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Bluegrass Songbook

*Prepared by Jenny Lester
For NimbleFingers 2018*



Practical Music Theory for Folk Music

Musical Alphabet

(ALL SEMITONES) Chromatic Scale (1 fret move)

			SEMITONE					SEMITONE				
G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
	A _b		B _b			D _b		E _b			G _b	

The MAJOR SCALE

WHOLE TONE = 2 semitones = 2 frets

The scale is where you find the melody & harmony notes.

	TONE		TONE	SEMITONE	TONE		TONE		TONE	SEMITONE		
→	1(key)	2		3	4		5		6		7	8
	C	D		E	F		G		A		B	C
	G	A		B	C		D		E		F [#]	G
	D	E		F [#]	G		A		B		C [#]	D
	A	B		C [#]	D		E		F [#]		G [#]	A
	E	F [#]		G [#]	A		B		C [#]		D [#]	E
	B	C [#]		D [#]	E		F [#]		G [#]		A [#]	B
	F	G		A	B _b		C		D		E	F
	B _b	C		D	E _b		F		G		A	B _b
	E _b	F		G	A _b		B _b		C		D	E _b
	A _b	B _b		C	D _b		E _b		F		G	A _b
	D _b	E _b		F	G _b		A _b		B _b		C	D _b
	G _b	A _b		B _b	C _b		D _b		E _b		F	G _b

Three Elements of Music

Tuning Timing & Tone

Chord Construction: Bluegrass Harmony Terms

High Baritone	1	D
Tenor	5	A
Lead	3	F#
Baritone	1	D
Low Tenor	5	A
Bass	1	D

High Baritone An octave above baritone

Tenor Nearest Harmony above lead

LEAD MELODY

Baritone Nearest Harmony below lead

Low Tenor An octave below tenor

Bass Independent structure, alternately doubling other parts while pursuing either a lead line or chord progression.

The Triads Chord Construction

1	→	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
D		E	F#	G	A	B	C#	D

(8=1)

Chord Construction

A simple major chord uses the root (1), third (3) & fifth (5) of the chord's scale.

<u>1</u>	2	<u>3</u>	4	<u>5</u>	6	7	8
C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C

But can also use other intervals and are named accordingly.

For Example: C= C E G

C7 = C E G + the flatted 7th = Bflat

Chord Progression

The sequence in measures.

To choose which chords are in the key take the major scale and make each note the root of a chord.

1=key	1,4,5 are Major	2,3 are major or minor	6 is minor	7 is diminished or $\flat 7$
C=key	C, F, G	D or d_m , E or e_m	a_m	B^o $B\flat$

Key is the sense of resolution.

Key is chosen by the lead singer so that the song's melody fits best into their range. Every singer has a best key for each different song. Some keys are easier than others for musicians.

Common chords are the **MAJOR** chords:

1 4 5
C F G
G C D
D G A
A D E

A **measure** is the number of beats in the rhythmic count.

4/4 =	$\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}$	4 beats per measure / ♩ gets a beat
3/4 =	$\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}$	3 beats per measure / ♩ gets a beat
6/8 =	$\text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪}$	6 beats per measure / ♪ gets a beat

Examples of a chord progression and **CHORD CHARTS...**

4/4

Part A

G	$\text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪}$	G	C	G
C		G	1A	D :
			^2A-D	G

Part B

C	C	G	G
D	D	G	G-G ₇
C	C	G	G
D	D	G	G

Time: 3/4 Key: D

V & C & Solos:

1	$\text{♪} \text{♪} \text{♪}$	1	4	4
1		1	5	5
1		1	4	4
1		5	1	1

Basic Guitar Chords



Basic must know chords

<p>A major</p> <p>0 1 2 3 0</p>	<p>A7</p> <p>X 0 1 0 2 0</p>	<p>A minor</p> <p>X 0 3 2 1 0</p>	<p>B7</p> <p>0 2 1 3 0 4</p>
<p>C major</p> <p>3 2 0 1</p>	<p>C7</p> <p>X 3 2 4 1 0</p>	<p>D Major</p> <p>0 1 2 3</p>	<p>D Minor</p> <p>X X 0 2 3 1</p>
<p>D7</p> <p>X X 0 2 1 3</p>	<p>E Major</p> <p>0 2 3 1 0 0</p>	<p>E7</p> <p>0 2 0 1 0 0</p>	<p>E minor</p> <p>0 2 3 0 0 0</p>
<p>F major</p> <p>X 0 3 2 1 1</p>	<p>G major</p> <p>3 2 0 0 0 4</p>	<p>G7</p> <p>3 2 0 0 0 1</p>	

Rock of Ages

Gillian Welch

This version is based on using one chord, the A minor, and letting the melody create tension against it.

SCALE NOTES: A B C D E F# G

Am

Round, round wanna go round, wanna see the rock of ages
When my body gives out, gonna read the final pages

Oh my mother is gone she told me I should meet her
Some day streets of gold gonna guide me on and greet her

Solo once over form

Once my father sat down and told me of the prophets
Mathew, Mark, Luke and John they're gone but not forgotten

Chorus (change final to gospel pages)

Moses heard a voice it called him up the mountain
40 days had set when Moses come a shouting

Chorus

Solo once over form X 2

Chorus (gospel pages)

Chorus (final pages)

Jambalaya

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

Chorus:

1 5
Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and a fillet gumbo
1
Cause tonight I'm gonna see my cher a mi-o
5
Pick guitar, fill fruit jar and be gay-o
1
Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou

The Thibodauxs, the Fontaineauxs the place is buzzin'
Kin-folk come to see Yvonne by the dozen
Dress in style and go hog wild, me oh my oh
Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou

**Jambalaya and a crawfish pie and fillet gumbo
Cause tonight, I'm a-gonna see my my-mi chez a mi-o
Pick guitar, fill fruit jar and be gay-o
Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou**

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords fall in the key, and 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6_m	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a_m	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e_m	f_#	G
D	e	f_#	G	A	b_m	c_#	D
A	b	c_#	D	E	f_m	g_#	A

Chord Progression

Time: 4/4 Key: G

Intro Turnaround

5 5 1 1

V & C & Solos:

1 1 5 5

5 5 1 1

1 1 5 5

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 5 & 5 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

Form

Intro

Verse 1

Chorus

Solo (split)

Verse 2

Chorus

Solo (split)

Chorus

Out on last word

The River, Mother Nature & Me

Composer: Jenny Lester 1994

C
 There's a place in the north where you still see the moons
 F C
 When the morning sun is high
 It's a place Mother Nature takes all her children
 F G C
 And none are more willing than I

Chorus:

F C
 Sitting on rocks down by the river
 G
 Feeling the powers that be
 F C
 You can howl at the moon, wade the deep water
 F C
 There's no place that I'd rather be
 F G C
 Just the river, Mother Nature and me

Chord Progression

Time: 3/4 Key: C

Intro & Turnarounds

4 5 1 1

Verse:

1 1 1 1
 4 4 1 1
 1 1 1 1
 4 5 1 1

Am

Chorus:

4 4 1 1
 1 1 5 5
 4 4 1 6m 6m
 4 4 1 1
 4 5 1 1

If you listen at nighttime you'll hear her heart beating
 It's a rhythm that lulls me to sleep
 If I awake in the city I'll dream of the river
 It's a feeling that I long to keep

Chorus

If your heart needs healing go down to the river
 And quietly sit on the shore
 You'll feel her run through you to mend and renew you
 You'll feel life like never before

Chorus

Arrangement

Intro
 V1
 Chorus
 Turnaround
 V2
 Chorus
 Turnaround
 V3
 Chorus
 Repeat chorus acapella

Nahlin River Song

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 C F
There's an eagle above a mountain
 C G
Floating high upon the breeze
 C F
We are rolling to the river
 C G C
And the river is rolling to the sea

I have felt the raindrops
I have shed the tears
Let the rivers rise up
Wash away our fears

Chorus

Dance upon the white caps
Bathe in the sun
Look up to the morning
The day is almost done

Chorus

 F G
Now stand in the moment
 F G
Before the moments gone
 F G
You can come back through the memories
 F G
But the memories might be wrong

Chorus

4/4

Verse & Chorus

C	C	F	F
C	C	G	G
C	C	F	F
C	G	C	C

Bridge:

F	F	G	G
F	F	G	G
F	F	G	G
F	F	G	G

The Next Time I'm in Town

Chet Atkins and Mark Knopfler

1
Now it's been something seeing you again

4
And in this time we've had to spend

1
You've been so good to be around
I thank you for that special thrill

4
Keep me going on until
5 1
The next time I'm in town

Though I won't be back here for a while
I hear your laughter, see you smile
and I'll remember what went down
And I can't tell you how or when but I'll be seeing you again
The next time I'm in town

Now the places and the faces range across the bridge of time and change
Once again I'm homeward bound
There's one thing I promise you
That's another rendezvous
The next time I'm in town

Chord Progression

Time: 4/4

Verse

1	1	1	1
4	4	1	1
1	1	1	1
4	5	1	1

Chorus

1	1	1	1
4	4	1	1
1	1	1	1
4	5	1	1

Number System: uses
the major scale to show
you which chords fall in
the key, and 1 is the key.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

A D E

D G A

G C D

C F G

(Lonesome) I'm Lost and I'll Never Find The Way

- as performed by the Stanley Brothers

1 4 1 5
Lonesome, Lonesome pining away
1
Now you say it's best we part
4
Even though it breaks my heart
1 5 1
I'm lost and I'll never find the way

Since you said we must part darlin' you broke my heart
I am drifting like a ship lost a sea
In a world of despair it is so lonesome there
Why don't you come back to me

You said you'd be true no one else would ever do
I believed you with all my heart and soul
But you broke every vow and it's all over now
I'm left in this world alone and cold

4/4 137 bpm
Verse & Chorus
1 1 4 4
1 1 5 5
1 1 4 4
1 5 1 1

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

Good 'Ol Mountain Dew

As performed by The Stanley Brothers

1
Down the road here from me there's an old holler tree
4 1
Where you lay down a dollar or two
Go on round the bend, come back again
5 1
There's a jug full of that good old mountain dew

**Oh they call it that good old mountain dew
And them that refuse it are few
I'll hush my mug if you fill up my jug
With that good 'ol mountain dew**

Now Mr. Roosevelt told him just how he felt
When he heard that the dry law'd gone through
If your liquors too red it will swell up your head
You better stick to that good old mountain dew

A preacher rode by with his head heisted high
Said his wife had been down with the flu
He thought that I 'art to sell him a quart
Of that good old mountain dew

Well my uncle mort he's sawed off and short
He measures four feet 2
But he feels like a giant
When you give him a pint
Of that good old mountain dew

Verse & Chorus & Solo
(Stanley Brothers)

4/4 time 150bpm

1	1	1	1
4	4	1	1
1	1	1	1
1	5	1	1

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

Lonely Tombs – J.E Mainer

Also covered by the Stanley Brothers

1
I was strolling one day in a lonely graveyard

5

4/4

When a voice from the tomb seem to say

1

I once lived as you lived, walked as you talked

5

1

But from earth I was soon called away

Verse & Chorus

1	1	1	1
1	1	5	5
1	1	1	1
1	5	1	1

Oh those tombs (echo) lonely tombs (echo)
Seem to say in low gentle tone
Oh how sweet (echo) is the rest (echo)
In our beautiful heavenly home

Every Voice from the tomb seem to whisper and say
Living man you must soon follow me
Then I thought as I gazed on the cold marble slab
What a sad lonely place that must be

I then came to the place where my mother did lay
And her voice soft and low from the tomb
It said son I'm at rest with the savior above
I am safe in my heavenly home

Hansom Molly - traditional

1 5
Well I wish I was in London or some other seaboard town
4 1
Set my foot in a steamboat and sail the ocean round

1 5
While Sailin' around the ocean, while sailin' around the sea
4 1
I think of Hansom Molly where ever she may be

Her hair was as black as a raven, her eyes as black as coal
Her cheeks shone like lilies out in the morning cold

I went to church last Sunday, she passed me on by
I knew her mind was chingin' by the rovin' of her eye

Chorus

Don't you remember Molly you give me your right hand
Said if you ever marry that I would be your man

But you broke your promise go home with who you please
While my poor heart is breaking you're lying at your ease

Well I wish I was in London or some other seaboard town
Set my foot in a steamboat and sail the ocean round

Chorus

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords fall in the key, and 1 is the key.

1 2 3 4 5 6m 7 8
C d e F G am b C
G a b C D em f# G
D e f# G A bm c# D
A b c# D E f#m g# A

**Won't You Come and
Sing For Me**
- Hot Rize

5 4
1

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key.
1 is the key.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
C d e F G a b C
G a b C D e f# G
D e f# G A b d#4 D
A b c# D E f# g# A

I feel the shadows now up on me

4 1 5

And the angels beckon me

4 1

Before I go dear sisters and brother

5 4 1

Won't you come and sing for me

4 1

Sing those hymns we sang together

5 4 1

That plain little church with the benches all worn

4 1

How dear to my heart how precious the moment

5 4 1

We stood shaking hands and singing a song

My burden is heavy my ways has grown weary

I have travelled the road that is long

And it would warm this old heart my brothers

If you'd come and sing one song

In my home beyond that dark river

Your sweet faces no more I will see

Until we meet where there's no more sad parting

Wont you come and sing for me

1 1 1 1

1 1 5 5

1 1 1 1

1 5 1 1

Wildwood Flower

1 5 1

Oh, I'll twine with my mingles and waving black hair

With the roses so red and the lilies so fair

4 1
And the myrtle so bright with the emerald hue

5
The pale amaleader and eyes look like blue

Oh he taught me to love him and call his flower
That bloomed just to cheer him through life's dreary hour
When I woke from my dreaming, my idol was clay
All portion of love had all flown away

He taught me to love him and promised to love
And To cherish me over all others above
How my heart is now wond'ring no mis'ry can tell
He's left me no warning, no words of farewell

Oh I'll dance, I will sing and my laugh shall be gay
I will charm every heart, in his crown I will sway
Oh, I long just to see him regret the dark hour
He loved then neglected his pale wildwood flower

Repeat First Verse

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

Wildwood Flower – Carter Family

Repeat twice

e		[^] v		[^] v		[^] v		[^] v		[^] v		[^]
B		0		0		1		0		0		0
G		1		1		0		1		1		1
D		0	0	0h2		0		0		0		0
A	2	3			2	2h3	2	0	2p0		2	
E										2	3	3

After the Above is played twice play this

e		[^] v		[^] v		[^] v		[^] v		[^]		[^] v
B		0	0	0		0	0	1		0		0
G		1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1		1
D		0	0		0	0	0	0h2	0	2	0	0
A											0	0h2
E										3		

e		[^] v		[^]		[^] v		[^] v		[^] v		[^]
B		0		0		1		0		0		0
G		1		1		0		1		1		1
D		0	0	0	0	0		0		0		0
A	0h2		0h2		2	0	2p0		2			
E								2	3		3	

Angel Band

The poem was written by **Jefferson Hascall** but the tune now universally associated with it is by **William Batchelder Bradbury**,

1 4 1
My latest sun is sinking fast

5 1
My race is nearly run

My strongest trials now are past

1 5 1
My triumph has begun

5 1
Oh come Angel Band

5 1
Come and around me stand

4 1
Oh bear me away on your snow white wings

5 1
To my immortal home

4 1
Oh bear me away on your snow white wings

1 5 1
To my immortal home

Oh bear my longing heart to him
Who bled and died for me
Whose blood now cleanses from all sin
And gives me victory

I've almost reached my heavenly home
My spirit loudly sings
The Holy ones behold they come
I hear the sound of wings

Chord Progression

Time: 3/4

Turnarounds:

1 5 1 1

Verse

1 1 4 1

1 5 1 1

1 1 4 1

1 5 1 1

Chorus

5 5 1 1

5 5 1 1

4 4 1 1

1 5 1 1

4 4 1 1

1 5 1 1

Number System: uses the major scale to show you which chords fall in the key, and 1 is the key.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

D G A

G	C	D
----------	----------	----------

C	F	G
<hr/>		

Don't This Road Look Rough & Rocky

Composed by: Charles Justice
And Shoji Tabuchi

D G D
Darlin', I have come to tell you

A
Tho' it almost breaks my heart

D G D
But before the morning, darlin'

A D
We'll be many miles apart

G D
Don't that road look rough and rocky
A

Don't that sea look wide and deep

D G D
Don't my baby look the sweetest

A D
When he's in my arms asleep

Can't you hear the nightbird's cryin'
Far across the deep blue sea
While others you are thinking
Won't you sometimes think of me

One more kiss before I leave you
One more kiss before we part
You have caused me lots of trouble
Darlin', you have broke my heart

Chord Progression

Time: 4/4 Key: D

Intro Verse

Verse & Solos:

1 1 / 4 1 1

1 1 5 5

1 1 / 4 1 1

5 5 1 1

Chorus:

4 4 1 1

1 1 5 5

1 1 / 4 1 1

5 5 1 1

Form

Intro Verse Form

Verse 1

Chorus

Solo

Verse 3

Chorus

Solo

Verse 3

Chorus

tag out

My Little Georgia Rose

Composed By: Bill Monroe

1 4 1
Now come and listen to my story
5
A story that I know is true
1 4 1
A little rose bloomed in Georgia
5 1
With hair of gold and a heart so true

4 1
Way down in the Blue Ridge Mountains

5
Way down where the tall pines grow

1 4
Lives my sweetheart of the mountain

1 5 1
She's my little Georgia Rose

Her mother left her with another
A care free life she had planned
The baby now is a lady
The one her mother couldn't stand

We often sang old songs together
I watched her do her little part
She'd smile at me when I would tell her
That she was my sweetheart

Chord Progression

Time: 4/4

Verse

1 1 / 4 1 1
1 1 5 5
1 1 / 4 1 1
1 5 1 1

Chorus

4 4 1 1
1 1 5 5
1 1 4 4
1 5 1 1

Number System: uses
the major scale to show
you which chords fall in
the key, and 1 is the
key.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

D G A

G C D

C F G

Keep On the Sunny Side

Composed by: A.P. Carter

1 4 1
There's a dark and a troubled side of life

5
There's a bright and a sunny side too

1
Though you meet with the darkness and strife

5 1
The sunny side you also may view

1 4 1
Keep on the sunny side always on the sunny side

5
Keep on the sunny side of life

1 4 1
It will help us every day it will brighten all our way

4 1 5 1
If we'll keep on the sunny side of life

Oh the storm and its fury raged today
Crushing hope that we cherish so dear
The cloud and storm will in time pass away
The sun again will shine bright and clear

Let us greet with a song of hope each day
Though the moment be cloudy or fair
Let us trust in our Savior always
To keep us every one in His care

© Gillian Welch

THE ONE I LOVE IS GONE – Hazel & Alice

[intro]

Am Dm Am Am
Am Dm E E7
Am Dm Am Am
Am E7 Am Am

Am Dm Am Am
I don't know, I don't know where I'll go or what I'll do
Am Dm E E7
It makes no difference what I'll do without you
Am Dm Am Am
Oh, I love you, my darling, but I'll try and let you be
Am E7 Am Am
Goodbye, it's the last you'll hear of me

Dm Dm Am Am
Well, I found a bluebird high on a mountain side
Dm G C E7
And the little bird would sing its little song
Am Am Dm Am
So I'll sigh, I'll cry I'd even wanna die
Am E Am Am
For the one I love is gone

[interlude]

Am Dm Am Am
Am Dm E E7
Am Dm Am Am
Dm E Am Am

Dm Dm Am Am
Well, I found a bluebird high on a mountain side
Dm G C E7
And the little bird would sing its little song
Am Am Dm Am
So I'll sigh, I'll cry I'd even wanna die
Am E Am Am.
For the one I love has gone

LONESOME WIND BLUES – Delmore Brothers

1

I hear the wind a-blowing through the lonesome pine

5

And I know my love is gone too

1

I hear the wind a-blowing through the lonesome pine

5

1

That's why I'm blue, love, so blue

She's gone so far away that's why I'm grieving
She's left me here alone among the trees
And all that I have left is just a memory
And it always haunts me with a breeze

I'll leave the day they try to find my darling
I don't know where on earth she can be
I know that I can't ever live without her
For each night in dreams her face I see

1	1	1	1	
1	1	1	5	5
1	1	1	1	
1	5	1	1	

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

Once More

¹
Once more to be with you dear
⁵
Just for tonight, to hold you tight
¹ ⁴
Once more I'd give a fortune
¹ ⁵ ¹
If I could see you once more

¹ ⁵ ¹ ⁴
Forget (forget) the past (the past) this hurt can't last
¹ ⁵ ¹ ⁵
Oh I don't want it to keep us apart
¹ ⁵
Your love (your love) I'll crave (I'll crave)
¹ ⁴ ¹
I'll be your slave if you'll just give me
⁵ ¹
All of your heart

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

West Virginia – Hazel Dickens

¹ West ⁴ Virginia oh my home
¹ West ⁵ Virginia's were I belong
¹ In the dead of the night in the still and the quiet
⁴ I slip away like a bird in flight
¹ Back to those hills the place that I call home ⁵ ¹

It's been years now since I left there
And this city life's about got the best of me
I can't remember why I left so free
What I wanted to do, what I wanted to see
But I can sure remember were I'm from

Well I paid the price for the leavin'
And this life I have's not one I thought I'd find
Well let me live, love, let me cry
When I go just let me die
Among the friends who'll remember when I'm gone

⁴ Home, ¹ home, home
⁵ Oh I can see it so clear in my mind
⁴ Home ¹ Home home

⁵ I can almost smell the honeysuckle vine
In the dead of the night in the still and the quiet
I slip away like a bird in flight back to those hills
A place that I call home

4/4

Verse

1	1	4	4
1	1	5	5
1	1	4	4
1	5	1	1

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

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Farther Along – JR Baxter

1 1₇ 4 1
 Tempted and tried, we're oft' made to wonder
 2 5
 Why it should be thus all the day long
 1 4 1
 While there are others living about us
 1 6m 5 1
 Never molested, though in the wrong

Farther along we'll know all about it
Farther along we'll understand why
Cheer up, my brother, live in the sunshine
We'll understand it all by and by

When we see Jesus coming in glory
 When He comes from His home in the sky
 Then we shall meet Him in that bright mansion
 We'll understand it all by and all by and by

Farther along we'll know all about it
 Farther along we'll understand why
 Cheer up, my brother, live in the sunshine
 We'll understand it all by and by

1 1 4 1 1 1
 1 1 2 5 5 5
 1 1 4 1 1
 1 1 6m 5 1 1 1

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

Where The Soul of Man Never Dies

To Canaan's land, I'm on my way,
Where the soul of man never dies.
My darkest night will turn to day,
Where the soul of man never dies.

No sad farewells. (Dear friends there'll be no sad farewells.)
No tear dimmed eyes (There'll be no tear dimmed eyes.)
Where all is love, (Where all is peace and joy and love.)
And the soul never dies. (And the soul of man never dies.)

The rose is blooming there for me,
Where the soul of man never dies.
And I will spend eternity,
Where the soul of man never dies.

Chorus

The love light beams across the foam,
Where the soul of man never dies.
It shines and lights the way to home,
Where the soul of man never dies.

1	1	1	1
1	1	5	5
1	1	1	1
1	5	1	1

Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	d	e	F	G	a	b	C
G	a	b	C	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	c#	D
A	b	c#	D	E	f#	g#	A

How Mountain Girls Can Love

4 1
Get down boys go back home
5 1
Back to the girl you love
4 1
Treat her right never wrong
5 1
How mountain girls can love

1
Riding the night in a high cold wind
5 1
On the trail of the old lonesome pine
Thinking of you and feeling so blue
5 1
Wondering why I left you behind

Chorus

Remember the night we strolled down the lane
Our hearts were gay and happy then
You whispered to me as I held you tight
We hoped that night would never end

Shady Grove

1m 7
Shady Grove my little love
 1m
Shady grove I say
 (3) 7
Shady Grove my little love
 1m
I'm bound to go away

Cheeks as red as a blooming rose
 And eyes are the prettiest brown
 She's the Darlin of my heart
 Sweetest little girl in town

I wish I had a big fine horse
 And corn to feed him on
 And Shady Grove to stay at home
 And feed him while I'm gone

Went to see my Shady Grove
 She was standing in the door
 Her shoes and stockings in her hands
 And her little bare feet on the floor

When I was a little boy
 I wanted a Barlow knife
 Now I want little Shady Grove
 To say she'll be my wife

Kiss from pretty little Shady Grove
 Is sweet as brandy wine
 And there aint no girl in this ol' world
 That's prettier than mine

Chord Progression

Time: 4/4 **Key:**

Intro Turnaround:

Vamp 4 measures

2 times round form

V & C & Solos:

1m	flat 7	1m	1m
(3)	flat 7	flat 7	1m

3 is optional depending on genre

Form

Intro

Verse

Chorus

Solo 2 times round

Repeat form till through all the verses

Outro: end with solo

Number System: uses the minor scale to show which chords fall in the key, and 1 is the key.

1m	2	3	4	5	6m	7	8
dm		F				C	
Am		C				G	

Big Spike Hammer

Flatt & Scruggs

Verse

1 / 1 / 6m / 6m
4 / 4 / 6m / 6m
1 / 1 / 6m / 6m
4 / 4 / 6m / 6m

5 / 5 /

Chorus

1 / 1 / 1 / 1
1 / 5 / 1 / 1
1 / 1 / 1 / 1
1 / 5 / 1 / 1

Can't you hear the whistle of my big spike hammer
Lord it's busting my side
I've done all I can do to keep that woman happy
Still she's not satisfied

Hey hey Della Mae
Why do you treat me this way
Hey hey Della Mae
I'll get even some day

I'm the best hammer swinger on this big section gang
Big Bill Johnson is my name
Lord this hammer that I swing for a dollar and a half a day
I'll all for my Della Mae

Now I've been lots of places, not much I ain't done
There's still alot of things I'd like to see
Lord this hammer that I swing or the woman that I love
Yes, one's gonna be the death of me

6m (stop)
Big Spike Hammer

6m (stop)
Big Spike Hammer

5 / 5 / 1 / 1

Endless Highway

Verse

1 / 1 / 4 / 1
4 / 1 / 5 / 5
1 / 1 / 4 / 1
4 / 5 / 1 / 1

Chorus

5 / 5 / 1 / 1
5 / 5 / 4 / 5
1 / 1 / 4 / 1
4 / 5 / 1 / 1

Endless highway as far as I can see
The road will take me back to her tonight
It's been so long since I've seen her smile
I'll be countin' all the miles till I get home

How many hours 'till I hold her
How many days before we hit that road again
Endless highways, she don't know how much I miss her
Headed down this road bound for Tennessee

Lonesome feelin' deep within my heart
Longing for this weary night to end
I'll think about her, try to keep my tired eyes open
Come the mornin' light I'll be back home again

Dark Hollow

Joe Val

1 / 5 / 1 / 1
1 / 4 / 1 / 1
1 / b7 / 4 / 4
1 / 5 / 1 / 1

I'd rather be in some dark hollow
Where the sun don't never shine
Than to be here alone just knowin' that you're gone
It would cause me to lose my mind

So blow your whistle freight train
Blow it far on down the track
I'm going away, I'm leavin' today
I'm going but I ain't comin' back

I'd rather be in some dark hollow
Where the sun don't never shine
Than to be here in some big city
In a small room with you on my mind

Friends Like You

© Jenny Lester (SOCAN / BMI) 4/4 time Key of B written in G capo 4th fret

Chorus:

G

Friends like you make the world go round

D

C

G

Keeping spirits high, feet on the ground

Time will keep you in my heart

D

G

Dear friend we will never part

Verse 1

D

G

Talkin over wine on a long winter's night

D

G

Bout the way of the world and how to make it right

C

G

Full of life full of fire never give in to the cold

D

G

In our hearts we will never grow old

Verse 2

D

G

When I fall by the way you are always the one

D

G

To set me back on track or undo what I've done

C

G

Together we laugh and together we cry

D

G

When we stand we are side by side

Bridge:

D

C

G

And if it should be that it's my time to go

D

C

D

There is one thing that I need you to know

Midnight Moonlight

Peter Rowan

Intro

1... (8 measures)

Verse

1 / 1 / 1 / 1
5 / 5 / 5 / 5
2m / 2m / 5 / 5
4 / 4 / b7 / b7
1 / 1 / 1 / 1
5 / 5 / 5 / 5
2m / 2m / 5 / 5
6m / 5 / 4 / 4

Chorus

b7 / 4 / b7 / 4
b7 / 4 / 1 / 1
b7 / 4 / b7 / 4
b7 / 4 / 1 / 1

Jam

b3 / b3 / b3 / b3
1 / 1 / 1 / 1
repeat

If you ever feel lonesome and you're down in San Antone
Beg steal or borrow two nickels or a dime to call me on the phone
I'll meet you at Alamo mission — we can say our prayers
The Holy Ghost and the virgin mother will heal us as we kneel there

In the moonlight, in the midnight
In the moonlight midnight moonlight
In the moonlight, in the midnight
In the moonlight midnight moonlight

If you ever feel sorrow for the deeds you have done
With no hope for tomorrow in the setting of the sun
And the ocean is howling with the things that might have been
And the last good morning sunrise will be the

Worried Man Blues

Stanley Brothers

1 / 1 / 1 / 1
4 / 4 / 4 / 1
1 / 1 / 1 / 1
5 / 5 / 1 / 1

It takes a worried man to sing a worried song
It takes a worried man to sing a worried song
It takes a worried man to sing a worried song
I'm worried now but I won't be worried long.

I went across the river and I laid down to sleep
I went across the river and I laid down to sleep
I went across the river and I laid down to sleep
When I woke up, there were shackles on my feet.

Twenty one links of chain around my leg
Twenty one links of chain around my leg
Twenty one links of chain around my leg
And on each link, the initials of my name.

I asked the judge what's gonna be my fine
I asked the judge what's gonna be my fine
I asked the judge what's gonna be my fine
Twenty one years on the Rocky Mountain Line.

If anyone should ask you who composed this song
If anyone should ask you who composed this song
If anyone should ask you who composed this song
Say it was me and I sing it all day long.

Why You Been Gone So Long

1 / 1 / 4 / 1
1 / 1 / 5 / 5
1 / 1 / 4 / 1
5 / 5 / 1 / 1

Every time that it rains lord I go to my window
All I do is just ring my hands and moan
Listen to that thunder, lord, can't you hear that lonesome wind blow
Tell me baby why you been gone so long

Tell me baby why you been gone so long, you been gone so long
Tell me baby why you been gone so long
Wolf scratchin' at my door, can't you hear that lonesome wind blow
Tell me baby why you been gone so long

Somebody said they thought they saw you rolling down in Reno
With a big old man from San Antone
They tell me I'm a fool to pine for you but what do they know
Tell me baby why you been gone so long

Ain't nothin' I want to do so guess I could go get stoned
And let the past paint pictures in my head
Kill of a fifth of thunderbird and try to write a sad song
Tell me baby why you been gone so long

Walls of Time

Bill Monroe & Peter Rowan

1 / 1 / 1 / 1
1 / 1 / b4 / 7
1 / 1 / 1 / 1
b4 / 7 / 1 / 1

The wind is blowin' 'cross the mountains
And down on the valley way below
It sweeps the grave of my darlin'
When I die that's where I want to go

Lord send the angels for my darlin'
And take her to that home on high
I'll wait my time out here on earth love
And come to you when I die

I hear a voice out in the darkness
It moans and whispers through the pines
I know it's my sweetheart a callin'
I hear her through the walls of time

Our names are carved upon the tombstone
I promised you before you died
Our love will bloom forever darlin'
When we rest side

Steel Rails

1 / 1 / 2m / 2m
4 / 5 / 4 / 1

Steel rails, chasing sunshine round the bend
Winding through trees, like a ribbon in the wind
I don't mind, not knowing what lies down the track
Cause I'm looking out ahead, to keep my mind from
turning back

It's not the first time, I found myself alone at dawn
If I really had you once, then I'd have you, when I'm gone
Whistle blowing, blowing lonesome, in my mind
Calling me along, that never ending, metal line

Sun is shining, through the open box car door
Lying in, my mind, with the things I've known before
I've lost count of the hours, days, and times
Just the rhythm of the rails, keeps the motion in my mind

cause I'm looking out ahead... To keep my mind from
turning back

Salty Dog

1 / 6⁷ / 2⁷ / 2⁷
5⁷ / 5⁷ / 1 / 1

Standing in the corner with the low-down blues
Great big hole in the bottom of my shoes
Honey let me be your salty dog

Let me be your salty dog
Or I won't be your man at all
Honey let me be your salty dog

Listen here Sal I know you
Run down stocking and a worn out shoe
Honey let me be your salty dog

Down in the wildwood sitting on a log
Finger on the trigger and my eye on a hog
Honey let me be your salty dog

I pulled the trigger and the gun said go
The shot fell over in Mexico
Honey let me be your salty dog

Rocky Top

Verse

1 / 1 / 4 / 1
6m / 5 / 1 / 1
1 / 1 / 4 / 1
6m / 5 / 1 / 1

Chorus

6m / 6m / 5 / 5
b7 / b7 / 4 / 4
4 / 4 / 1 / 1
1 / b7 / 1 / 1
1 / b7 / 1 / 1

Wish that I was on old Rocky Top
Down in the Tennessee hills
Ain't no smoggy smoke on Rocky Top
Ain't no telephone bills

Once I had a girl on Rocky Top
Half bear other half cat
Wild as a mink but sweet as soda pop
I still dream about that

Rocky Top you'll always be
Home sweet home to me
Good old Rocky Top, Rocky Top Tennessee
Rocky Top, Tennessee

Once two strangers climbed old rocky top
Lookin' for a moonshine still
Strangers ain't come down from rocky top
Reckon they never will

Corn won't grown at all on rocky top
Dirt's too rocky by far
That's why all the folks on Rocky Top
Get their corn from a jar

I've had years of cramped up city life
Trapped like a duck in a pen
All I know is it's a pity life
Can't be simple again

High On A Mountain Top

Olabelle Reed

Verse

1 / b7 / 1 / 1
1 / b7 / 1 / 1
1 / b7 / 1 / 4
1 / 5 / 1 / 1

Chorus

1 / b7 / 1 / 4
1 / 5 / 1 / 1
1 / b7 / 1 / 4
1 / 5 / 1 / 1

High on a mountain top, wind blowin free
Thinkin bout the days that used to be
High on a mountain top, standin all alone
Wonderin where the years of my life have flown

As I look in the valley down below
It was green just as far as I could see
As my memory returned, oh how my heart did yearn
For you and the days that used to be

Well I wonder if you ever think of me
Or has time blotted out your memory
As I listen to the breeze whisper gently to the trees
I'll always cherish what you meant to me

SITTIN' ALONE IN THE MOONLIGHT (Bill Monroe) 3/4

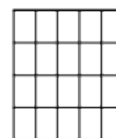
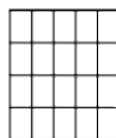
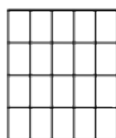
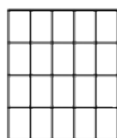
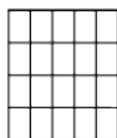
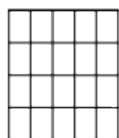
G F# G G7
Sittin' alone in the moonlight,
C D G
Thinking of the days gone by.
G F# G G7
Wondering about my darling,
C D G
I can still hear her say goodbye.

Chorus:

C D G
Oh the moon grows pale as I sit here,
C D G
Each little star seems to whisper and say.
C D G
Your sweetheart has found another,
C D G
And now she's far, far away.

Song: _____

Artist: _____



T	
A	
B	

T	
A	
B	

T	
A	
B	

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A	
B	

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T	
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A	
B	