

MUSIC FOR GOOD HEALTH

UKULELE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART



JOHN HEYWORTH

PART 4 BEYOND THE BASICS

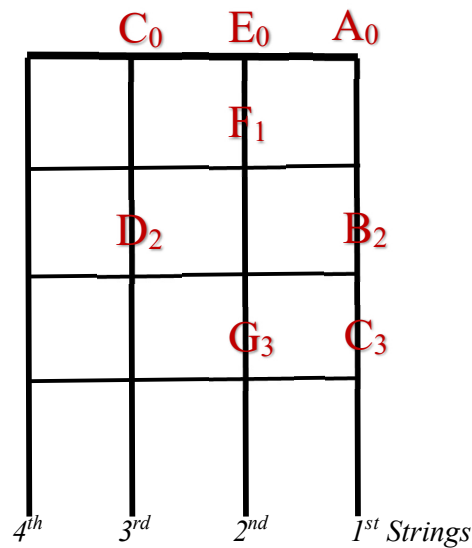


Let's start with the C major scale.

The image shows the C major scale in 4/4 time. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C. Below the notation is the corresponding tablature (TAB) for the four strings (T, A, B, from top to bottom). The fret numbers are: C (0), D (2), E (0), F (1), G (3), A (0), B (2), and C (3).

For now, use the same finger as the fret position. That is: 1st fret = 1st finger, 2nd fret = 2nd finger, 3rd fret = 3rd finger and 0 is the open string. *Pluck each note with your thumb.*

Finger board.



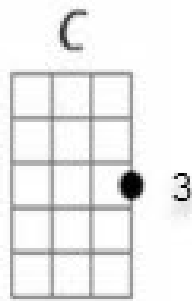
Practise slowly, in both directions up and down: 4 times each note, then 3 then 2 and finally 1 until you are fluent and can play the following notes. **[Tip:- use this technique for all scales]**

The image shows a musical exercise for the C major scale. The notation is in 4/4 time, showing a single measure of the scale. The tablature (TAB) for the four strings (T, A, B, from top to bottom) is: T (0), A (2), B (0), and 1 (1). The fret numbers are: C (0), D (2), E (0), F (1), G (3), A (0), B (2), and C (3).

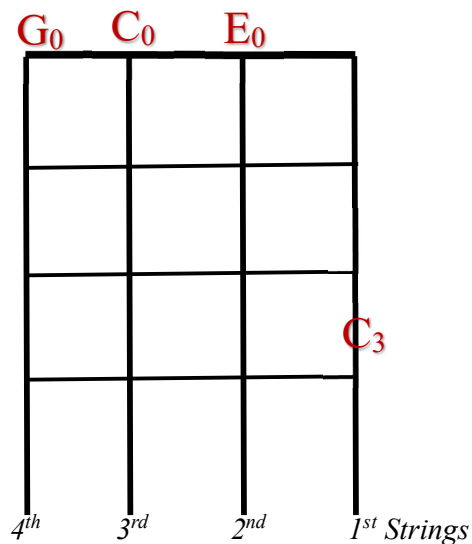
TAB = Tablature which represents lines for the 4 strings with the 1st string at the top - the numbers are the frets you need to play.

GREAT! When you are ready, move on.

Let's examine the C major chord.



There are only 3 different notes in a major chord. For C: they are C, E and G. But they are not necessarily in that order when you strum the C major chord diagram (all strings) above.



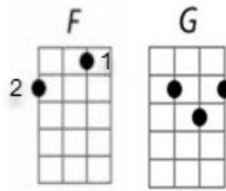
The notes C, E and G can be played as an arpeggio (notes played one after the other instead of all together). It is a useful technique for blues, rock, jazz, pop, and classical music.

Let's learn to play a simple C pattern using a C major arpeggio. Note: Use the G on the 2nd string.

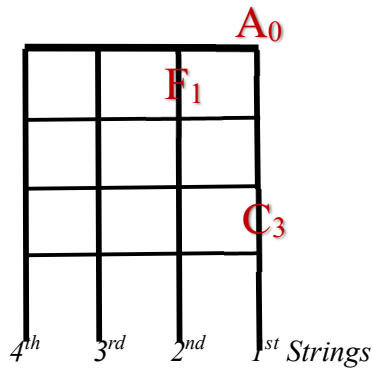
Great, we are only using three notes from the C major scale: C D E F G A B C

(The 1st, 3rd & 5th notes)

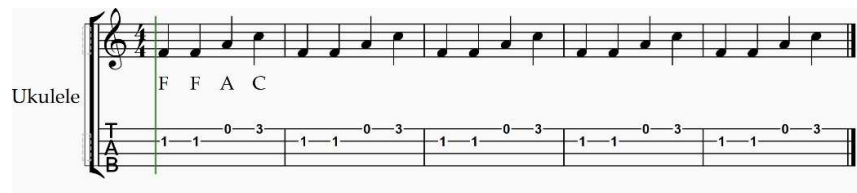
Let's add more major chords to this pattern: The **F** and **G** major chords.



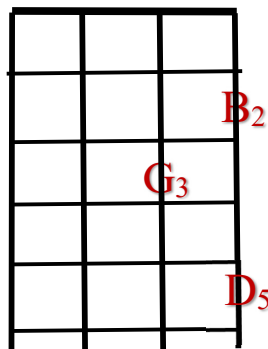
The 3 different notes in an F major chord are *F, A and C*.



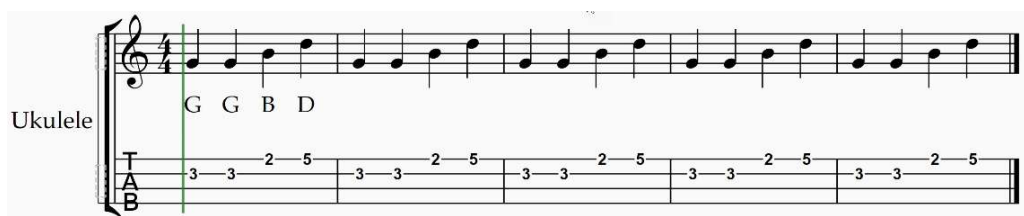
Learn to play the **F** pattern.



The **G** arpeggio, G, B and D will be a little harder to master. Persist, slowly at first.



We will have to change our fingering. Use your 2nd finger on G, 1st finger on B and 4th finger on D.



Great, it's time to put these patterns into a basic 12 bar blues chord progression!

Note that I have *not* put the note names in the score. Just look at the chord name and play the patterns accordingly (e.g. for the C chord play the C arpeggio pattern). This will help you learn to follow a chord progression and/or lead sheet. Play each note with your thumb.

12 Bar Blues in C (1)

The musical score for "12 Bar Blues in C (1)" is presented in three systems, each for a different chord: C, F, and G. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a four-line bass staff. The bass staff includes fingerings for the thumb (T), index (A), and middle (B) fingers, with numbers 0-5 indicating fret positions. The treble staff contains eighth notes and quarter notes. The score is divided into three systems, each with a chord diagram above the staff: C (first system), F (second system), and G (third system). The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

That last line will need extra practice. Go over that line several times and then play the whole 12 Bar Blues progression when you have mastered it.

If you have a friend, one person can strum the chords while the other plays the notes.

(Note: When playing chords with a straight strum over 4 beats per bar, emphasize the off beats by strumming the 2nd and 4th strings a little harder – 1 2 3 4 this will give your playing bounce. We will talk about swing later.)

If you are enjoying this, why not get a backing app so you can play along with a full band. *iReal Pro* is great – you can find the *Blues Simple* - choose the key of C and set your own tempo (speed). This follows the blues progression above. You'll notice that the chords C, F and G are written as C7, F7 and G7. We will be exploring that soon! (*iReal pro is not free, but there are other great apps that are free.*)

Let's move on to a Pentatonic scale in C.

The C major scale has 7 different notes – C D E F G A B
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The C pentatonic scale has 5 different notes - C D E G A

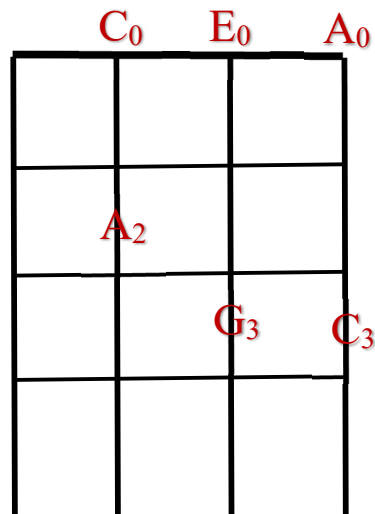
The 4th and 7th notes are omitted.

C Pentatonic Scale

Ukulele

C D E G A C

0 2 0 3 0 3



As before, play each note with your thumb. Practise slowly, in both directions up and down: 4 times each note, then 3, then 2, and finally 1 until you are fluent and can play the following two exercises.

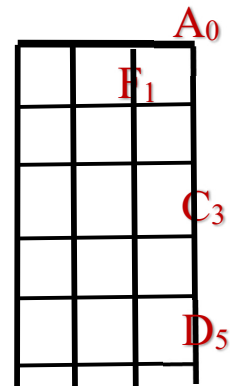
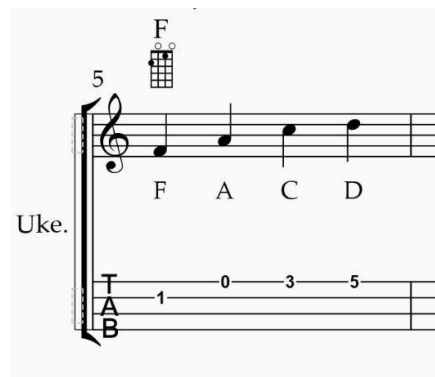
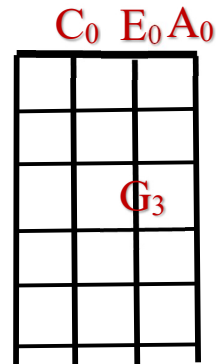
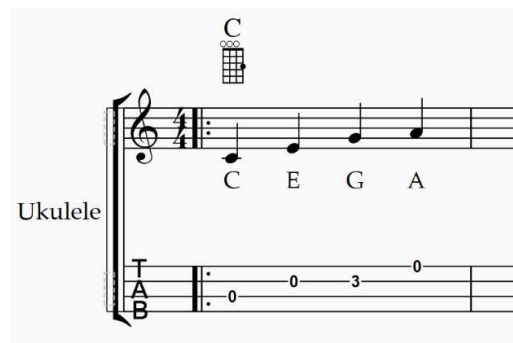
Ukulele

0-2-0-3-0-3-0-2-0-0-2-0-3-0-3-0-3-0-2-0

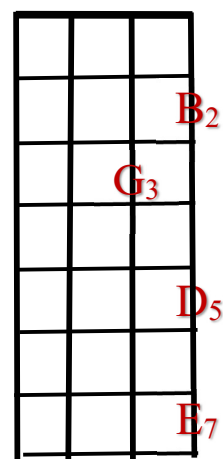
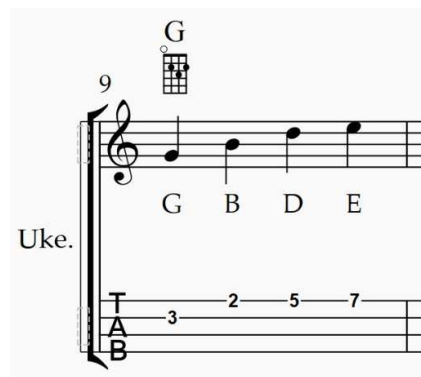
The pentatonic scale provides the foundation for improvisation. Play around with the notes and see what you can do – they will all fit over a C chord progression – try it with a friend or a backing track. *(Experimenting is a great way to learn and fun too!)*

New patterns for C, F and G using the pentatonic scale:

For C pattern, we have added the 6th note in the C major scale to the 1st pattern we have learnt.



For the F pattern, we need to change the fingering by moving the 1st finger up to the C at the 3rd fret so we can reach the D.



For the G pattern, we need to change the fingering by moving the 1st finger from B up to the D at the 5th fret so we can reach the high E, remembering that we use the 2nd finger for G.

There are alternatives (e.g. play B on the 7th fret of the 2nd string after playing G with the 1st finger – but we will be looking at movable shapes later on.)

12 Bar Blues using Pentatonic scale.

12 Bar Blues in C (2)

Ukulele

(repeat previous bar)

4

Uke.

5

Uke.

9

In the next example we might will add some colour to the chords and also add a turn-around to the notes.

A **turn-around** is a pattern at the end of a section which leads back to the beginning or to another passage of music.

Let's vary the chord shapes by alternating between the major chord and the added 6th note.

C6 = F6 = G6 =

(Note: Playing 4 bars of C chord on its own can sound a bit boring – we can always embellish the chords by adding different but related chord structures. More on this later.)

12 Bar Blues in C (3)

The musical score for 12 Bar Blues in C (3) is presented in three systems, each with a treble clef staff and a four-string ukulele fretboard. The first system (bars 1-4) features C major chords and a melody of quarter notes. The second system (bars 5-8) features F major and C major chords. The third system (bars 9-12) features G, F, and C major chords, ending with a 'Turn-around' sequence. A green vertical line separates the first and second systems.

System 1 (Bars 1-4): Ukulele. Chords: C, C, C, C. (repeat previous bar) 4

System 2 (Bars 5-8): Uke. Chords: F, F, C, C. 4

System 3 (Bars 9-12): Uke. Chords: G, G, F, F, C, C⁶, F, F^{#o}, G. Turn-around....

Play the chords with a *shuffle* – a Down Up strum in a rocking motion rather than straight equal beats.

Swing as a rhythmic style in Blues shuffle or boogie. It is not an even beat.

Let's vary the pattern a little.

12 Bar Blues in C (4)

The musical score for 12 Bar Blues in C (4) is presented in three systems, each with a treble clef staff and a guitar-style tablature staff. The first system (bars 1-4) starts with a C chord diagram and a measure rest. The second system (bars 5-8) starts with an F chord diagram and a measure rest. The third system (bars 9-12) starts with a G chord diagram and a measure rest. The tablature includes fret numbers and bar lines. A green vertical line is placed between the first and second systems.

Play the chords with a *shuffle* – C C6 – F F6 – G G6 etc.

Let's add some more spice by adding some transitions from C to F and from C to G.

12 Bar Blues in C (5)

Ukulele

transition from C to F

Uke.

transition from C to G

Uke.

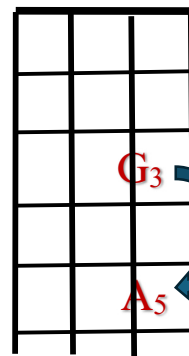
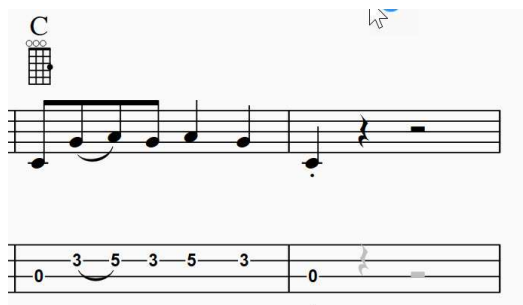
Here is a simple Riff you can add in to the 12 Bar Blues.

A riff is a short pattern of notes and often used as tools for improving melodies over a chord progression like the 12 bar blues. There are many riffs you can use and/or make up your own (as in this case, using the pentatonic scale notes only).

C Riff

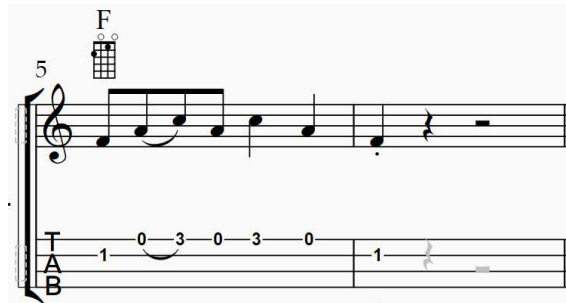
Note that here we are playing most of the notes on **one string** – the second string. By placing your 1st finger on the 3rd fret G. This allows you to hammer-on using your 3rd finger on A(5th fret) while keeping the 1st finger pressed on the 3rd fret G.

Hammer-on is the technique of bringing a finger down sharply on the fingerboard behind a fret to play a note. Hammer-ons require at least two notes on the same string with an ascending pitch

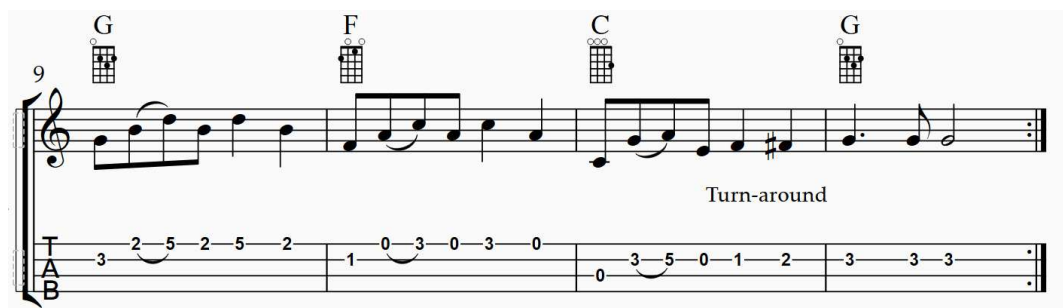


After playing the G using the 1st finger hammer-on your 3rd finger to make the A sound.

F Riff This should not pose any problems to work out. But this time the hammer on is from an open string A to the 3rd fret C using the 3rd finger.



The final 4 bars will take a bit of extra practice (the hammer-on here will be using the 4th finger on D after the 1st finger plays B unless you can stretch your 3rd finger there):-



Pentatonic Riff over 12 Bar Blues in C

Once you can master this, feel free to play around with the notes or make up your own. Great to muck around with a friend or a backing track!

Swing **C**

Ukulele

1st finger on G - 3rd for A
Hammer on

Rest for 3 beats

5 **F** **C**

Uke.

9 **G** **F** **C** **G**

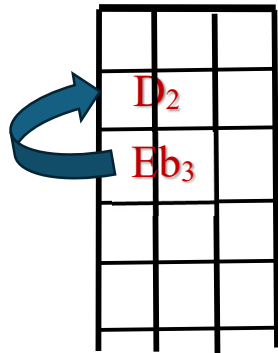
Uke.

Turn-around

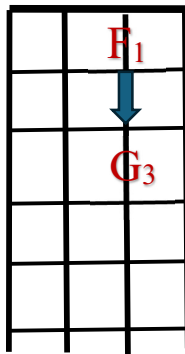
More useful techniques: -

The image shows a musical score for ukulele in 4/4 time. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The bottom staff is a tablature for a four-string ukulele (T, A, B, E). The first measure shows a pull-off technique: a quarter note on the 3rd fret (D) and an eighth note on the 2nd fret (Eb) beamed together, with a 'pull-off' instruction. The second measure shows a slide: a quarter note on the 1st fret (F) with a 'slide' instruction and a slur leading to a quarter note on the 3rd fret (G). The third measure shows bending: a half note on the 7th fret (G) with a 'bending' instruction and a slur leading to a half note on the 7th fret (G).

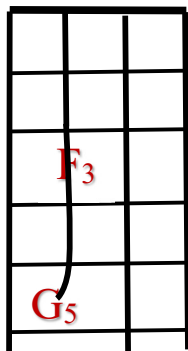
Pull- Off - Place both fingers on the notes, hold down the D while you pull-off the 3rd finger on the Eb by flicking to the side so that the D sounds.



Slide – slide your 1st finger from F up to G without lifting the finger off the fingerboard so the slide can be heard.



BEND. I've put G on the 3rd string so it's easier to bend the note by pushing it a little across the fingerboard towards you. Use your 3rd finger (it may help to have the 1st finger on the F below). The sound should bend and sound bluesy as the note stretches to a higher pitch!



Exciting times ahead. It's time to move onto the Blues scales!

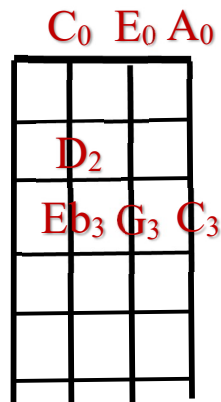
The C major blues scale.

Ukulele

note the E flat sign followed by the natural sign

C D Eb E F G A C

0 2 3 0 1 3 0 3



Note that the extra note is a flattened 3rd in the scale – the Eb followed by E. Eb can often be named D# - same note/ same position. We normally refer to it as a flattened 3rd as it gives us the blues feeling in the harmony (chord structures).

This is very similar to the pentatonic scale as the F (the 4th note) and the B (the 7th Note) have been omitted). *The Eb is the added note.*

8

D# is the same pitch and fingering as Eb

D# E F G A Bb C

3 0 3 0 3 3 0

12 Major Bar Blues Shuffle in C

Ukulele

hammer-on

transition from C to F

Uke.

transition from C to G

Uke.

slide 1st finger from A# to B

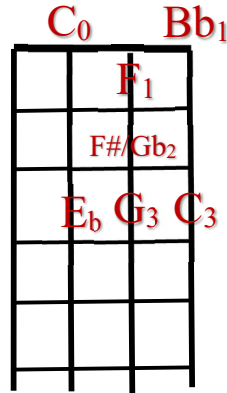
The C Major Blues scale builds upon the pentatonic foundation for improvisation. Play around with the notes and see what you can do – they will all fit over a C chord progression – try it with a friend or a backing track. *Have fun!*

The C minor blues scale.

Ukulele

Notes: C, Eb, F, F# (Also Gb - the flattened 5th note of the scale), G, Bb, C

Fingering (TAB): 0, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 3



Uke.

Notes: D#, F#, Bb, Gb, Eb

F# is the same pitch and fingering as Gb

As we go up the scale we use sharps #. Coming back down we use flats b.

Fingering (TAB): 0, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1, 3, 1, 3, 2, 1, 3, 0

A minor blues scale is often just referred to as a blues scale. A blues scale contains *blue notes*. *Blue notes* are flattened notes.

Blue notes in the scale above include the **flattened third (Eb)**, **flattened fifth (Gb)**, and **flattened seventh note (Bb)** of the C Blues scale, although the exact pitches can vary (*especially if bent*- more on this later – see *Techniques*)

Walking Bass Blues with flattened 7th Chords

The image shows three staves of music for ukulele, each with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The first staff is labeled 'Ukulele' and features a C7 chord diagram above the first measure. The second staff is labeled 'Uke.' and features F7 and C7 chord diagrams above the first and third measures respectively. The third staff is labeled 'Uke.' and features Dm7, G7, C7, and G7 chord diagrams above the first, second, third, and fourth measures respectively. Each staff includes a bass line with fingerings (0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6) and a treble line with notes. The third staff includes the text 'introducing a II IV I progression' below the first measure.

Why not double each note with a rocking rhythm CC EE GG AA BbBb AA GG EE and so on.

Strummers: Don't forget to shuffle the rhythm in twos as in the tip above - or add chord variations (see next page).

Walking Bass Blues with 6th & 7th Chords

Ukulele

C C⁶ C⁷ C⁶ C and so on....

Uke.

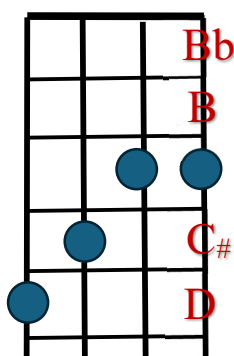
F F⁶ F⁷ F⁶ F C and so on....

Uke.

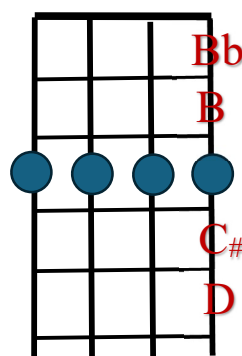
Dm⁷ Am⁷ Dm⁷ D⁷ G Am⁷ A⁷ G⁷ C N.C. C G⁷

introducing a II IV I progression

There are many variations on chord shapes, we have only touched on a couple. Movable chords like C are useful, especially when changing key by moving the shape up and down the neck. The Cm⁷ is a very bluesy chord (minor chords contain a flattened 3rd in this case an Eb).



C=C chord

C=C^{7m} chord

C minor blues on the 3rd string!

3rd Position Shift to 5th position

fingers 1 1 2 3

TAB 4/4 0 3 5 6 7

1st finger on Eb is the 3rd position

3rd finger for F is the 3rd position
(Move 1st finger up to F to go to 5th position)

2nd finger in the 5th position

3rd finger in the 5th position

C

Eb

F

F# Bb Should you need the Bb - it's here

G

C C is here if required (4th finger)

Stay in the **3rd position** for the C riff and the F riff – move up to the **5th position** for G and turn-around sections.

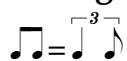
Let's play a Boogie Riff on one string only. See below. Look out for **repeated patterns** and **phrases** (for example – C riff notes are in **red** – the same phrase repeats over the 6 bars).

Stay in the 3rd position for the first 8 bars.

Boogie Woogie in 12

Swing

John Heyworth



C C⁶ C C⁶ C C⁶ C C⁶ C C⁶ C C⁶

Ukulele

Uke.

4 C C⁶ C C⁶ F F⁶ F F⁶ F F⁶ F F⁶ C C⁶ C C⁶

Uke.

8 C C⁶ C C⁶ G⁷

F

Uke.

11 C

G⁷

C⁶

Now we're rock'n'rolling, swinging the night away and all that jazz!

The following pieces are for you to study and play. OR better still - make up your own or jam with a friend or two. Above all, have fun!!

USEFUL LINKS

How to Strum the 12-Bar Blues on Ukulele and Sound “Bluesy”

<https://youtu.be/24Kx4jMUoh4?si=YknJtPAIr6ODTWX>

Learn the C Blues Scale on Ukulele to Prepare to Solo | Blues Week Part 2 of 4

https://youtu.be/fSGuD3QY6ow?si=g_bl5wALh9RYcRsv

How to play hammer-ons on ukulele

<https://youtu.be/ewTJh0aMMw0?si=GIQ8TgvXCEhhJe15>

How to Pull-off on Ukulele

https://youtu.be/jRzdfupjqBM?si=zE6WpDjQl4mW7r_N

How to do bends on your ukulele!

<https://youtu.be/VwKhtOux6ik?si=kjre957MxLNqbVLK>

3 Blues Licks Every Ukulele Player Should Know!

<https://youtu.be/JLYjkkB6-6g?si=QZtE39XRtdESUJf2>

Boogie-woogie riff in C for ukulele

<https://youtu.be/kfuqoHNElKg?si=SwxzcZnW-eIt4NVr>

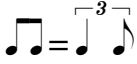
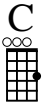
Ukulele Trick Of The Week: #3 A Cool Blues Run in C

<https://youtu.be/QHmOjSbzvhw?si=cmhFpXWMoKPepG2z>

Boogie Woogie in C

Swing

JNH



C C6 C C6 C C6 etc...

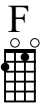
Ukulele

Ukulele staff with treble clef and key signature of one flat. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. A tie is placed over the final G4. A double bar line with a repeat sign is at the end of the staff. A '2' is written above the double bar line.

a quick hammer on here

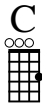
Tie (hold the note over)

Ukulele fretboard diagram showing frets 1, 3, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0.



5

F F6 F F6 F F6 etc...



C C6 C C6 C C6 etc...

Uke.

Ukulele staff with treble clef and key signature of one flat. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. A tie is placed over the final G4. A double bar line with a repeat sign is at the end of the staff. A '2' is written above the double bar line.

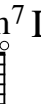
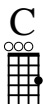
a quick hammer on here

Ukulele fretboard diagram showing frets 4-5, 1, 3, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0.



9

G G6 G G6 F F6 F F6



Fine

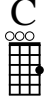
Uke.

Ukulele staff with treble clef and key signature of one flat. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. A tie is placed over the final G4. A double bar line with a repeat sign is at the end of the staff. A '2' is written above the double bar line.

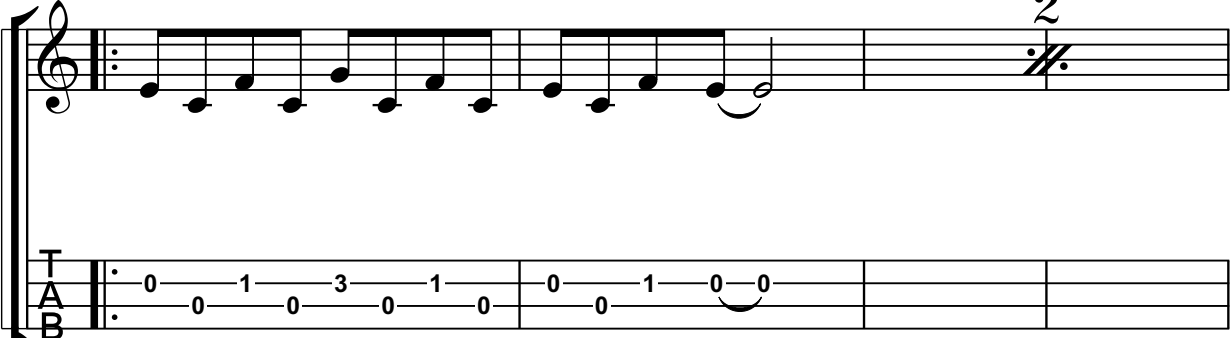
Ukulele fretboard diagram showing frets 2, 3, 5, 3, 0, 1, 3, 1, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3, 0.

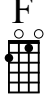
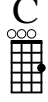
Boogie Woogie 2 in C

JNH

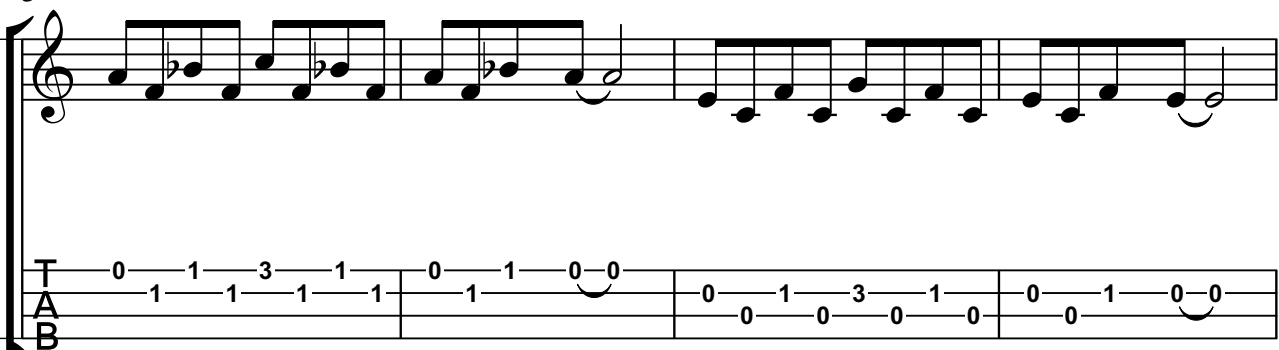
Swing   C C6 C C6 C C6 etc...

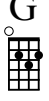
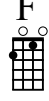
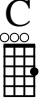
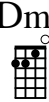
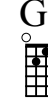
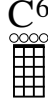
Ukulele



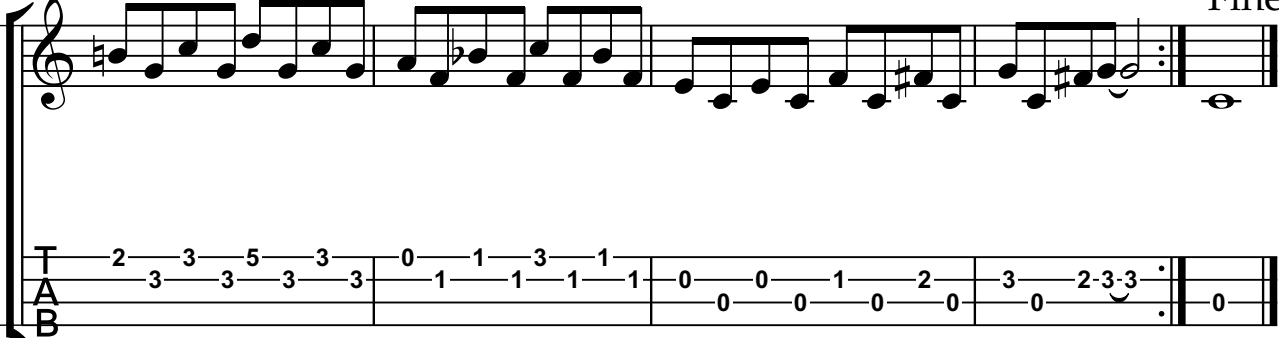
5  F F6 F F6 F F6 etc...  C C6 C C6 C C6 etc...

Uke.



9  G G6 G G6  F F6 F F6  C  Am7  Dm7  D7  G7  C6 Fine

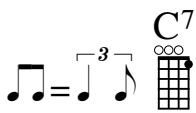
Uke.



For You Blue

John Heyworth

Swing



Ukulele

BEND

BEND wherever you feel it needs it

Uke.

Uke.

9

G7 F7 C7 Dm G7 Dm G7 C7

Fine

1 4-3-1-3 2 3 1-3-0-3 1 3-0-1-2-3-1 1-3 1 0 0

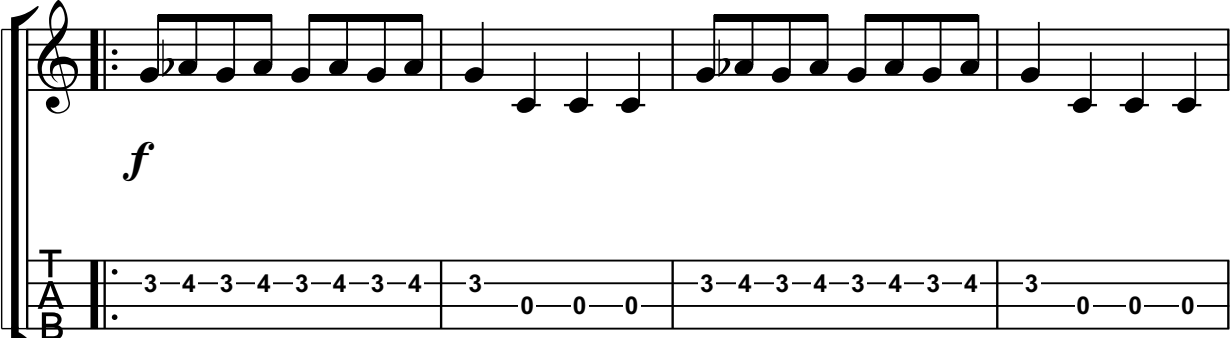
Lunar Rock

John Heyworth

A Cm^7  3fr

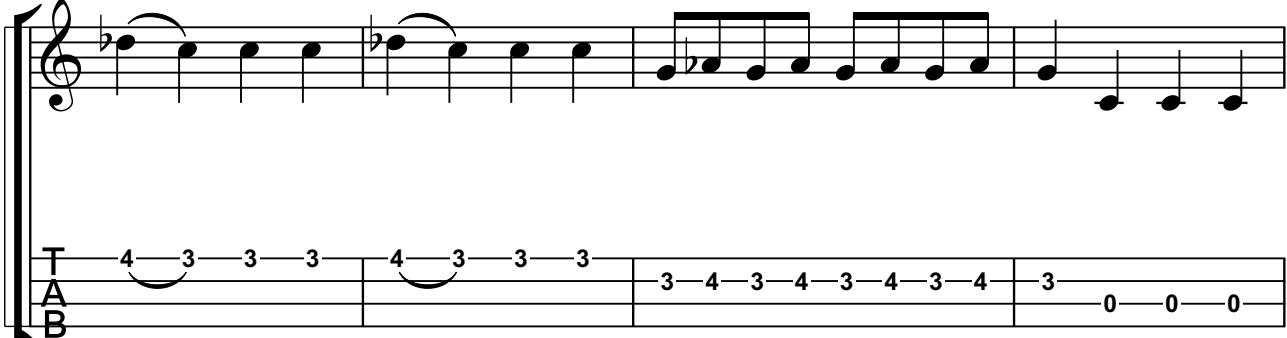
Allegretto

Ukulele *f*



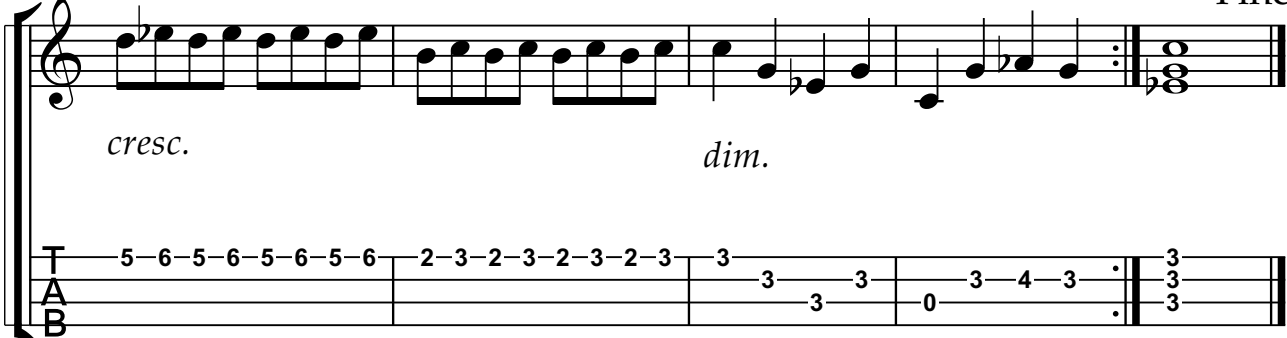
Fm  5 Cm^7  3fr

Uke.



G^7  9 Cm^7  3fr G^7  Fine

Uke. *cresc.* *dim.*



Rocking Blues

JNH

Ukulele

C⁷

4

T
A
B

0 0 3 0 1 1 3 1

[illegible]

Uke.

9

Shift 1st finger to 8th position

6th position

T
A
B

3-3 5-3 8-8 10-8 1-1 1 3-6-6-8-6 0-0 0 1-1-3-1 3 0-1-2-3

Uke.

13

C

3

3

3

C

C7

FINE

T 7 6 5 3 3 1

A 7 7 6 6 5 5 0 0 0

B 7 7 6 6 5 5 0 0 0

John Heyworth

Chord Transitions

C(7) to F

Ukulele

Chord diagrams: C, C⁷, C⁶, C, F

T	3	1	0	0	1
A	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	0	0	2

C to G

Uke.

Chord diagrams: C, C^{maj7}, C⁷, C⁶, G

T	3	2	1	0	2
A	0	0	0	0	3
B	0	0	0	0	2

G to C (with ending)

Uke.

Chord diagrams: G, G⁹, G^m, G⁷, C, C, C⁶, C

T	0	1	2	3	3	0	3
A	3	3	3	1	0	0	0
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Movable major scale pattern beyond C

3rd string

starting notes:

C#/Dd

D - - - - - →

D#/Eb

E

F

F#/Gb

G

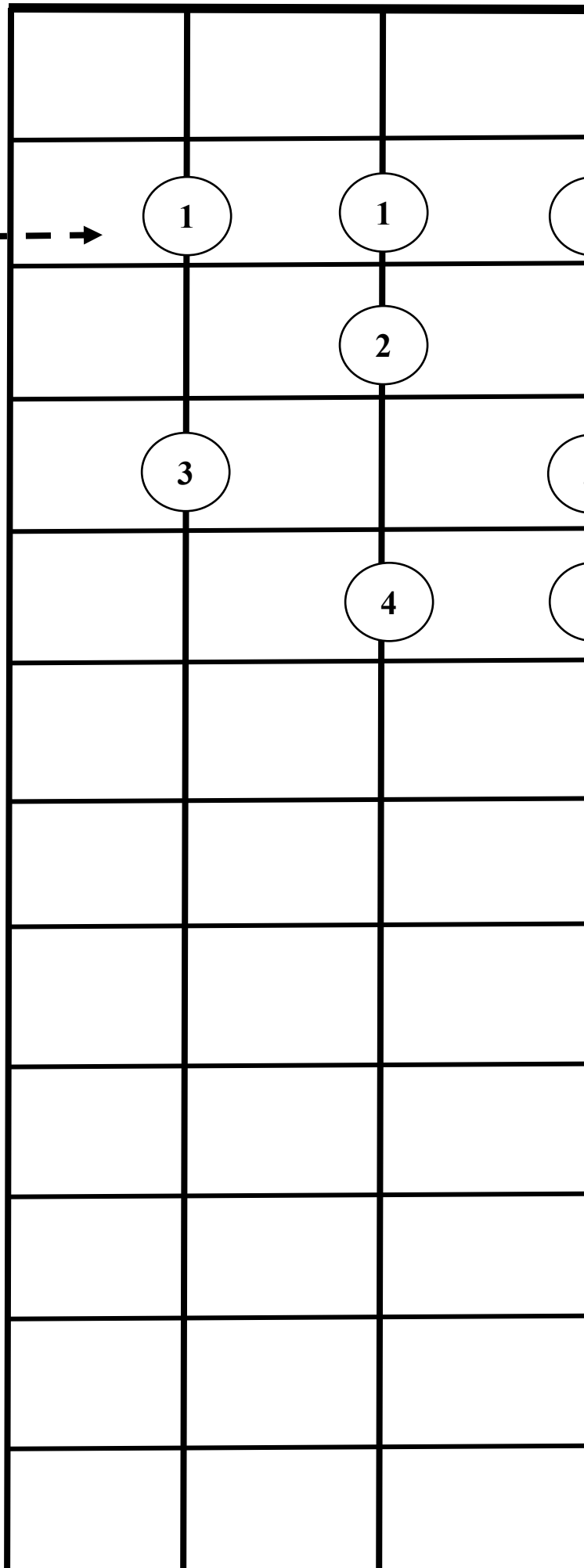
G#/Ab

A

A#/Bb

B

C



D scale/starting note D

Moveable Pentatonic scale pattern

3rd strings
starting notes:
C#/Dd

D -----> 1 1 1 D scale/starting note D

D#/Eb

E

F

F#/Gb

G

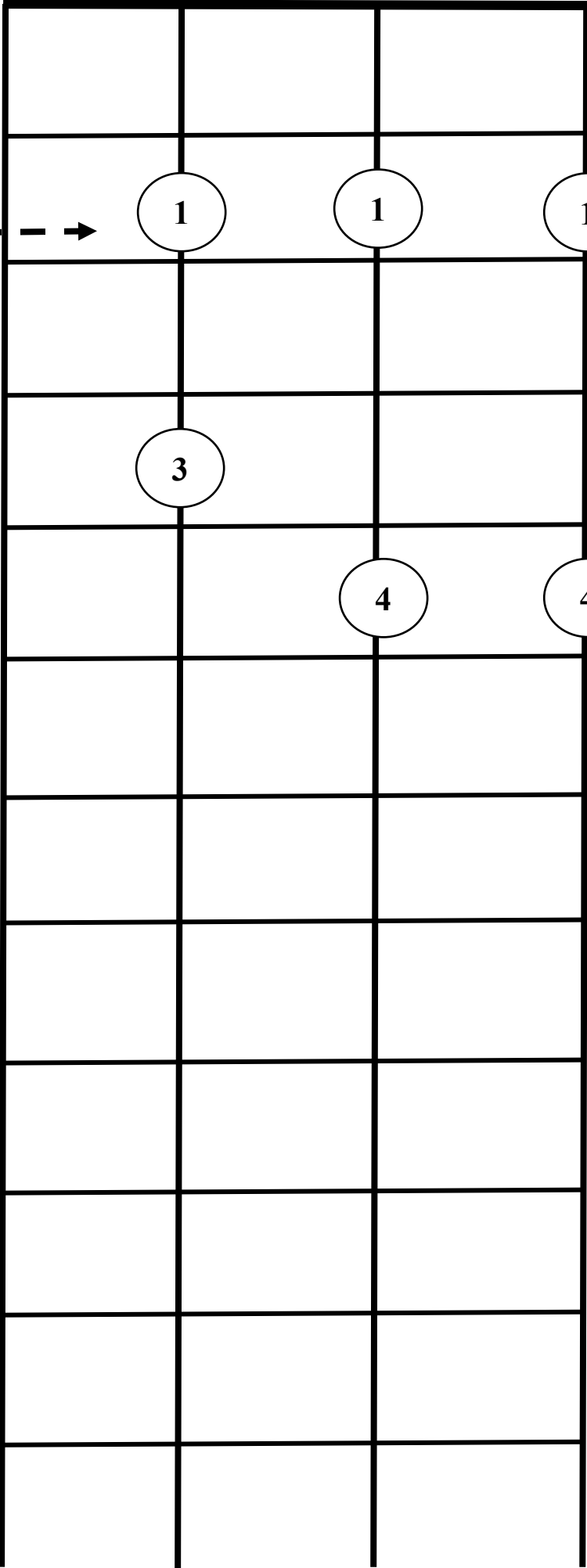
G#/Ab

A

A#/Bb

B

C



Moveable Major Blues scale pattern

3rd string

starting notes:

C#/Dd

D - - - - - →

D#/Eb

E

F

F#/Gb

G

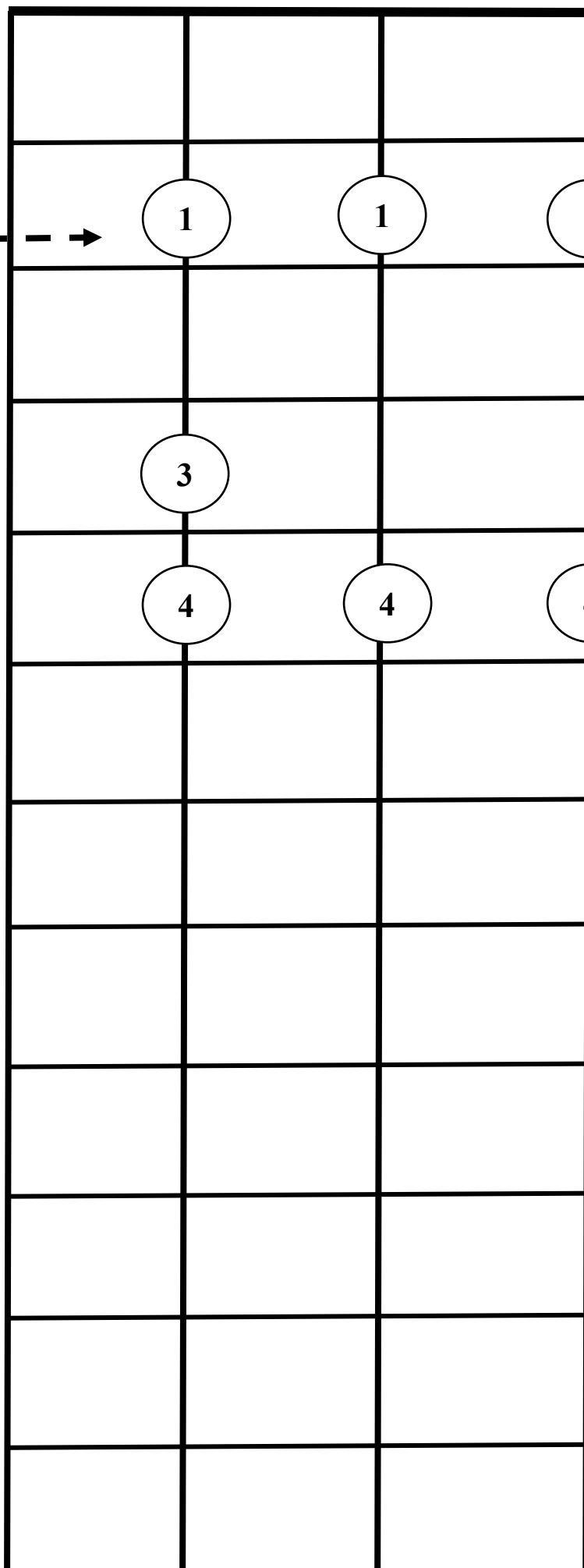
G#/Ab

A

A#/Bb

B

C



D scale/starting note D

Basic 12 Bar Blues in D



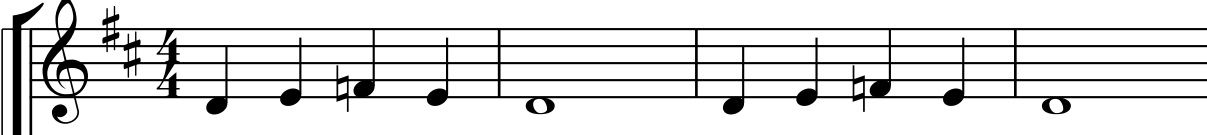


 D D6 D7 D6 etc.....or
 



 D D6 D7 D6 etc.....

Ukulele



(1st 3rd 4th 3rd fingers)

T																
A	2—4—5—4				2—				2—4—5—4				2—			
B																

5

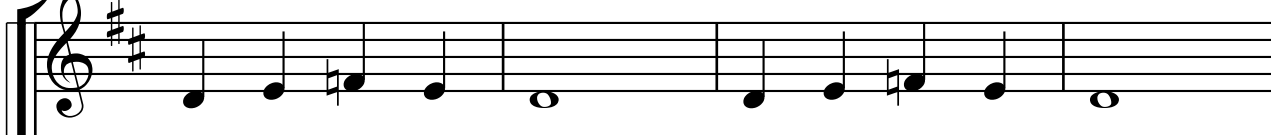




 G G6 G7 G6 etc.....
 



 D D6 D7 D6 etc.....



T																
A	2—4—5—4				2—				2—4—5—4				2—			
B																

9





 A A6 A7 A6 etc.....
 



 D D6 D7 D6 etc....

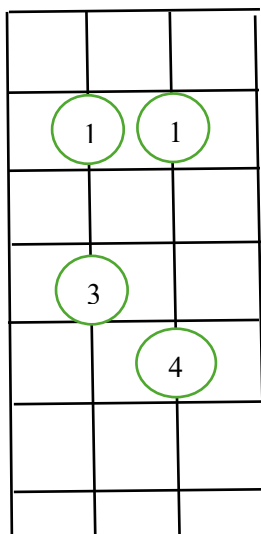


T																
A	2—4—5—4				2—				2—4—5—4				2—			
B																

8 bar SOLO - (Major Blues Pattern) *In D*

CHORDS		A7		D
FINGERS	1 3 1	4 4 4 4 1 3	1	1 3 1
STRING	3 3 2	2 2 2 2 2 3	3	3 3 2
BEAT	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	

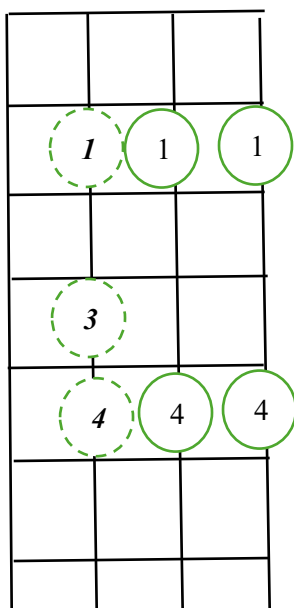
First 2 section fingers:



3rd section

A7	D
4 4 4 4 1 3	1 1 4 1
2 2 2 2 2 3	3 2 2 1
1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4

3rd & 4th (dashed) section fingers:

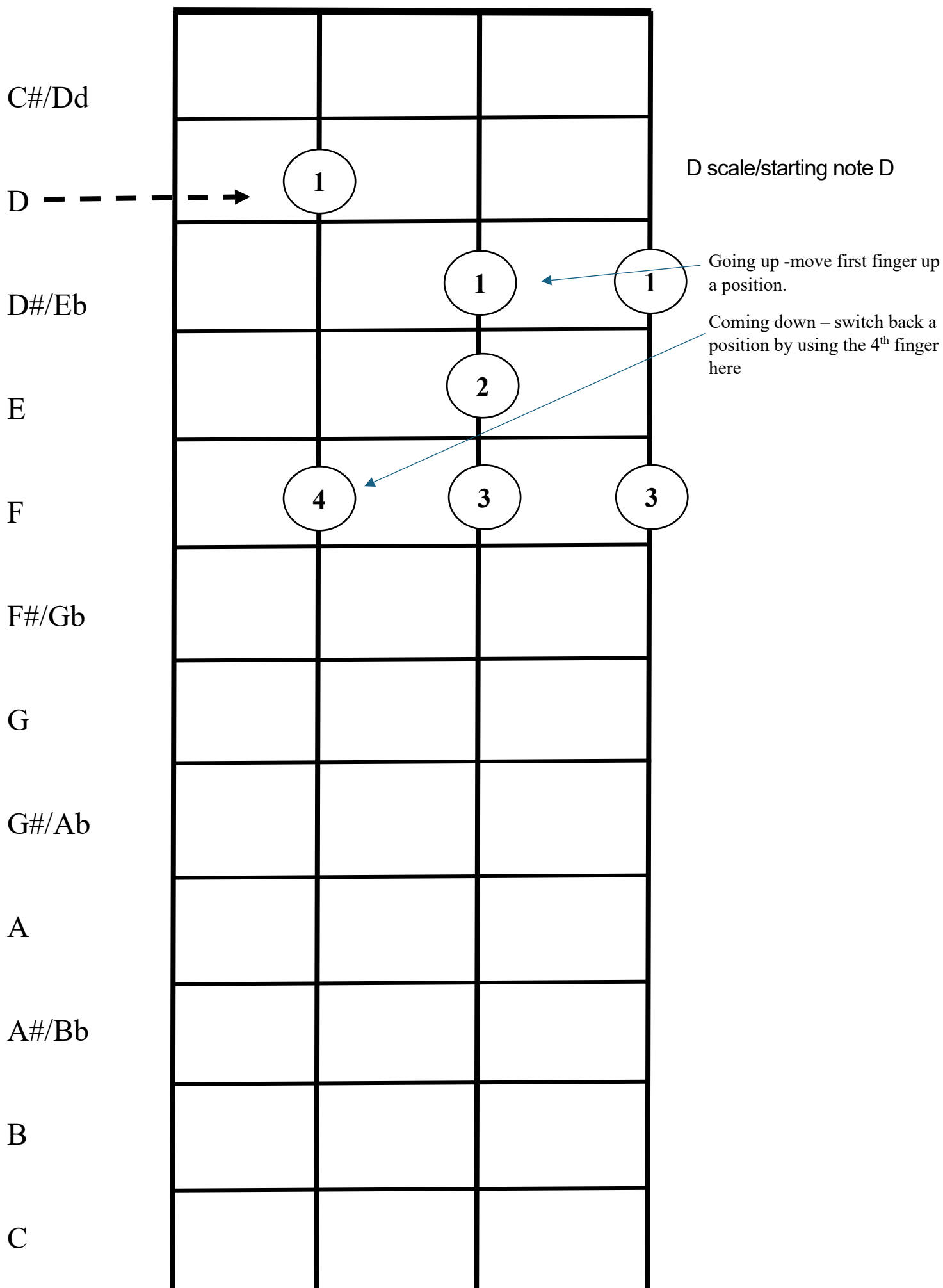


4th section (dashed)

G	D
4 4 4 4 1 4	1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 1 2	2 3 3 3
1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4

A7	D
3 3 4 3	1
3 3 3 3	3
1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4

Moveable Minor Blues scale pattern



Summary of Movable scales in D

Ukulele

D Major scale

1 3 1 2 4 1 3 4

fingers

T A B

2 4 2 3 5 2 4 5

Uke.

D Major Pentatonic Scale

1 3 1 4 1 4

T A B

2 4 2 5 2 5

Uke.

D Major Blues Scale

1 3 4 1 4 1 4

T A B

2 4 5 2 5 2 5

Uke.

D Minor Blues Scale

1 4 1 2 3 1 3

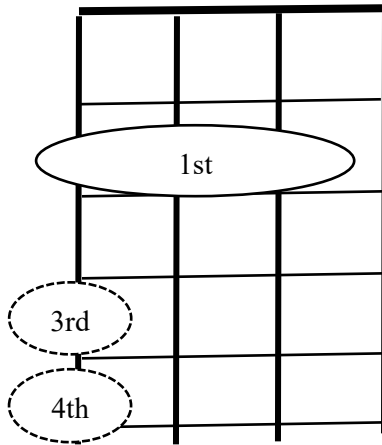
shift up 1 position

T A B

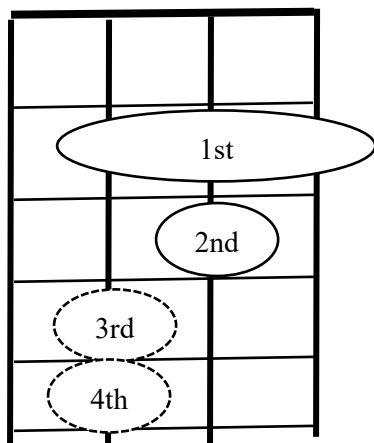
2 5 3 4 5 3 5

Chord shapes for key of D blues

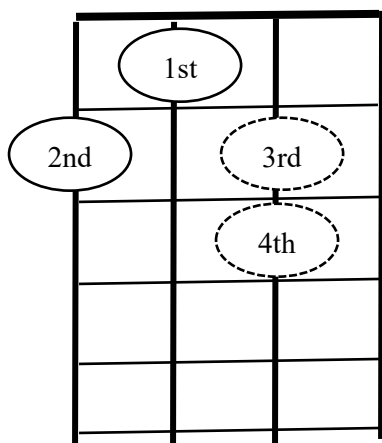
D chord D D6 D7 D6 etc... (add the 3rd finger for D6 and the 4th finger for D7)



G chord G G6 G7 G6 etc... (add the 3rd finger for G6 and the 4th finger for G7)



A chord A A6 A7 A6 etc... (add the 3rd finger for A6 and the 4th finger for A7)



Moveable Major Chords

Chord name taken from 1st string notes:

A#/Bb

B

C major

C#/Dd

D

D#/Eb

E

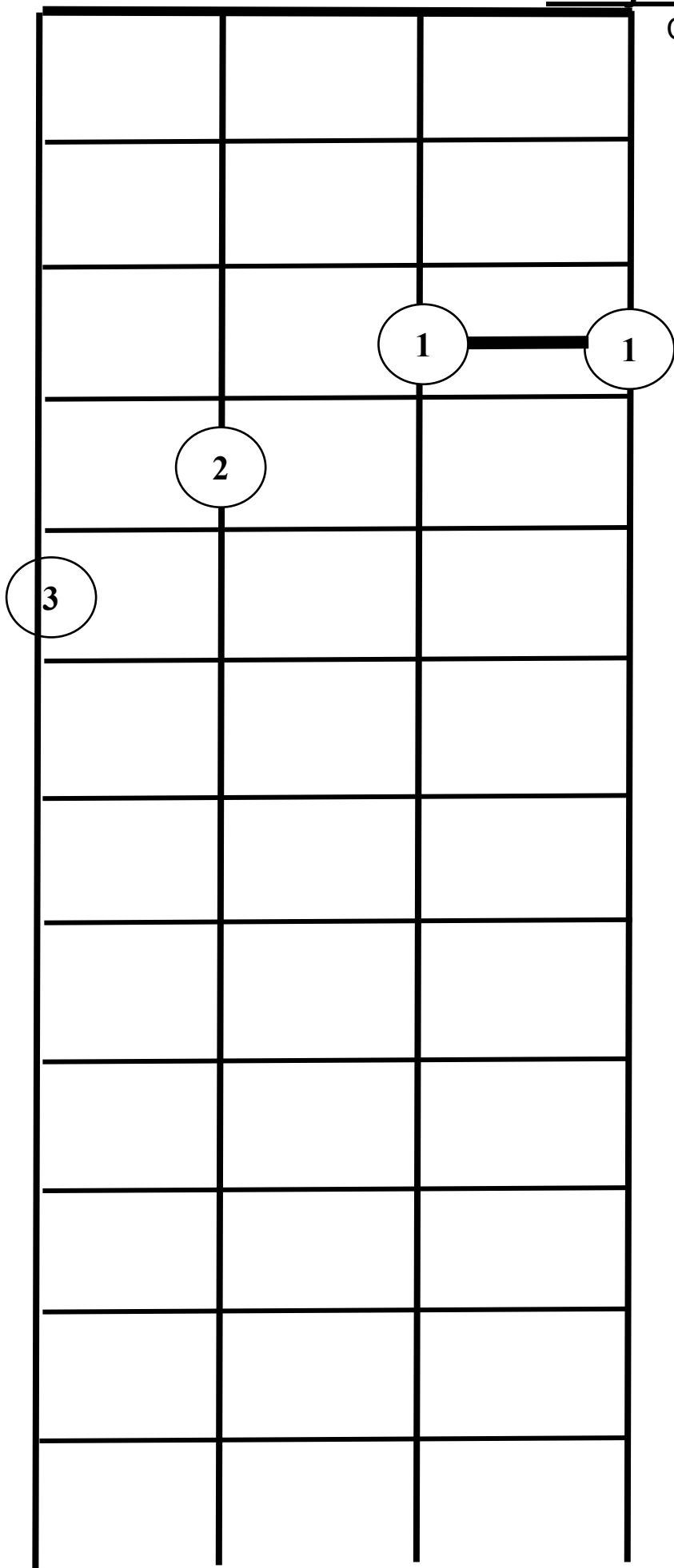
F

F#/Gb

G

G#/Ab

A



Moveable Major Chords 6th, 7th & 9th

1st string notes

A#/Bb

B

C major

C#/Dd

D

e.g.

C9

C6

C7

D#/Eb

E

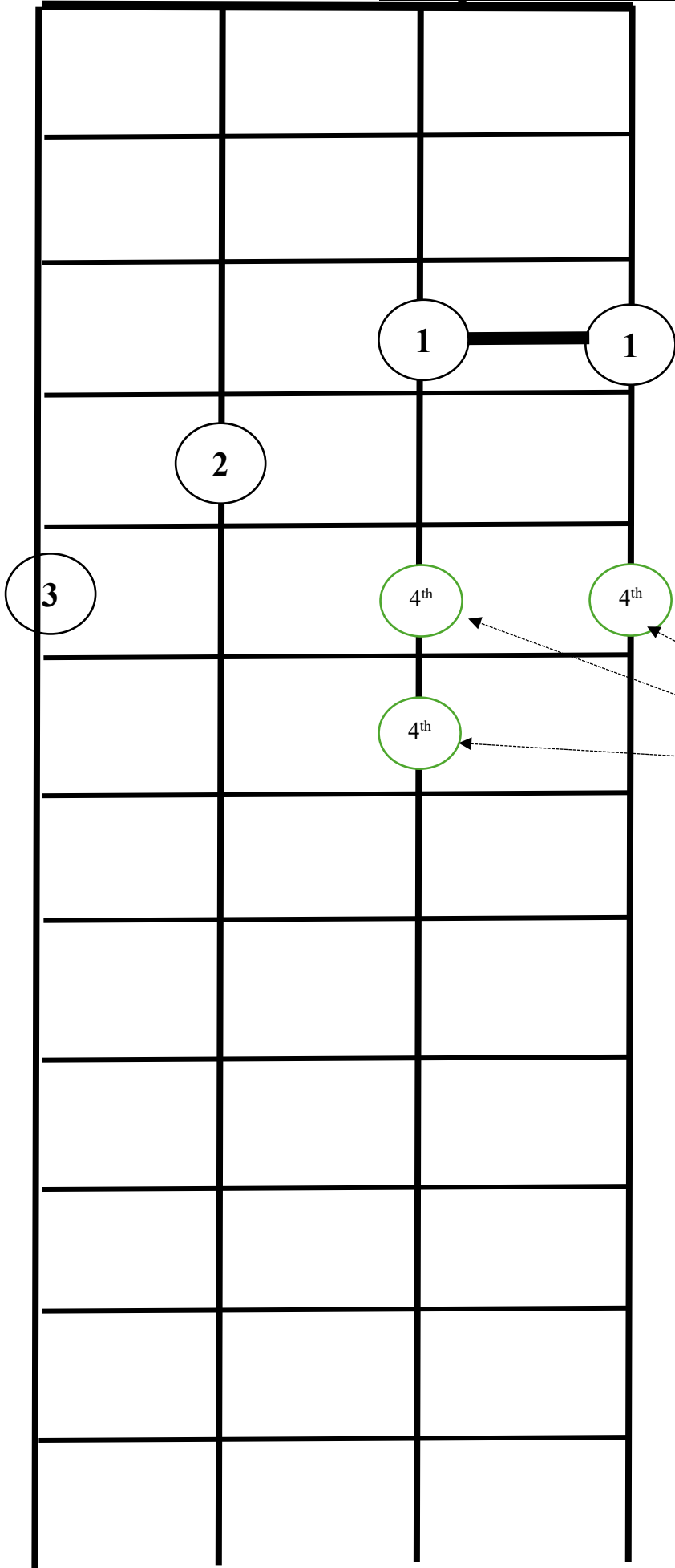
F

F#/Gb

G

G#/Ab

A



Moveable Major Chords from 3rd strings

3rd string notes

C#/Db

D

D#/Eb

E

F major

F#/Gb

G

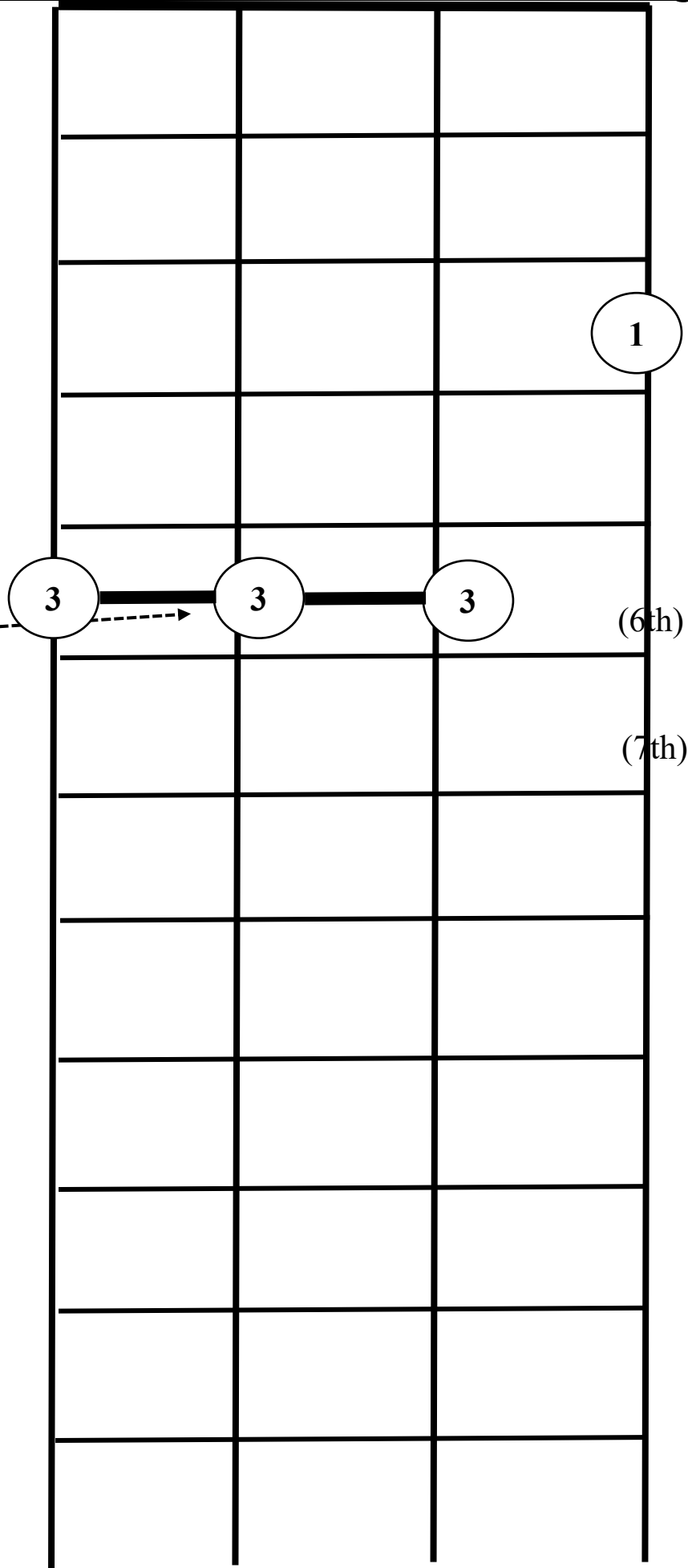
G#/Ab

A

A#/Bb

B

C



Moveable Minor Chords from 3rd strings

3rd string notes

C#/Db

D

D#/Eb

E

F minor

F#/Gb

G

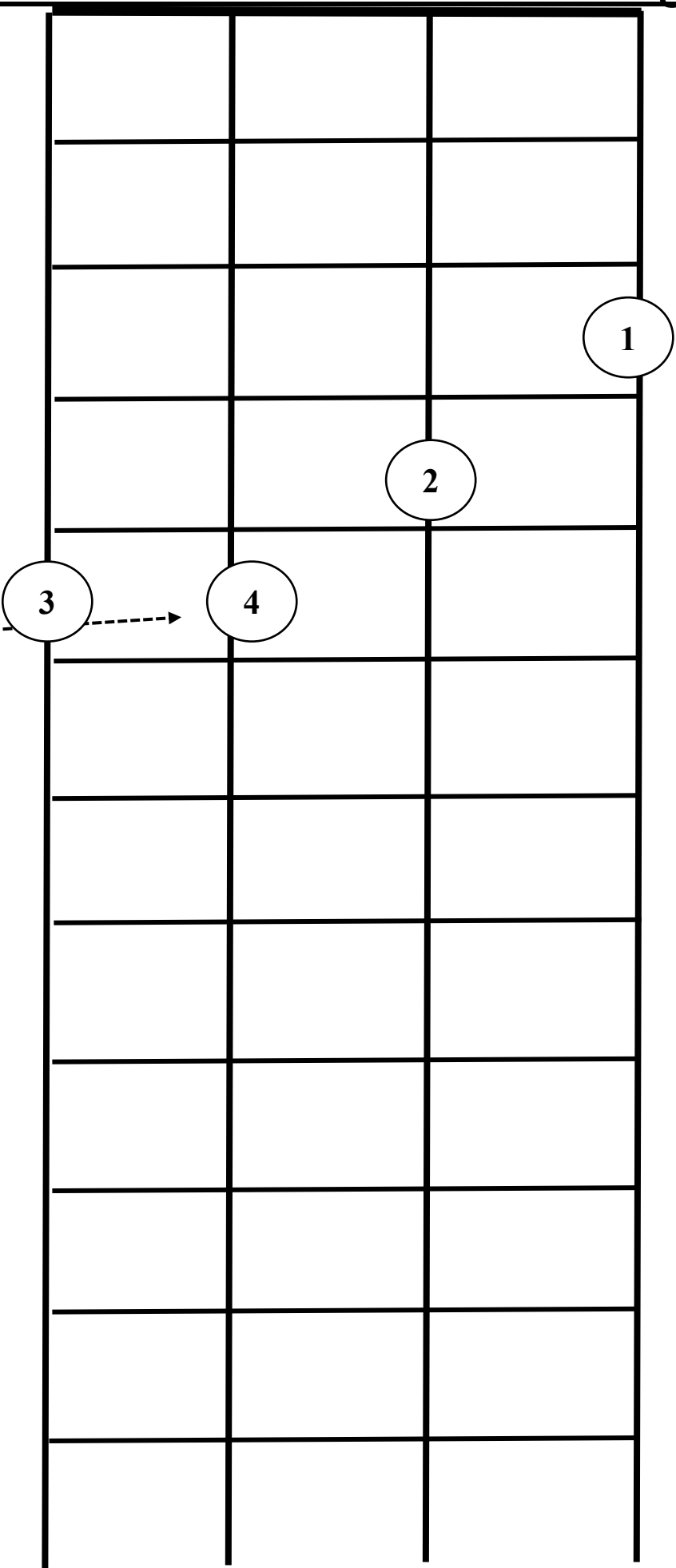
G#/Ab

A

A#/Bb

B

C



Basic Jazz Chords

in C,G,D and F major

C major

Cmaj7 Dm7 Em7 Fmaj7 G7 Am7 B°7 JNH

Ukulele

I ii iii IV V vi vii

G major

Gmaj7 Am7 Bm7 Cmaj7 D7 Em7 F#°7

8 Uke.

I ii iii IV V vi vii

D major

Dmaj7 Em7 F#m7 Gmaj7 A7 Bm7 C#°7

15 Uke.

I ii iii IV V vi vii

F major

Fmaj7 Gm7 Am7 Bbmaj7 C7 Dm7 E°7

22 Uke.

I ii iii IV V vi vii

2-5-1 in C Major

OPEN CHORDS

Dm⁷G⁷

Cmaj7

2314

0213

0002

Ukulele

**T
A
B**

-2—2-2-2-

-3-3-3-3-

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

CLOSED CHORDS

Dm⁷G⁷

Cmaj7

5

1111

2314

2311

Uke.

**T
A
B**

-2-2-2-2

—3—3—3

—0—0—0—0—|—0—0—0—0—

Closed C Blues Scale

Ukulele

D Eb E G A C D Eb D C

1 2 3 1 3 1 3 4 3 1

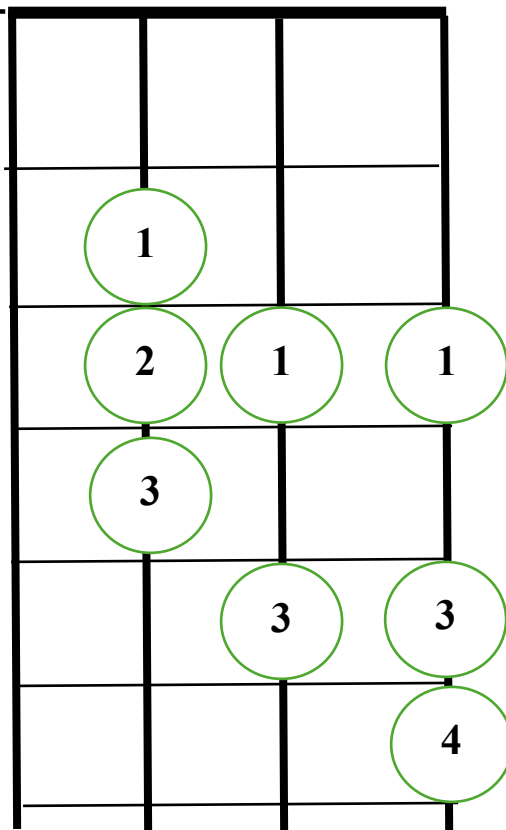
T 3 5 6 5 3

A 2 3 4 3 5

B 4 3 5

C 3 5 6 5 3

Fingering:-



Riff ideas

Based on the closed C Blues scale

Ukulele

Ukulele

1 2

TAB

2-3-4 3-3-5-3 3-5 3-5-6-5-3 5-3

Chords: Cmaj7, Am7, Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Am7

Uke.

Uke.

3 4

TAB

2-2-2-3-2-0 5-3-5 3-5-5-6-5

Chords: Dm7, G7, Cmaj7, Am7, Dm7, G7

Uke. Cmaj7 Am7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Am7

Uke.

TAB: 3 | 3-5-3-5-3-5 | 3-3

Uke. Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Am7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Dm7 G7 C6

Uke.

Uke.

TAB: 6-5-6-5-6-5 | 4-3-3-2-2-3-2 | 3-5-3-5-6

Acknowledgements

Website references:

¹ (Bandura, A. (1977). Self-efficacy: Toward a unifying theory of behavioral change. *Psychological Review*, 84(2), 191–215. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0033-295X.84.2.191>)

² Open University *OpenLearn* Website 2025 (<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/discovering-music-the-blues/content-section-4#:~:text=Alyn%20Shipton%2C%20a%20scholar%20of,of%20spiritual%20and%20gospel%20music%27>).

³ Cambridge University Website 2025
(<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/blues>)

⁴ NICE 2025. Website (<https://www.nice.org.uk/about/nice-communities/social-care/quick-guides/promoting-positive-mental-wellbeing-for-older-people#:~:text=A%20quick%20guide%20for%20registered,sense%20of%20belonging%20and%20support.>)

⁵ Lawrence Robinson, Melinda Smith, M.A., Jeanne Segal, Ph.D. and Jennifer Shubin, 2025). HelpGuide.Org. (<https://www.helpguide.org/mental-health/wellbeing/benefits-of-play-for-adults>)

⁶ Bigger, Better Brains: Why repetition is important (website 2025):
<https://www.biggerbetterbrains.com.au/research-updates/the-power-of-repetition#:~:text=Muscle%20Memory:%20Repeating%20movements%20help,Lea%20Faes>

⁷ Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/art/chord-music>

Internet Sites for lyrics:

GetLyrics.com,
Chordie.com
ultimateguitar/ukulele.com

YouTube sites:

The Orchard Enterprises: Eric Clapton, Alberta (Acoustic Live).
https://youtu.be/6mR86U1_g3Y?si=BezworJEMv-ETQCe Retrieved 2025.

The Ukulele Fool: 10 Songs with only C Am F G7.
<https://images.app.goo.gl/T9rfcuNfXvYgzi6Z9> Retrieved 2025

Christopher Davis-Shannon. Forget Strumming Patterns- Build Your Ukulele Swing Strum from Scratch. <https://youtu.be/DSwbC1357JU?si=k3xTHNFlgfwqrN9> Retrieved 2025

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1. Stock Photo ID: 2109744443 Miguel G. Saavedra. Hands of musician playing ukulele on blue lights background.
2. Stock Photo ID: 187289915 Slava SelfStudio. Happy young man is playing ukulele guitar and singing on the sofa at home.
3. Stock Photo ID: 1699903171 ZoneCreative. Dad teaching guitar and ukulele to his daughter. Little girl learning guitar at home. Close up. Ukulele class at home. Child learning guitar from her father/
4. Stock Photo ID: 2144285757: Dragon Images. Happy Asian family of five laughing, playing ukulele and singing song into microphone.
5. Stock Vector ID: 2257124397 Kids and professional Ukulele sizes comparison in centimeters, flat diagram vector poster.
6. Stock Photo ID: 1589850895 OB production. Tuning ukulele tuner. Close up. Isolated on white background.
7. Stock Photo ID: 104314223 Trofimov Denis. tuning the first string of ukulele, human hands, closeup.
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12. Stock Photo ID: 2236341743 jrpPhoto. Woman sitting singing and playing ukulele in the garden next to the house. The sun shines on the ukulele. Women are happy in music.
13. Stock Vector ID: 2061715589 Artitok. Ukulele chords, G7 chords.musical symbol.Isolated vector illustration on a white background.
14. Stock Photo ID: 763996024 Fernando Macias Romo. beautiful Hawaiian dancer with flowers and diverse outfit and playing ukulele, on black background.
15. Stock Vector ID: 2060515925 Artitok. Ukulele chords, F chords.musical symbol.Isolated vector illustration on a white background.
16. Stock Vector ID: 2058789641 Artitok. Ukulele chords Am chords.musical symbol.Isolated vector illustration on a white background.
17. Stock Vector ID: 2095806427 Artitok. The chart sheet shows the basic ukulele chords. There is a picture of a ukulele on the left side of the chart. Isolated vector illustration on a white background.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr John Heyworth

John Heyworth, *Dip.Teach, B'Ed, MMustech, PhD*. Composer, Educator and Writer. John Heyworth is a published educator and academic. He has also written original music and musical plays for children. <https://www.free4music.com/>



John is a retired Lecturer and has taught into both the undergraduate and postgraduate education courses at Edith Cowan University in WA. He lives in Perth and enjoys writing, swimming, bush walking and music. He currently works for the Nedlands community's Positive Aging group as a music volunteer accompanist and also as a ukulele instructor. He has written two novels *A Cat Among the McIvers* and *The Cowrie Shell*. <https://www.johnheyworth.com/>