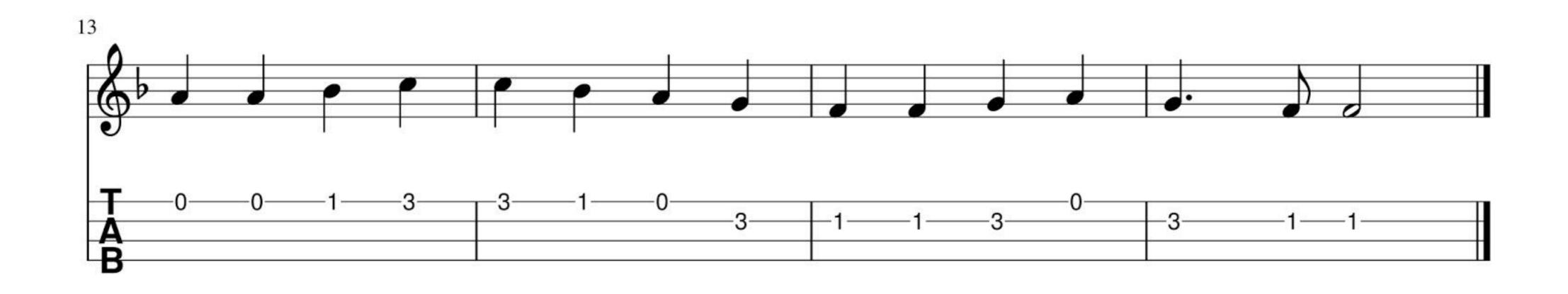


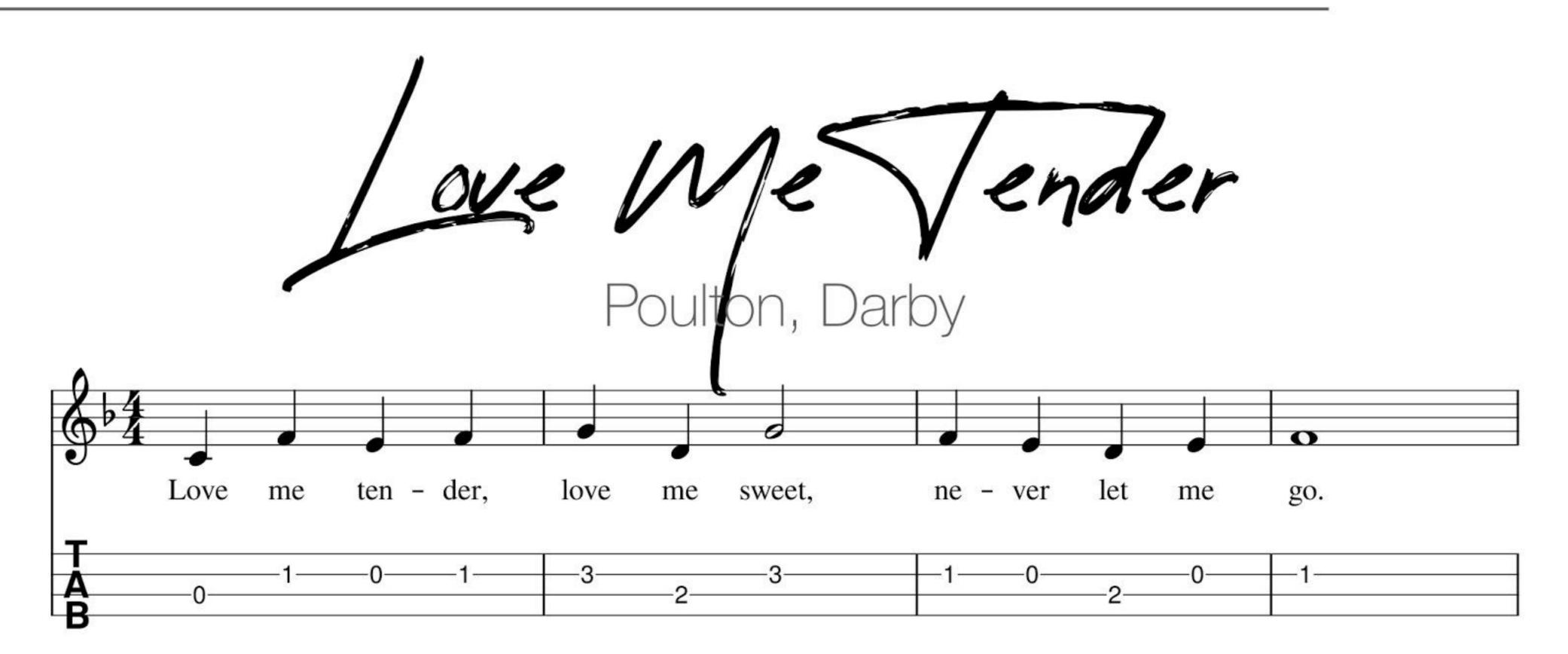


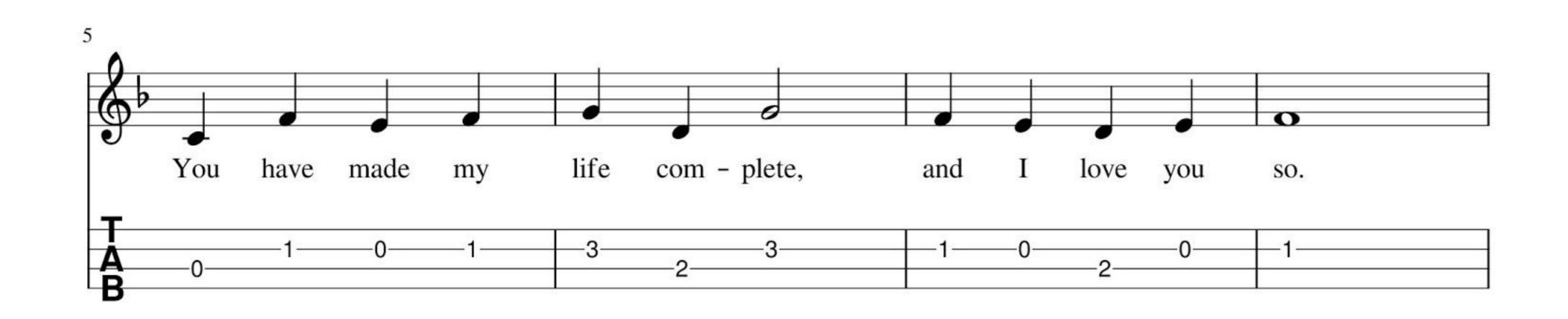


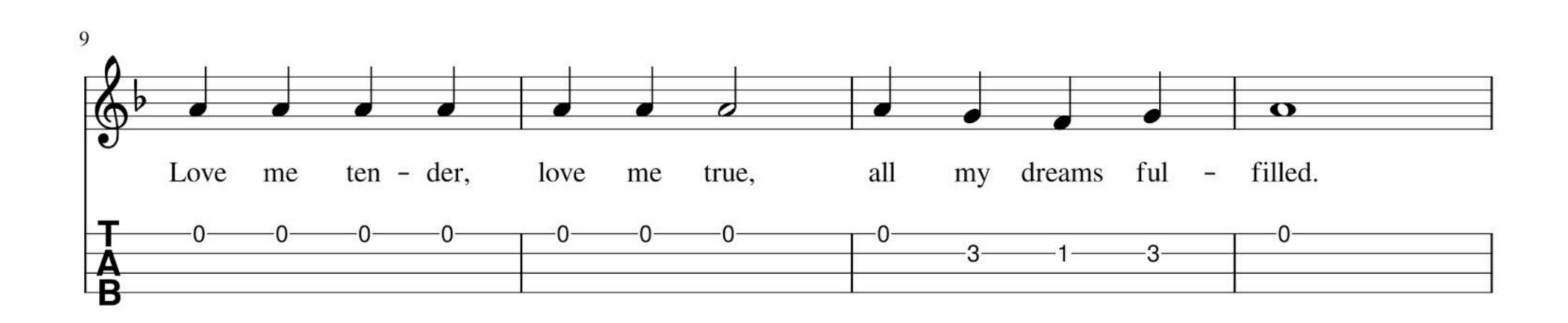


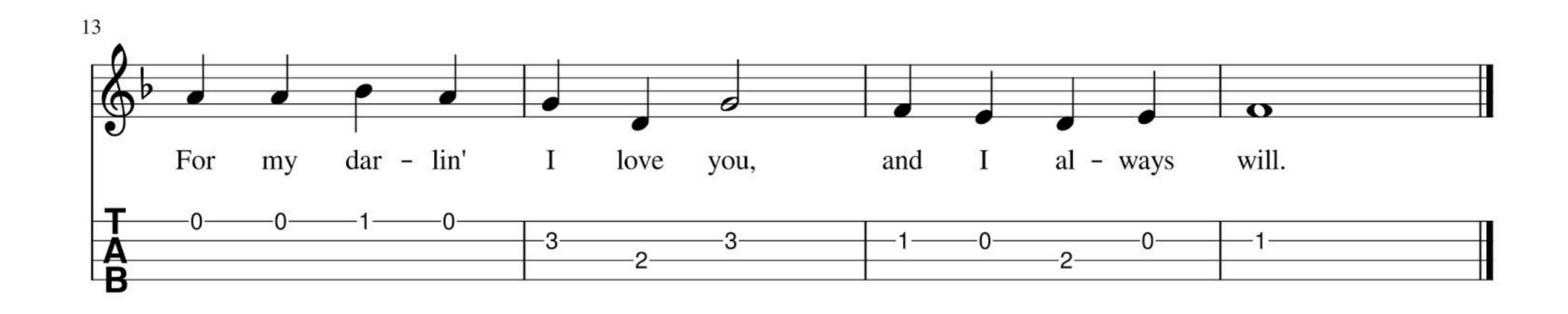




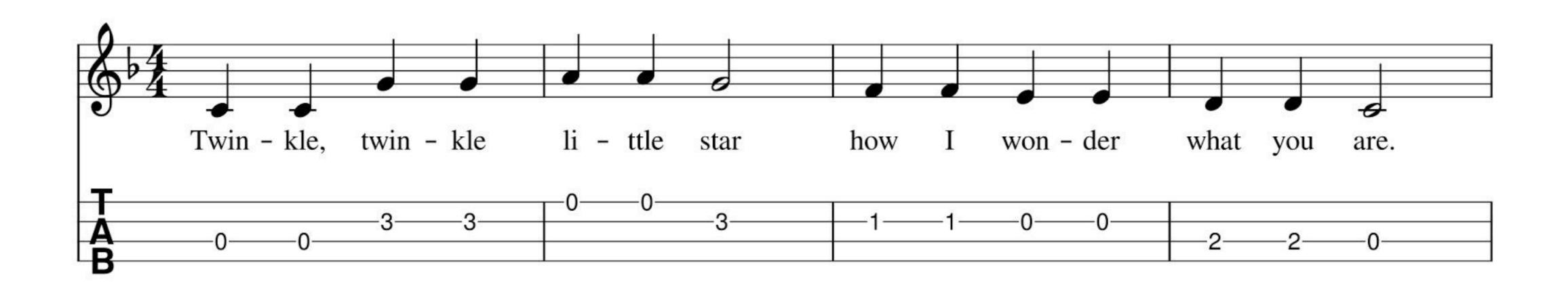


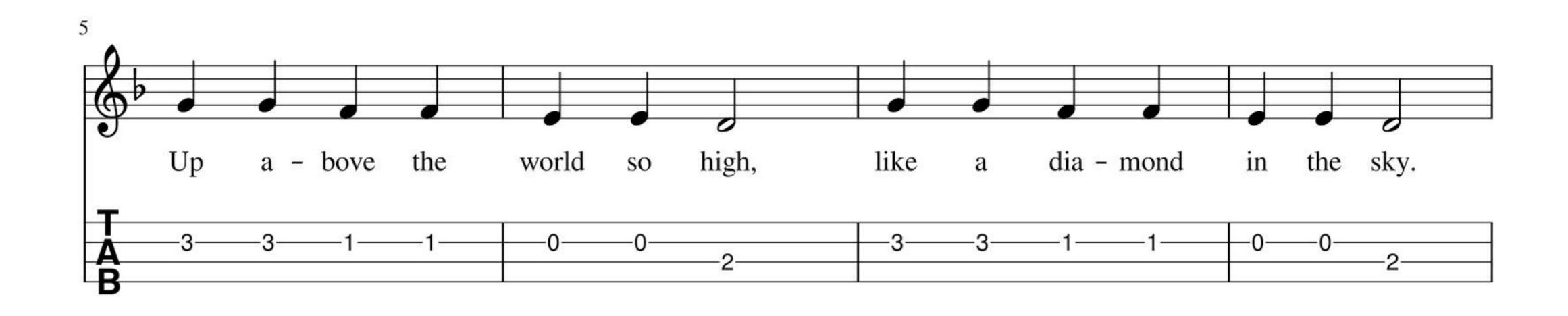


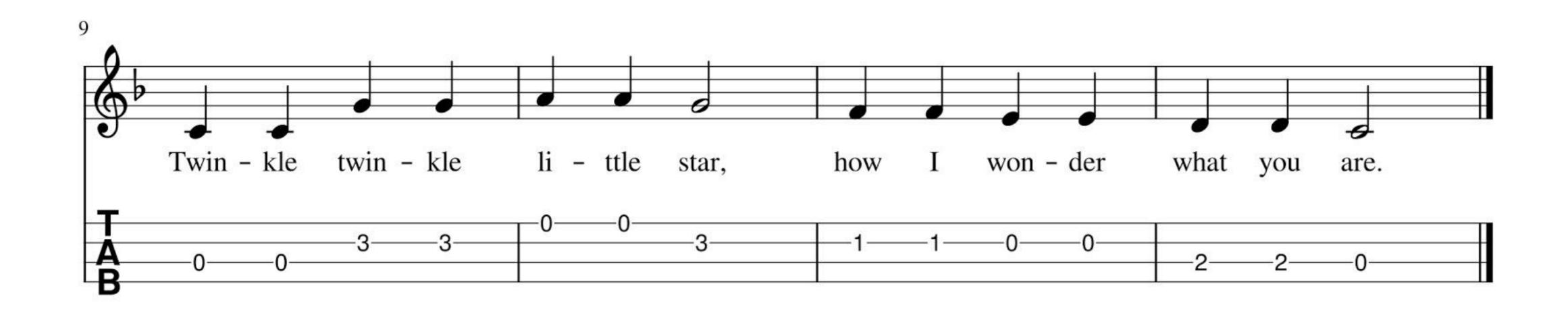




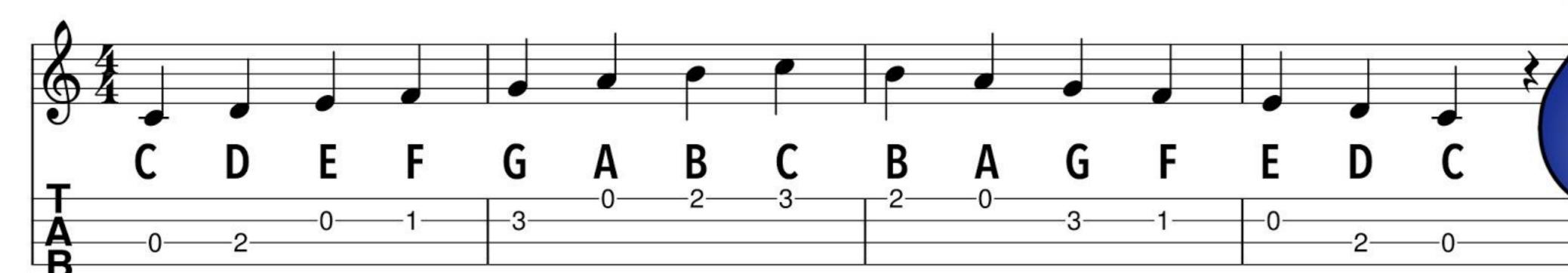
Winkle Winkle



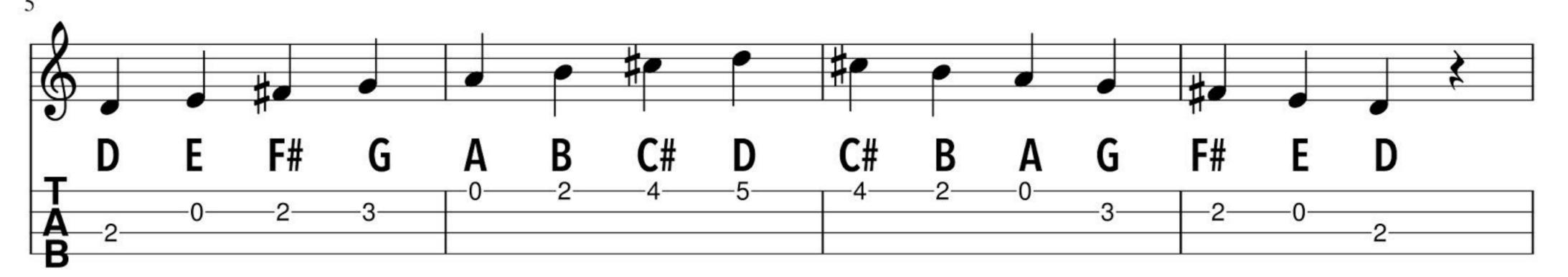




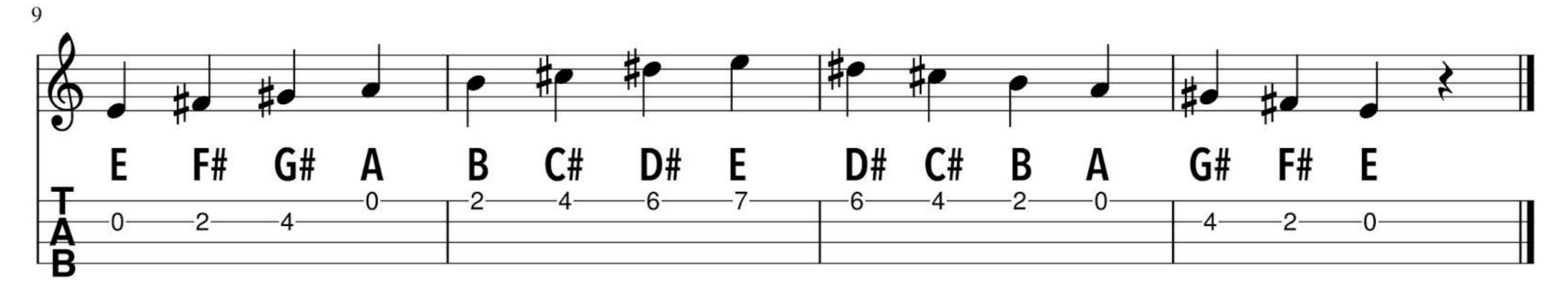
C MAJOR SCALE



D MAJOR SCALE



E MAJOR SCALE



HOMEWORK

After watching today's video, you know that C major chord has the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of the C major scale.

Now try to figure out which notes from the D major scale are in D major chord.

Do the same for the E major scale.

Once you are done, write your answer in the comments section of the YouTube video for this lesson

VIDEO 20 FINGERSTYLE - PIMA

PIMA PATTERN

Assign one finger per string.

Each finger will only play that string (for today's lesson)

Practice getting a clear tone when you play

Take deep breaths as you do this.

String G - P

String C - I

String E - M

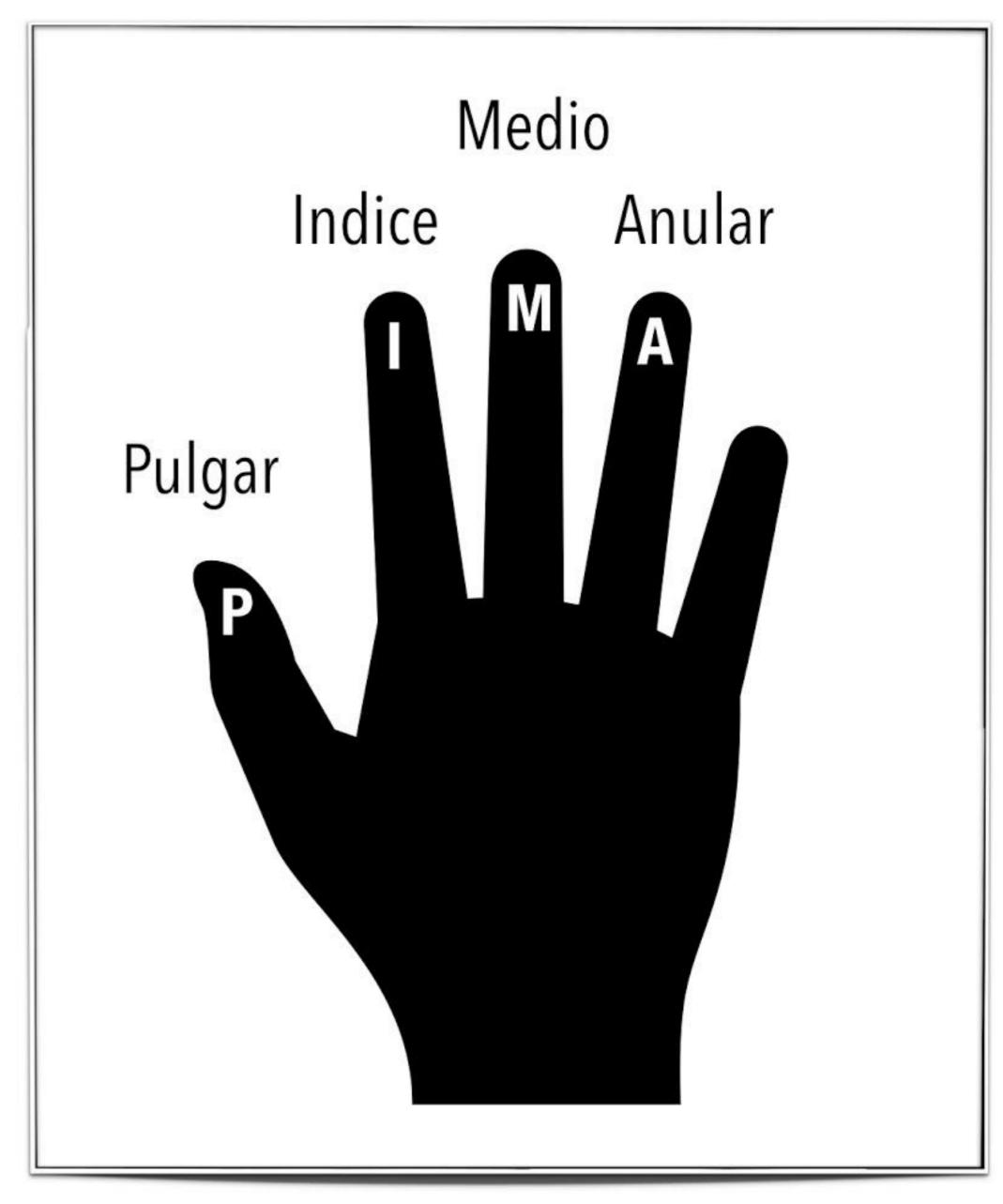
String A - A

Play PIMA PIMA PIMA PIMA Try to count as you do it 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4

Homework

Play the PIMA pattern on the chords you have learned so far
Try to apply the pattern to a song!





VIDEO 21 STRUMMING PATTERNS

The down strum D D D

Use this one when you're learning a new song. This one will help you focus on learning the chord changes first.

The ballad strum D D D DU

Use this one when you're playing slow songs, romantic songs, and any song that you're not sure how to strum.

The mariachi strum DDDDDDDD

If you play any mariachi songs, use this strumming pattern!
If you want to do something different, you can play DUDUDU

The island strum D DU UDU (review)

We had played this one in a previous video, but we reviewed it today. Use this strumming pattern any time you're not sure how to strum a song.

The Bernie strum D DU UD

Use this strumming pattern if you'd like to change up the island strum. This one sounds better with rock music, in my opinion.

The Riptide strum D D UDU

Work on the "fake" strums in this song. Keep the hand moving.

Bernadette Teaches Music

Homework

All of these strumming patterns take up 4 beats.

Try to use 3 of these patterns on You Are My
Sunshine, which we learned in a previous video.

Watch the *Riptide* tutorial once you have mastered the strum.

VIDEO 22 Have You Ever Seen The Rain

INTRO

Am //// F //// C //// G //// C //// C ////

VERSE 1

C

Someone told me long ago, there's a calm before the storm

I know, it's been coming for some time.

When it's over so they say, it'll rain a sunny day

G

(

I know, shining down like water

CHORUS

F G

Am

I wanna know have you ever seen the rain

F

G

Am

I wanna know have you ever seen the rain

Е

C

C

Coming down on a sunny day

VERSE 2

C

Yesterday and days before, sun is cold and rain is hard

G

C

I know, been that way for all my time

'Til forever on it goes, through the circle fast and slow

G

(

I know, it can't stop I wonder

Go back to **CHORUS** and play it 2 times.

Song ends when you repeat the chorus.

Homework

DAY 1

Master the intro

DAY 2

Master the verse

DAY 3

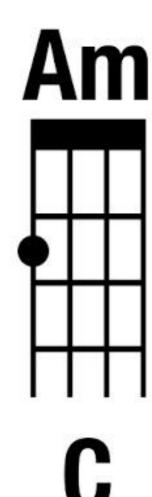
Master the chorus

Island Strum

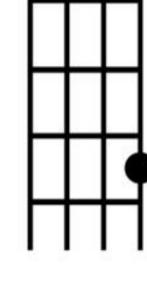
D DU UDU

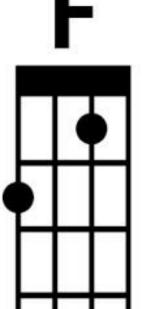
Keep the island strum going throughout the song.



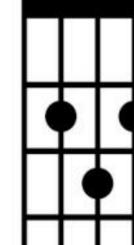












VIDEO 23 Half Barre Chords

STEP 1

Check your ukulele's action.
The action is the space
between the strings and the
fretboard. If the action is too
high, it will be very difficult to
hold barre chords.

STEP 2

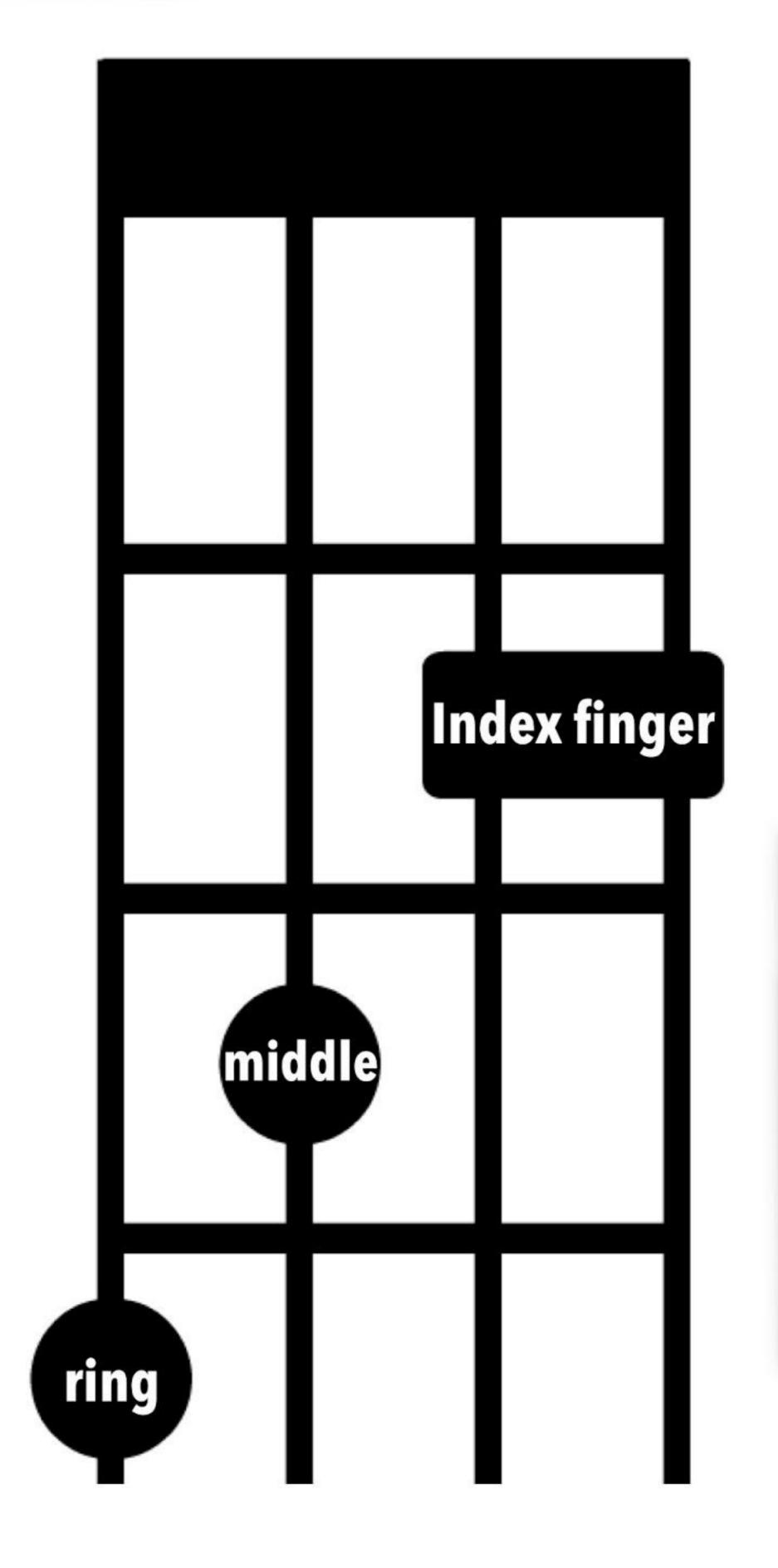
Realize that it will take time to build strength in your hand to hold a barre chord.

STEP 3

Hold and strum a barre chord at the same time for a split second. Do this 5 times today, 10 times tomorrow, 15 times the following day.

STEP 4

Increase the amount of time you hold the barre chord





Homework

Practice holding the half barre shape and strumming at the same time.

Bonus

Practice your chromatic chord names as you play the barre chord.

VIDEO 24 Music Theory - Roman Numerals

Musicians often communicate using chord names and roman numerals

	ii		IV	Vor V7	Vi	vii
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

The roman numerals in uppercase represent major chords (I, IV, V or V7)

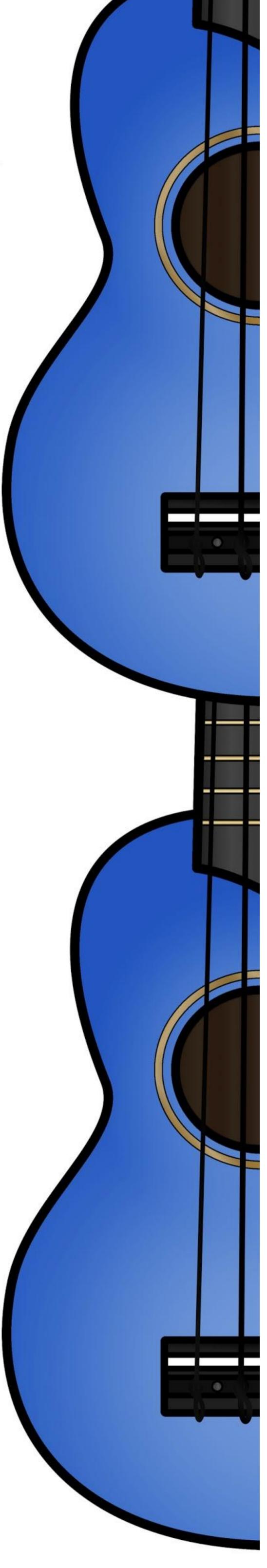
The roman numerals in lowercase represent minor chords (ii, iii, vi)

The seventh, vii°, represents a diminished chord. We will get into this in a future theory lesson.

Here are some popular chord progressions. Substitute the roman numeral with one of the chords from the key of C below

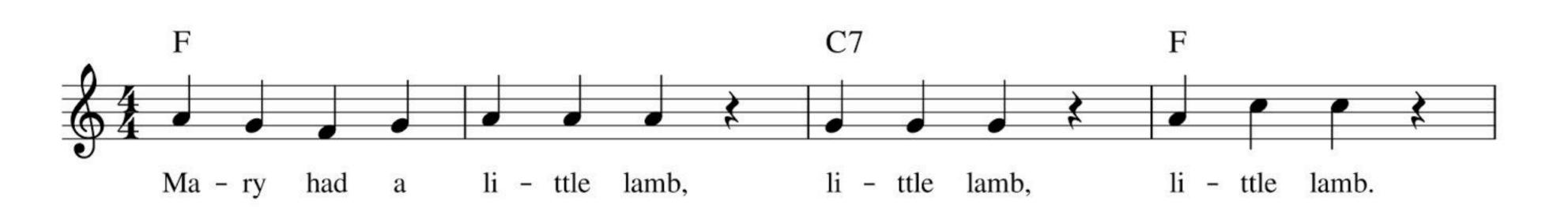
You can repeat any of these chord progressions or start writing your own songs!

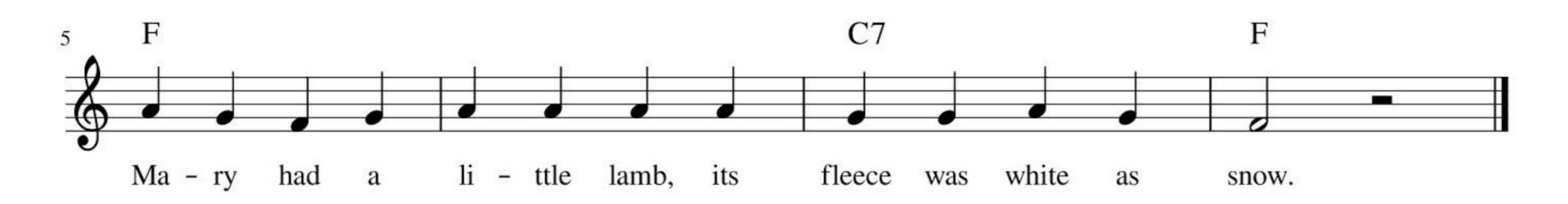
	ii		IV	Vor V7	Vi	Viio
C	Dm	Em	F	G or G7	Am	Bdim



VIDEO 24 Music Theory - Roman Numerals

	_					_	
		ii	iii	IV	V or V7	vi	vi°
Key of C	С	Dm	Em	F	G or G7	Am	В°
Key of D	D	Em	F#m	G	A or A7	Bm	C#°
Key of E	Е	F#m	G#m	Α	B or B7	C#m	D#°
Key of F	F	Gm	Am	В	C or C7	Dm	E°
Key of G	G	Am	Bm	С	D or D7	Em	F#°
Key of A	Α	Bm	C#m	D	E or E7	F#m	G#°
Key of B	В	C#m	D#m	E	F# or F#7	G#m	A#°
Key of C#	C#	D#m	E#m	F#	G# or G#7	A#m	B#°
Key of D ♭	Dþ	E♭m	Fm	G۶	Ab or Ab7	B♭m	C°
Key of E ♭	Εb	Fm	Gm	Αb	Bb or Bb7	Cm	D°
Key of G ♭	G۶	A♭m	B♭m	Cb	Db or Db7	E♭m	F°
Key of A b	Αb	B♭m	Cm	Db	Eb or Eb7	Fm	G°
Key of B b	В	Cm	Dm	Εþ	F or F7	Gm	Α°
	I	ii	iii	IV	V or V7	vi	vi°





Homework

Transpose *Mary Had A Little Lamb* from the key of F to 2 new key signatures. Comment your answers in the comments section of the video.

VIDEO 25 Stand By Me



C //// Am //// F //// G7 //// C //// (or you can play the bass solo part)
One strumming cycle for every 4 strums

11		n	•		4
w	-	ĸ	•	-	ैं
v	_	•	_	_	

C Am F G7 C
When the night has come and the land is dark and the moon is the only light we see
C Am F G7 C
No I won't be afraid, no I won't be afraid just as long as you stand, stand by me

CHORUS

C Am
And darling, darling stand by me, oh now, now, stand by me
F G7 C
Stand by me, stand by me

Homework

Perform this song and charge lots of money for it.

Let me know in the comments section how much money you made.

VERSE 2

C Am F G7 C

If the sky that we look upon should tumble and fall and the mountain should crumble to the sea
C Am F G7 C

I won't cry, I won't cry no I won't shed a tear just as long as you stand, stand by me

Go back to CHORUS



BASS SOLO FOR UKE!

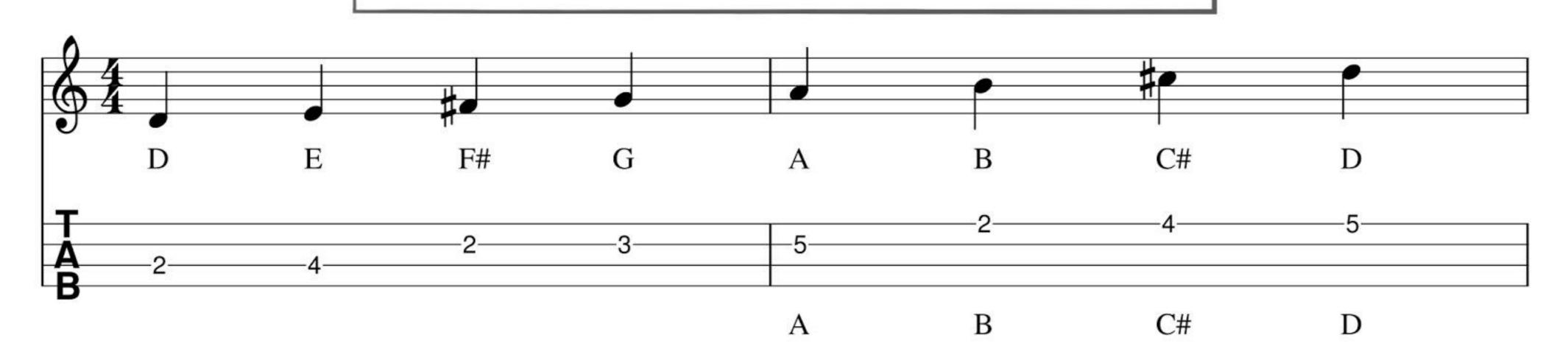


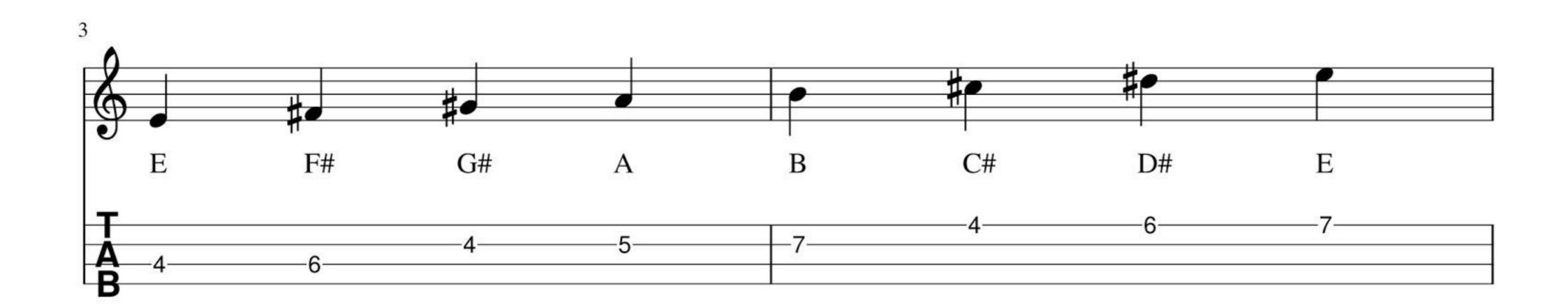
VIDEO 26 Moving Around the Fingerboard

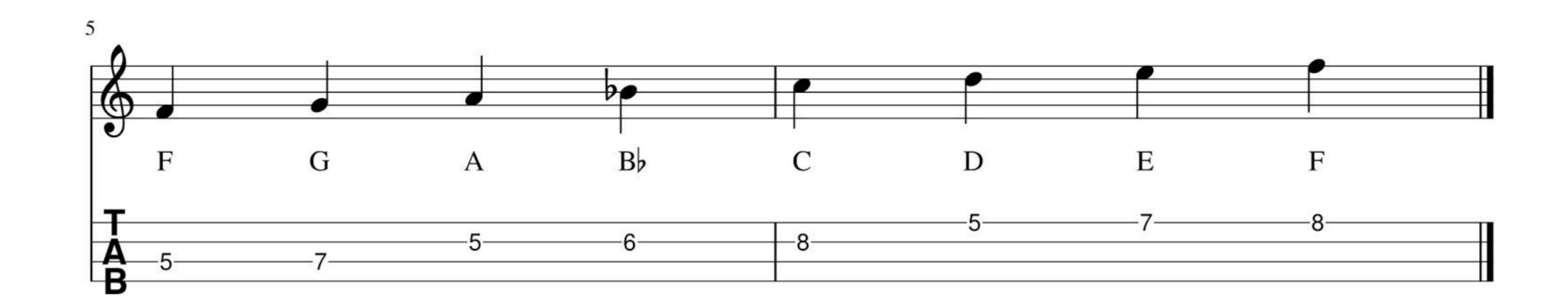
3 MAJOR SCALES TO TRY

FINGER PATTERN

On C String: Index - Skip a fret - Ring On E String: Index - Middle - Skip a fret - Pinky On A String: Index - Skip a fret - Ring-Pinky

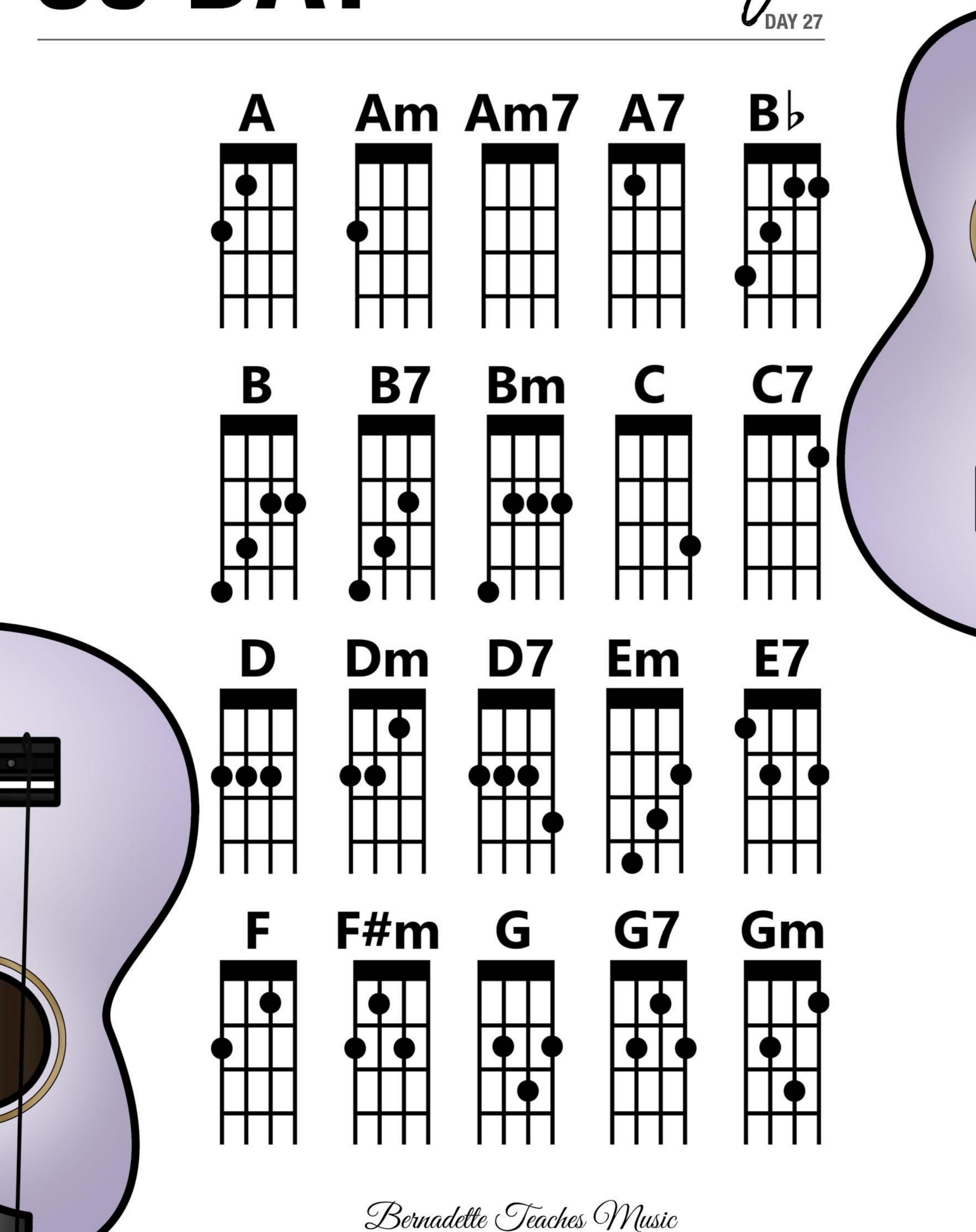






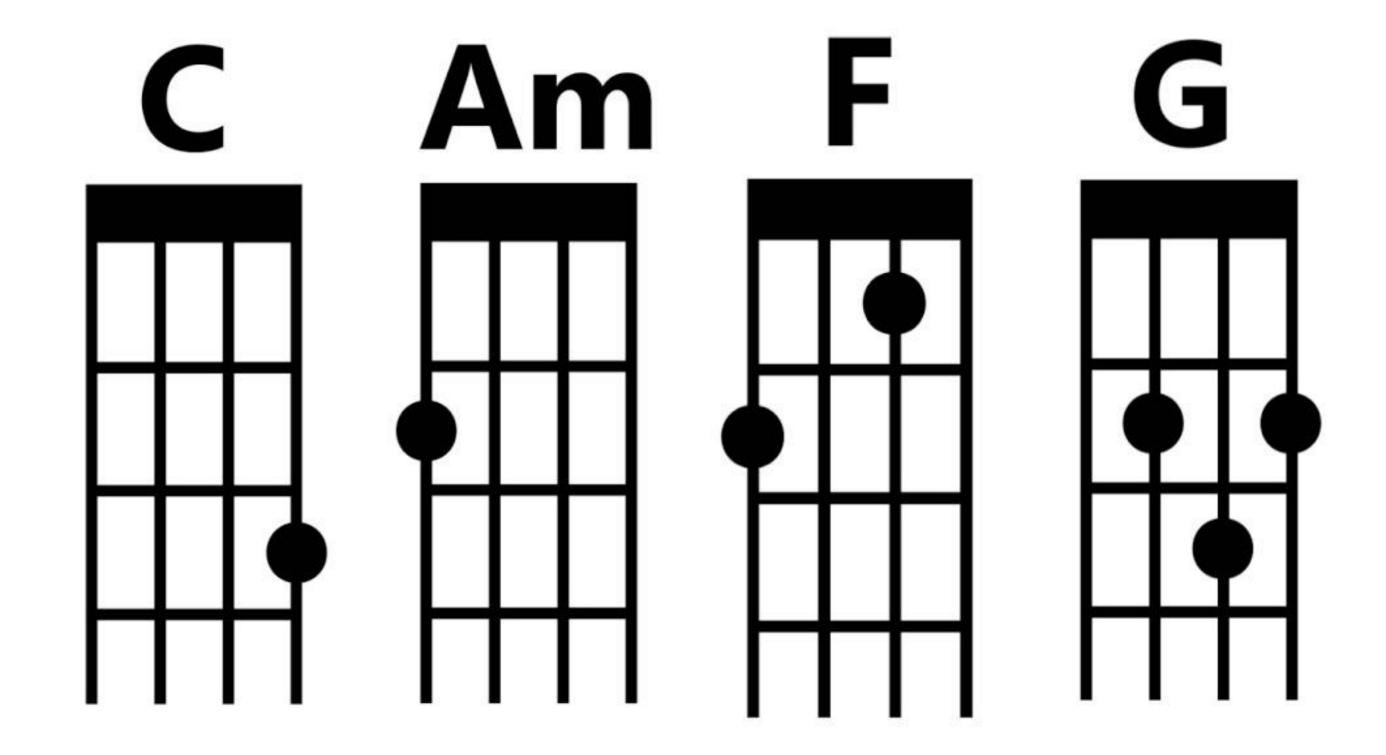
Homework

Play the major scale in 5 different locations on the fingerboard. Remember that all must start on string C in order to work.



VIDEO 28 Four chords, many songs!

chords used



C - G - Am - F (I - V - vi - IV)

Songs with this chord progression

"Can You Feel the Love Tonight" by Elton John

"Don't Stop Believing" by Journey

"No Woman No Cry" by Bob Marley

"I'm Yours" by Jason Mraz

C - Am - F - G (I - vi - IV - V)

Songs with this chord progression

"Baby" by Justin Bieber

"Every Breath You Take" by Police

"Donna" by Ritchie Valens

"I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston



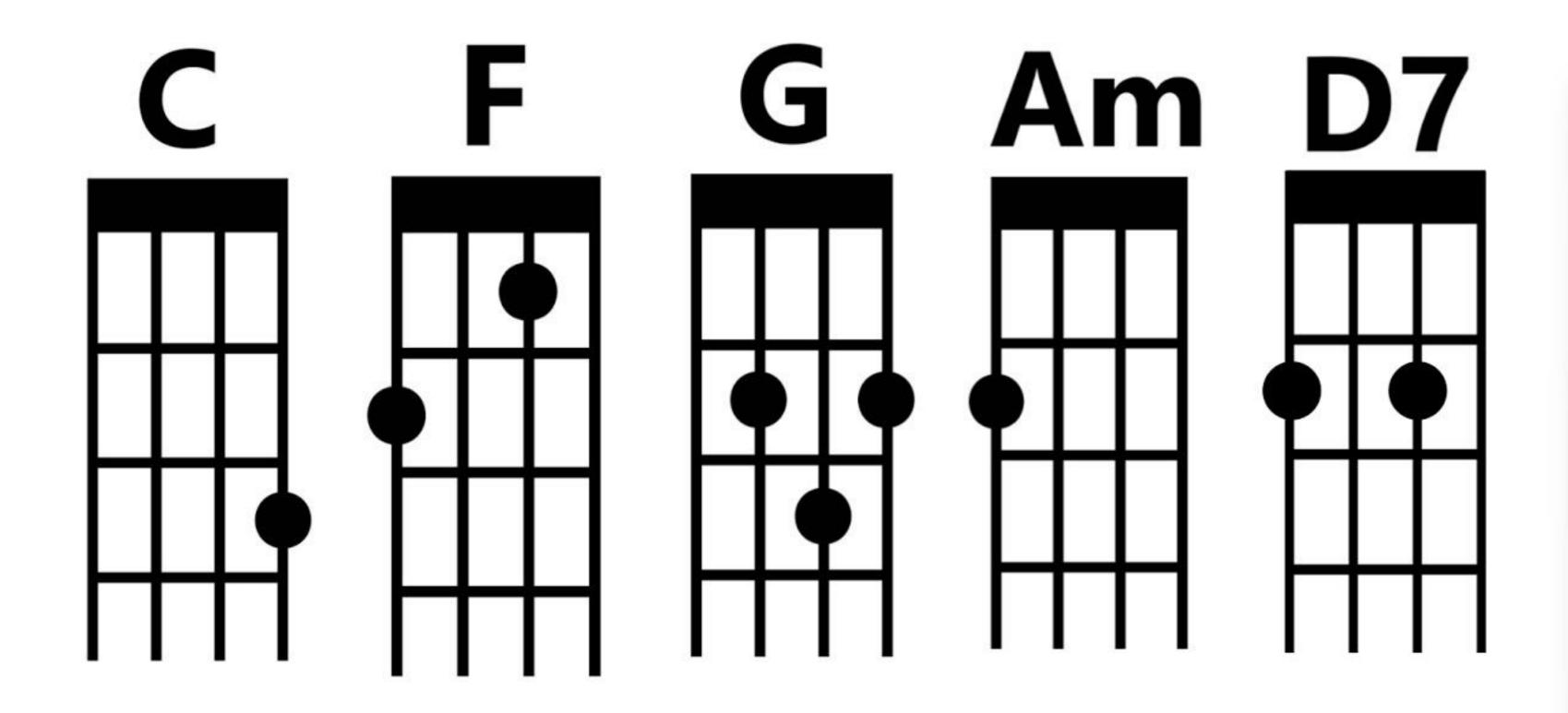
Try playing this chord progression with different strumming patterns.
Transpose this chord progression to another key.
Go back to day 24 to review keys and review how to transpose.

More songs

Look at the resources page to see many more songs that use these chord progressions.

VIDEO 29 Piano Man

chords used



Struming

Throughout the song I played a simple down strum pattern. To emphasize beat 1, you could make the first strum louder, but remember to make it beautiful. Don't be loud just for the sake of being loud.

Fingerstyle

You could play on strings C-E-A
Index Middle+Ring.
If you remember the finger style lesson, this would be a
I - MA - MA pattern



Homework

Listen to the original song a few times.

Try to feel the pulse of the 1, 2, 3 as you listen.

Visit the

<u>ultimate-guitar.com</u>

and look for songs you'd

like to learn to play.

More songs

Look at the resources page to see many more songs that use these chord progressions.

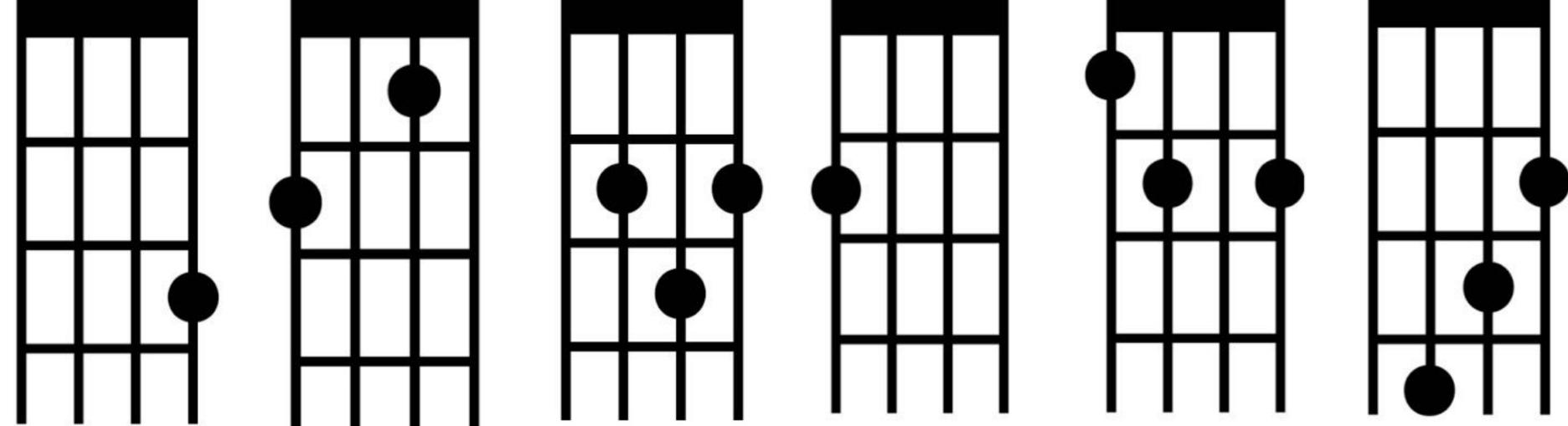
https://tabs.ultimate-guitar.com/tab/billy_joel/piano_man_chords_1051336

VIDEO 30 Somewhere Over the Rainbow by IZ

https://www.ukulele-tabs.com/

chords used





island strum DU UDU

Homework

Listen to the original song, practice the chord switches.

Binge watch the 30 day uke challenge series to review everything you've learned and to make it all sink in.

Look at the resources pages for inspiration, ideas, and to continue your ukulele journey

UKulele hunt website http://ukulelehunt.com/

Top 20 chords

http://ukulelehunt.com/2011/09/07/most-common-uk ulele-chords/

Piano Man chords

https://tabs.ultimate-guitar.com/tab/billy_joel/piano_m an_chords_1051336



Doctor UKe Website

https://www.doctoruke.com/songs.html

Capotasto Website https://www.capotastomusic.com/ukulele-sheet-music/ tahs.htm

Instagram.com/plazi

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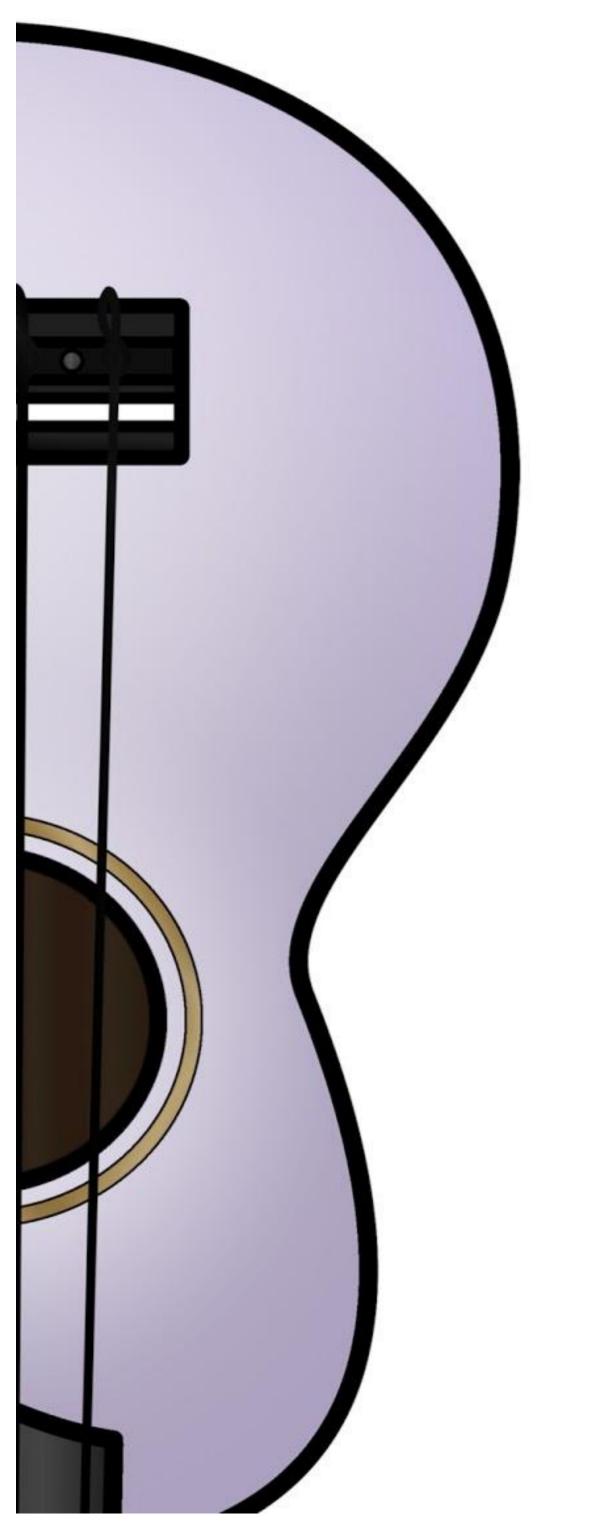
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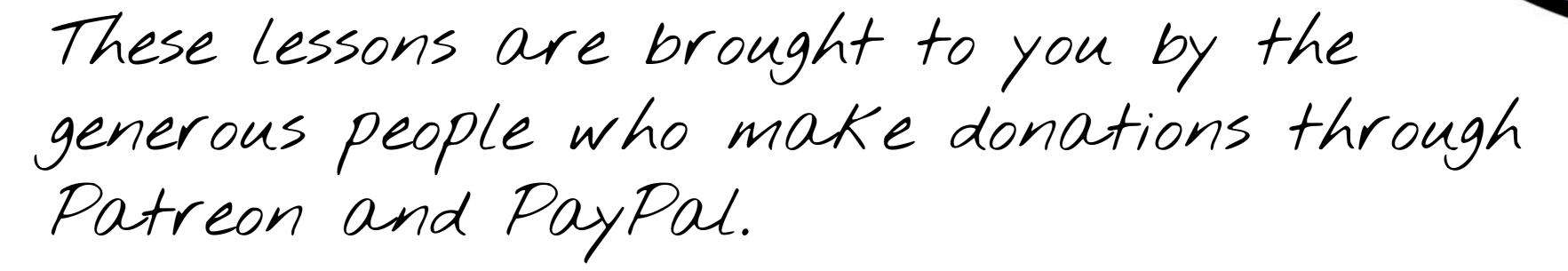


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