



# ~~PRACTISING~~ "PLAYING" THE UKULELE

#1 NEVER keep your ukulele in it's case!

When you get home TAKE YOUR UKULELE OUT OF IT'S CASE and put it in the most used room in the house (bathroom, kitchen, living room, bedroom, etc.). LEAVE IT OUT and accessible! Make it visible! You won't learn the ukulele by only playing it when we get together, or only playing it once or twice a week!

#2 DON'T PRACTICE! PLAY!

DON'T PRACTICE! **PLAY!** If you look at it as "practicing" it becomes a boring chore to put off until the next day. I never "practice", but I "play" songs every day. PLAY SONGS EVERY DAY, EVEN IF ONLY FOR 5 OR 10 MINUTES!

#3 Don't try to be perfect!

Perfection is **HIGHLY** over-rated! Play for enjoyment! Don't worry about getting it "right". Don't worry if you can't play a certain chord perfectly every time - trust me -- eventually you'll get it. *If you are frustrated with the ukulele, you are doing it wrong.*

#4 SING SING SING! And sing LOUD! (not just in your head)

Don't worry - there's always someone that sings worse than you! Don't try to get better, if you sing off-key, so what? Have fun! You don't have to be self-conscious here. Everyone here has a lot better things to worry about than your singing (trust me, I'm a retired psychotherapist. EVERYONE has problems in their life that are far more important than your singing).

#5 Don't get hung up on "what strum should I use for this song?"

At it's most basic, the strum is used for timing (almost like a drum-beat). In this workshop, we aren't "practicing" to play for a performance (where it is important to play together to sound cohesive and avoid chaos). If you want to strum once for every chord change, DO IT! If you want to strum twice, do it! Once you're comfortable with changing from chord to chord, and singing, THEN try a more complicated strum. Again, remember - we are striving for enjoyment, not perfection.

#6 Spend more time thinking about how you "feel" making music, and less time thinking about "how" to make music.

The original purpose of music was to evoke "feeling". Let's get back to that. We've had enough showmanship and ego stroking in music. Instead of always listening to others make music, let's make music ourselves! Have fun. Be joyous. Develop a relationship with this little instrument. Enjoy the sound of a single chord. Feel it.

#7 Fall in love with your ukulele and your music. Have an affair.

You want to play in a dark room with a candle burning? You want to have a glass of wine (or grape juice) and some Brie cheese and crackers at your side? Do it! Have an affair (with your uke).

#8 This is all about YOU, it's not about anyone else.

Your ukulele, your music, your enjoyment. YOUR ENJOYMENT!

# UKULELE RESOURCES

1000's of free printable song sheets from the Internet:

1. *In Bed By Ten* (my website): <http://inbedbyten.weebly.com/>
2. *Richard G's Ukulele Songbook*: [www.scorpexuke.com/songs.html](http://www.scorpexuke.com/songs.html)
3. *Dr. Uke's Songs*: [www.doctoruke.com/songs.html](http://www.doctoruke.com/songs.html)
4. *Ukster Brown's Place*: <http://www.uksterbrown.com/song-sheets.html>
5. *Bytownukulele Group*: <http://www.bytownukulele.ca/Songs.aspx>

## Buying a ukulele (and tuner):

Always compare two or three ukuleles. Never buy a uke just for price or looks. Have the store tune them for you. Ask if they can play each so you can hear them. Strum each ukulele and listen for (1) the clarity of each note, (2) a general warmth of sound, and very, very importantly (3) the sustain (how prolonged the sound is). You want the ukulele to "ring out" for a while! Buy a ukulele that you are proud to own. Definitely buy a tuner (about \$20), and a case.

**Decent inexpensive (under \$100) ukes to try:** (1) Makala Dolphin -soprano, (2) Lanikai LU-21C -concert, (3) Lanikai LU-21P -soprano, (4) Kala Makala MK-T -tenor. (and many others)

**Stores:** SoFlo Music School 306 NE 4th St., Delray Beach 561-674-1151 /// George's Music 7830 Byron Drive, West Palm Beach 561-242-0345 /// Sam Ash Music 5460 W. Sample Rd, Margate 954-975-3390 /// Guitar Center 4449 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek 954-973-7162 /// Chafin Music 608 N. Dixie Hwy, Lake Worth 561-585-4641

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## Learning Chords and Chord Shapes:

As a general rule; you should use your first (pointer) finger for notes on the first fret, second finger for notes on the second fret, etc.

If you can ever find an easier way to play a chord, DO IT! For difficult chords, look at the music and see what chord you are coming from, or going to. This will often be helpful in learning what fingers need to be moved, or which can stay where they are.

Learning chords requires muscle memory. It takes time. Start with easy songs and progress slowly. Eventually your fingers will do what you want, and learning new chords will become easier.

When in doubt, use the "Zen Chord" (aka: the IMC, or if done on purpose; "chunking").

## Strumming the Ukulele:

DO NOT strum over the sound hole (as you would a guitar). DO Strum at the base of the neck. Generally, strum DOWN with the fingernail of your pointer finger, and strum UP with the pad of the same finger. DO NOT strum with you thumb!

Us:

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✓ Internet Website: [Inbedbyten.weebly.com](http://Inbedbyten.weebly.com)

# UKULELE Strumming Patterns

Beginners Strum: dududu (down up down up down up)  
Swing Strum: DuDuDu (DOWN up DOWN up DOWN up))

The following information is from the Ukulele Hunt website at:  
<http://ukulelehunt.com/2011/06/29/ukulele-strumming-patterns/>

(dashes indicate very slight pauses in the strumming patterns)

Pattern 1: d – d u – u d -

Pattern 2: d – d u – u d u

Pattern 3: d – d – d u d u

Pattern 4: d – d u d u d u

Pattern 5: d – d u

Pattern 6: d u x u

Pattern 7: d – d u – u d u- u d u – u d -

Pattern 8: d u D U d u D U

Pattern 9: d u x u d u x u

Pattern 10: –d – d – d – d

Pattern 11: – - d u – - d -

Pattern 12: d – d u d -

Pattern 13: d – d u d u

# MOCKINGBIRD

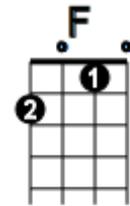
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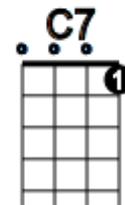
[F] Hush little baby, [C7] don't say a word  
Mommass gonna buy you a [F] mockingbird  
And if that mocking-[C7]-bird won't sing,

Mommass gonna buy you a [F] diamond ring  
And if that diamond [C7] ring turns brass

Mommass gonna buy you a [F] looking glass  
And if that looking [C7] glass gets broke



Mommass gonna buy you a [F] billygoat  
And if that billy [C7] goat won't pull



Mommass gonna buy you a [F] cart and bull  
And if that cart and [C7] bull turn over

Mommass gonna buy you a [F] dog named Rover  
And if that dog named [C7] Rover won't bark

Mommass gonna buy you a [F] horse and cart  
And if that horse and [C7] cart fall down

You'll still be the sweetest [F] baby in town

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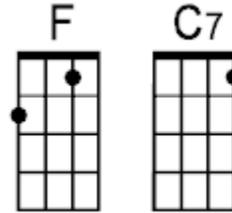
You might also want to try this song using [G] & [D7] or [D] & [A7]

# IT AIN'T GONNA RAIN NO MORE!



CHORUS:

It [F] ain't gonna rain no more no more  
It ain't gonna rain no [C7] more  
How in the heck can I wash my neck  
If it ain't gonna rain no [F] more.



[F] Bullfrog sittin' on a lily pad - lookin' at the [C7] sky  
Lily pad broke - the frog went croak - Got water in his [F] eye.

CHORUS

[F] Oh the fox's tail is bushy, the elephant's tale is [C7] bare  
but the rabbit has no tail at all it's just a bunch of [F] hair!

CHORUS

[F] A bear sleeps in his bearskin, quite comfortably I [C7] guess,  
but when I slept in my bare skin, I nearly froze to [F] death!

CHORUS

[F] A peanut sitt'n on a railroad track his heart was all a-[C7]-flutter  
freight train commin' round the bend - choo choo ... peanut [F] butter!

CHORUS

[F] A hobo sat down by the sewer, and by the sewer he [C7] died  
when the corner called the next morning - he ruled it sewer-[F]-side

CHORUS

[F] My father's name was Ferdinand, my mother's was [C7] Eliza.  
They put their names together, and called me Ferda-[F]-liza!

CHORUS and End!



Ukulele Arr.  
by Tavit

## ADDITIONAL VERSES TO "AIN'T GONNA RAIN NO MORE"

[F] Mary had a little lamb, she fed him castor [C7] oil  
and every time he'd jump the fence, he'd fertilize the [F] soil!

[F] Mary had a little lamb she kept it in the [C7] closet  
and every time she took him out he left a small [F] deposit

A rich man takes a taxi, a poor man takes the train. A hobo walks the  
railroad tracks but he gets there just the same

How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck  
wood? If he had a saw in his little paw - a ton of wood he could.

I think I've made it obvious, I think I've made it plain  
that even though the sky is dark, it ain't never gonna rain

My uncle built a chimney he built it up so high. He had to tear it down again  
to let the moon go by

The rich man uses cold cream, the poor man uses soap, the hobo uses  
axle grease, but he gets clean just the same!

I went to see my Susie, She met me at the door,  
Her eyes and nose all over her face, and her feet all over the floor!

Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard to get her poor daughter a  
dress, but when she got there the cupboard was bare, and so was her  
daughter, I guess.

[F] Oh the night was dark and stormy, and the ole goat was half [C7] blind.  
backed up to the barbed wire fence, and scratched his never-you-[F]-mind.

[F] Oh the butterfly has golden wings, the firefly's wings of [C7] flame  
The bedbug has no wings at all, but he gets there just the [F] same.

# Buffalo Gals

(Won't you come out tonight?)



[C] As I go walking down the street, [G7] down the street, [C] down the street with [C] Each pretty gal who comes along , my [G7] heart gives out a [C] song

## CHORUS:

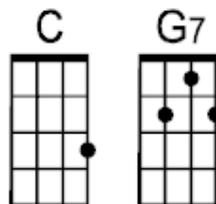
Oh [C] Buffalo gals won't you come out tonight,  
[G7] come out tonight, [C] come out tonight

Oh [C] Buffalo gals won't you come out tonight and  
[G7] dance by the light of the [C] moon.

I [C] stopped one and we had a talk,  
[G7] had a talk, [C] had a talk  
Her [C] feet took up the whole sidewalk and [G7] left no room for [C] me.  
[Chorus]

I [C] asked her if we'd have a dance,  
[G7] have a dance, [C] have a dance  
I [C] thought that I might have a chance to [G7] shake a foot with [C]  
her....  
[Chorus]

I [C] danced with a gal with a hole in her stockin' and her [G7] heel kept a knockin' and her [C] toes kept a rockin'  
I [C] danced with a girl with a hole in her stockin' and we [G7] danced by the light of the [C] moon.  
[Chorus]



fingers: 3 2 1 3





# Songs Using "The Ukulele Circle Of Life"

## HEART AND SOUL

by Frank Loesser

[C] Heart and [Am] soul, [F] I fell in [G7] love with you,  
[C] Heart and [Am] soul, [F] the way a [G7] fool would do,  
[C] Mad-[Am]-ly...  
[F] Because you [G7] held me [C] tight,  
And [Am] stole a [F] kiss in the [G7] night...

## BLUE MOON

by Ella Fitzgerald

Blue [C] Moon [Am]  
[F] You saw me [G7] standing [C] alone [Am]  
[F] Without a [G7] dream in my [C] heart [Am]  
[F] Without a [G7] love of my [C] own [Am] [F] [G7]  
Blue [C] Moon [Am]  
[F] You know just [G7] what I was [C] there [Am] for  
[F] You heard me [G7] saying a [C] prayer [Am] for  
[F] Someone I [G7] really could [C] care [Am] for [F] [G7]

## EARTH ANGEL

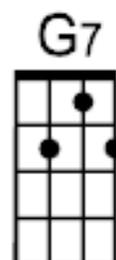
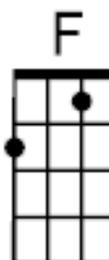
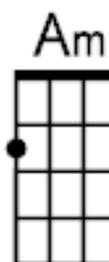
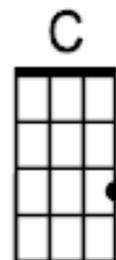
by The Four Seasons

Earth [C] Angel  
Earth [Am] Angel  
[F] Will you be [G7] mine?  
[C] My darling [Am] dear  
[F] Love you all the [G7] time.  
[C] I'm just a [Am] fool  
[F] A fool in [G7] love with [C] you.  
[Am].. [F].. [G7]..

## SILHOUETTES (ON THE SHADE)

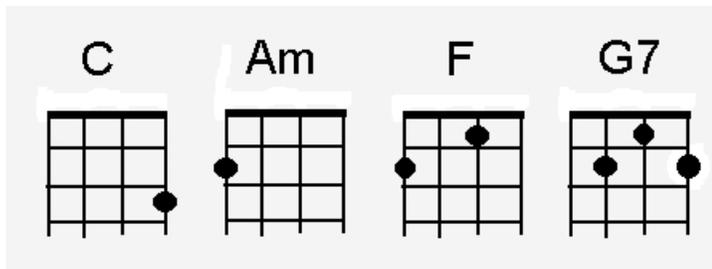
by Herman's Hermits

[C] Took a [Am] walk and passed your [F] house [G7] late last [C] night  
All the [Am] shades were pulled and [F] drawn [G7] way down [C] tight  
From with-[Am]-in, the dim light [F] cast two [G7] silhouettes on the [C] shade  
Oh what a [Am] lovely [F] couple they [G7] made  
[C] Put his [Am] arms around your [F] waist, [G7] held you [C] tight  
Kisses [Am] I could almost [F] taste [G7] in the [C] night  
Wondered [Am] why I'm not the [F] guy who's [G7] silhouette's on the [C] shade  
I couldn't [Am] hide the [F] tears in my [G7] eyes



# Teenager In Love

*Dion and the Belmonts* (Reached #5 on the Billboard pop charts. In May 1959)



[C] Each time we [Am] have a quarrel [F]  
it almost [G7] breaks my heart  
[C] Cause I am [Am] so afraid [F] that we will [G7] have to part  
[C] Each night I [Am] ask the [F] stars up [G7] above  
[C] Why must I [Am] be a teen-[F]ager in [G7] love

[C] One day I [Am] feel so happy [F] next day I [G7] feel so sad  
[C] I guess I'll [Am] learn to take [F] the good [G7] with the bad  
[C] Each night I [Am] ask the [F] stars up [G7] above  
[C] Why must I [Am] be a teen-[F]ager in [G7] love

## **Chorus**

*[F] I cried a [G7] tear for [F] nobody but [G7] you  
[F] I'll be a [G7] lonely one if [F] you should say we're [G7]  
through*

Well [C] if you want to [Am] make me cry  
[F] that won't be so [G7] hard to do  
And [C] if you [Am] say goodbye [F] I'll still go on [G7] loving you  
[C] Each night I [Am] ask the [F] stars up [G7] above  
[C] Why must I [Am] be a teen-[F]ager in [G7] love

# This Land Is Your Land

## REFRAIN

F C  
This land is your land, this land is my land.  
G7 C  
From California, to the New York Island.  
F C  
From the Redwood Forest, to the Gulf Stream waters.  
G7 C  
This land was made for you and me.

F C  
1. As I was walking that ribbon of highway,  
G7 C  
I saw above me an endless skyway.  
F C  
I saw below me a golden valley,  
G7 C  
This land was made for you and me. *To REFRAIN*

F C  
2. I've roamed and rambled and I've followed my footsteps,  
G7 C  
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts  
F C  
And all around me a voice was sounding:  
G7 C  
This land was made for you and me. *To REFRAIN*

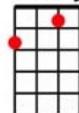
F C  
3. The sun come shining as I was strolling.  
G7 C  
The wheat fields waving, and the dust clouds rolling  
F C  
As the fog was lifting a voice come chanting:  
G7 C  
This land was made for you and me. *To REFRAIN*

Chords  
in this  
song:

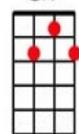
Cmaj



Fmaj



G7



# Hey Good Lookin'

(Written and recorded by Hank Williams Sr., 1951.)

Strum Pattern: Swing Strum (or pattern #2)

(F) //// (G7) //// (C) //// (G7) ////

Say (C) hey, good lookin', whatcha got cookin'?  
(D7) How's about cookin' (G7) somethin' up with (C) me? (G7)  
(C) Hey, sweet baby, don't you think maybe  
We could (D7) find us a (G7) brand new reci-(C)-pe? (C7)

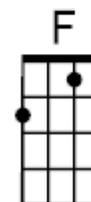
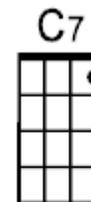
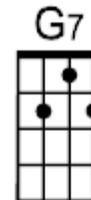
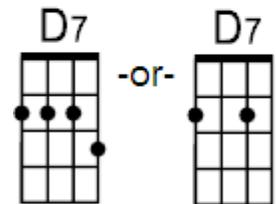
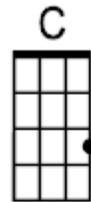
And (F) I know a spot right (C) over the hill.  
I got a (F) hot-rod Ford and a (C) two-dollar bill  
(F) There's soda pop and the (C) dancin's free,  
So if you (D7) wanna have fun come a-(G7)-long with me.

Say (C) hey, good lookin', whatcha got cookin'?  
(D7) How's about cookin' (G7) somethin' up with (C) me?

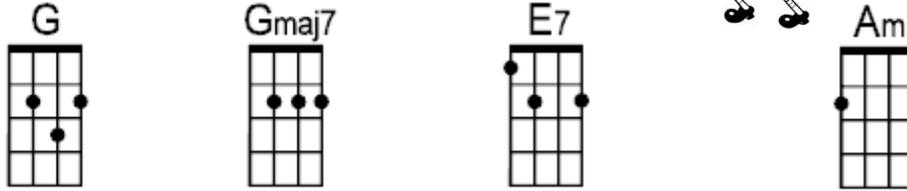
I'm (C) free and ready, so we can go steady.  
(D7) How's about savin' (G7) all your time for (C) me? (G7)  
(C) No more lookin', I know I've been taken.  
(D7) How's about keepin' (G7) steady compa-(C)-ny? (C7)

I'm gonna (F) throw my date-book (C) over the fence  
And (F) find me one for (C) five or ten cents.  
I'll (F) keep it 'til it's (C) covered with age  
'Cause I'm (D7) writin' your name down on (G7) every page.

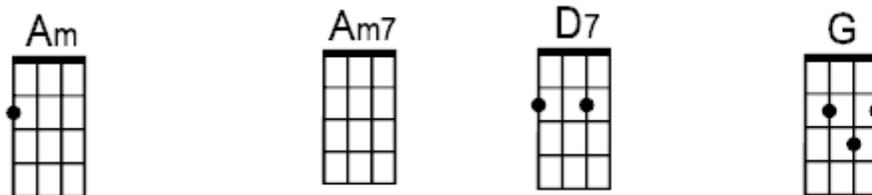
Say (C) hey, good lookin', whatcha got cookin'?  
(D7) How's about cookin' (G7) somethin' up with (C) me?



# When You're Smiling



When you're smiling, when you're smiling, the whole world smiles with you.



When you're laughing, when you're laughing, the sun comes shining through.

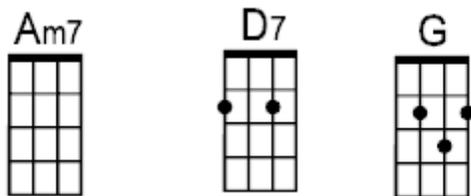


But when you're crying, you bring on the rain. So stop your sighing, be happy

again.



Keep on smiling, 'cause when you're smiling



The whole world smiles with you!



*Ukulele Arr.  
by Tavit*

# When Somebody Thinks You're Wonderful

By Fats Waller



[C] When somebody thinks you're [B7] wonderful  
[C] What a difference in your [A7] day  
[D7] Seems as though your troubles [G7] disappear  
[D7] Like a feather [G7] in your [C] way.

[C] When somebody thinks you're [B7] wonderful  
[C] Tells you with a smile so [A7] sweet  
[D7] What are little stones you [G7] step upon  
[D7] Just a meadow [G7] 'neath your [C] feet.

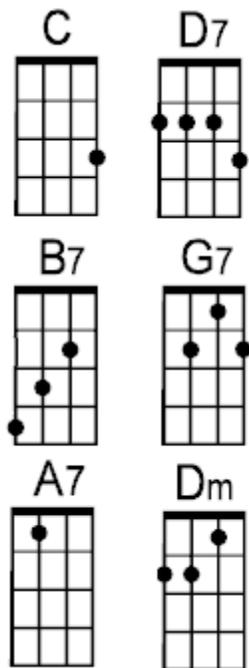
—

And [G7] how you meet the [C] morning  
And you [G7] gaily swing a-[C]-long  
At [A7] night you may be [Dm] weary  
But your [D7] heart still sings a [G7] song.

[C] When somebody thinks you're [B7] wonderful  
[C] Love is mighty close to [A7] you  
[D7] Just another thing more [G7] wonderful  
[D7] Making all your [G7] dreams come [C] true.

[repeat the last two verses]

Note: For a bit of "color", Walk the two circled A7 chords "up" from the 1st fret to the 4th fret



Ukulele Arr.  
by Tavit

# I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing

(This song was originally written on a ukulele!)



I'd [G] like to teach the world to sing

In [A7] perfect harmony

I'd [D] like to hold it in my arms

And [C] keep it compan-[G]-y

I'd [G] like to see the world for once

All [A7] standing hand in hand

And [D] hear them echo through the hills

For [C] peace throughout the [G] land

I'd [G] like to build the world a home

And [A7] furnish it with love

Grow [D] apple trees and honey bees

And [C] snow white turtle [G] doves

[G] That's the song I hear ////

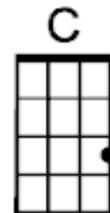
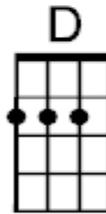
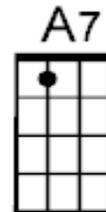
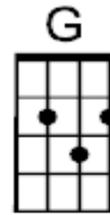
Let the world sing [A7] today ////

A [D] song of peace that echos on

That [C] never goes [G] away

A [D] song of peace that echos on

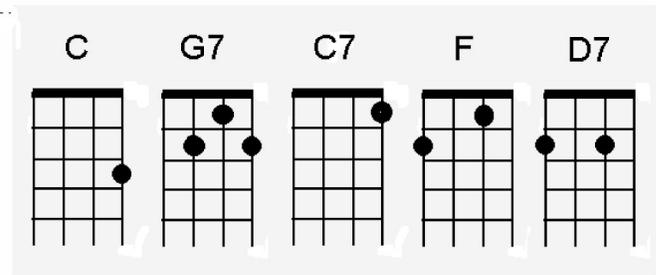
That [C] nevvv-er goooo-es aaa-[G]-way



Ukulele Arr.  
by Tavit

# Bring Me Sunshine

Sylvia Dee and Arthur Kent 1966?



**C** **G7**  
Bring me Sunshine, in your smile,

**C**  
Bring me Laughter, all the while,

**C7** **F**  
In this world where we live, there should be more happiness,

**D7** **G7**  
So much joy you can give, to each brand new bright tomorrow,

**G7** **C** **G7**  
Make me happy, through the years,

**C**  
Never bring me, any tears,

**C7** **F**  
Let your arms be as warm as the sun from up above,

**D7** **G7** **C**  
Bring me fun, bring me sunshine, bring me love.

**C** **G7**  
Bring me Sunshine, in your eyes,

**C**  
Bring me rainbows, from the skies,

**C7** **F**  
Life's too short to be spent having anything but fun,

**D7** **G7**  
We can be so content, if we gather little sunbeams,

**C** **G7**  
Be light-hearted, all day long,

**C**  
Keep me singing, happy songs,

**C7** **F**  
Let your arms be as warm as the sun from up above,

**D7** **G7** **C**  
Bring me fun, bring me sunshine, bring me love.