# Songs for

# GUITAR & UKULELE

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## **Helpful Music Theory for Folk Music**

### Musical Alphabet

ALL SEIMTONES: one fret at a time (chromatic scale)
This is how a capo changes the key.

$$G \overset{\checkmark\hspace{-0.1cm}\checkmark}{\longrightarrow} G^{\#} \quad A \qquad A^{\#} \quad B \qquad C \qquad C^{\#} \quad D \qquad D^{\#} \quad E \qquad F \qquad F \qquad \swarrow G$$

 $G^{\#} = A\flat$  # SHARP raises a note one semitone,  $\flat$  FLAT lowers

#### The MAJOR SCALE

TONE = 2 semitones = 2 frets The scale is where you find the melody & harmony notes.

TONE	П	TONE SEMITONI	E TONE	TONE	TONE SEMITONE
$\rightarrow$ 1(key)	2	3 4	- 5	6	7 8
C	D	E F	G	A	ВС
G	A	ВС	D	Е	$F^{\#}$ G
D	E	$\mathbf{F}^{\#}$	a A	B	$C^{\#}$ D
A	В	$\mathbf{C}^{\#}$ $\Gamma$	Е	$\operatorname{F}^{\#}$	$G^{\#}$ A
E	$\operatorname{F}^{\#}$	$\mathbf{G}^{\#}$ A	<b>В</b>	$C^{\#}$	$\mathbf{D}^{\#}$ E
В	$\mathbf{C}^{\#}$	$D^{\#}$ E	$F^{\#}$	$G^{\#}$	$\mathrm{A}^{\scriptscriptstyle\#}  \mathrm{B}$
F	G	A E	<b>B</b> b <b>C</b>	D	E F
$\mathbf{B}_{ extstyle{b}}$	C	D E	E <sub>b</sub> F	G	$A B_{\flat}$
$\mathbf{E}_{^{\flat}}$	F	G A	$\mathbf{B}_{b}$	C	$\mathbf{D}$ $\mathbf{E}_{b}$
$A_b$	$\mathbf{B}_{\flat}$	C D	b Eb	F	$G A_{\flat}$
$\mathbf{D}\flat$	$E_{\flat}$	F G	Ab	$\mathbf{B}_{lat}$	$C$ $D_{\flat}$
$G_{\flat}$	Ab	Вь С	b Db	Eb	$F = G_b$

### **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 dm, E or em am B $^{\circ}$  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.

Examples of a chord progression and CHORD CHARTS...

4/4 Part A **Time: 3/4** Key: D C G JJJJ GG G  $^{1}A$ D : V & C & Solos:  $^{2}A-D$  G  $\parallel$ Part B C C G G 5 D G D  $G-G_7$ C  $\mathbf{C}$ G G D D  $G \parallel$ 

# Music is has three elements ... Tuning, Timing & Tone

#### PARTS OF A SONG

**Intro:** How you start a song. Some songs start by a silent count-in then singing, some have an instrumental intro, some short like a instrumental turn-around or long with acapella singing.

**Verses:** More than one. A part of the song that tells the story through repeating a musical form but changing the lyrics.

**Chorus:** Repeated section of song that maintains the same musical format & lyrics, most memorable part of the song.

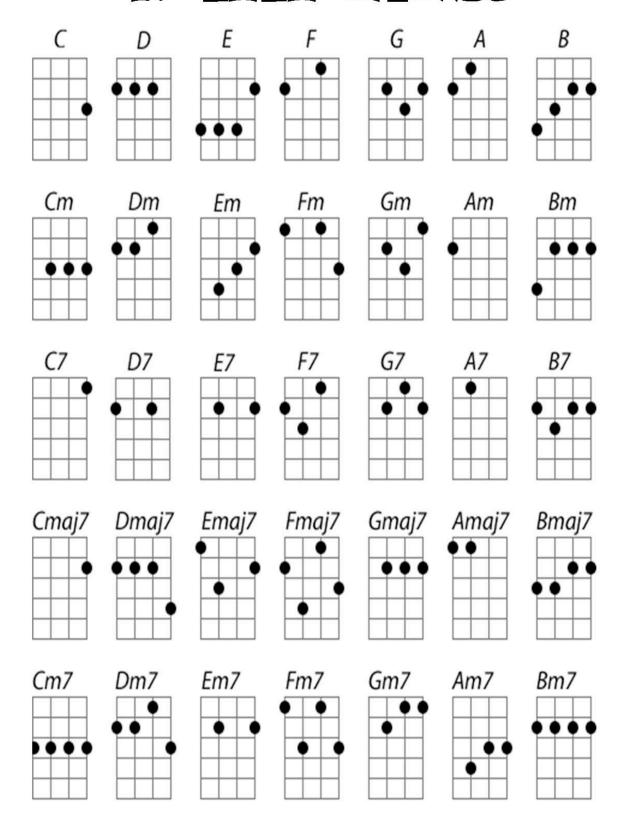
**Solo (Break):** 2 things: a solo can be in a choir where one person sings alone. In band style music a solo is when there is no singing and an instrument is featured for a specific length of time, usually over a verse, chorus or turn around form.

Turn around: the length of repeating the last line of the chorus

Bridge: new lyrics, new musical structure that happens only once in a song

Outro: How you end the song, often with a vocal or instrument turn around.

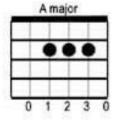
# UKULELE CHORDS

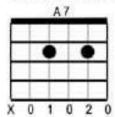


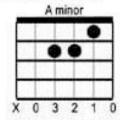


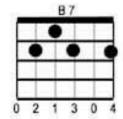


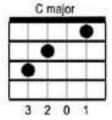
### Basic must know chords

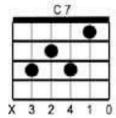


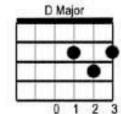


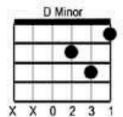


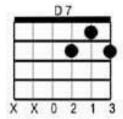


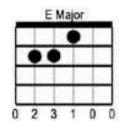


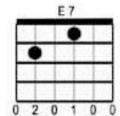


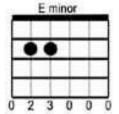


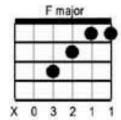




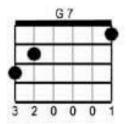












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## **Rock of Ages**

Gillian Welch

This version is based on using one chord, the Aminor, 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)

### **Three Little Birds**

**Bob Marley** 

4/4 KEY OF A

A

Don't worry about a thing

D

A

Cause every little thing gonna be alright

Singing don't worry about a thing

D

Α

Cause every little thing gonna be alright

A I

Rise up this morning smile with the rising sun

A

D

Three little birds sits by my doorstep

A

E

Singing sweet songs of melodies pure and true

D

Α

Sayin this my message to you

Part 1:

Part 2:

E	Е
D	D
E	Е
A	A
	D E

## The Lion Sleeps Tonight

Soloman Linda (Zulu song Mbube)

Start slow with shakers and animal noises, nighttime in the jungle Drone a note
Add droning harmony notes
Begin softly one ukulele strumming the rhythm and chord progression
Some go from drone notes to strumming building rhythm section
Start with wimowehs

Wimoweh or wimba way 2x through form

**I**: C F

G

 $G : \parallel$ 

In the jungle the mighty jungle the lion sleeps tonight

Wimoweh or wimba way

Near the Village the peaceful village the lion sleeps tonight

Wimoweh or wimba way

Hush my darlin don't cry my darlin the lion sleeps tonight Hush my darlin don't fear my darlin the lion sleeps tonight

Wimoweh or wimba way

4/4

**I**: C F G G:**I** 

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

### Waltz Across Texas

When we danced together my worlds in disguise

It's a fairyland tale that's come true

And when you look at me with those stars in your eyes

I could waltz across Texas with you

Waltz across Texas with you in my arms

Waltz across Texas with you

Like a story book ending I'm lost in your charms

I could waltz across Texas with you

My heart aches and troubles are just up and gone The moment that you come in view And with your hand in mine dear I could dance on and on I could waltz across Texas with you

#### Chorus

3/4

1 5 5 1 :|| Number System: uses the major scale to show which chords and notes fall in the key. 1 is the key.

b c# **D E** f# g# A

### You Ain't Goin' Nowhere

Composed by: Bob Dylan

Clouds so swift rain won't lift

1
Gate won't close railings froze
2m
Get your mind off wintertime

1
You ain't goin' nowhere

Whoo-ee Ride me high Tomorrow's the day My bride's gonna come Oh, oh, are we gonna fly Down in the easy chair!

I don't care how many letters they sent Morning came and morning went Pick up your money and pack up your tent You ain't goin' nowhere

Buy me a flute and a gun that shoots Tailgates and substitutes Strap yourself to the tree with roots You ain't goin' nowhere

Genghis Khan he could not keep All his kings supplied with sleep We'll climb that hill no matter how steep When we get up to it

### Chord Progression

Time: 4/4

The whole song repeats the chord progression

1 2m 4 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 Em G A

G Am C D

C Dm F G

### **Have You Ever Seen The Rain**

Intro:

6m 4 1 5 1 1

John Fogerty Key: C 117 bpm 4/4

1

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

5

I know, it's been comin for some time When it's over so they say It will rain a sunny day

I know, shining down like water

#### Chorus

4 5 1 1/7maj 6m 5
I wanna know have you ever seen the rain
4 5 1 1/7maj 6m 5
I wanna know have you ever seen the rain
4 5 1
Coming down on a sunny day

Yesterday and days before
Sun is cold and rain is hot
I know, been that way for all my time
Feel forever on it goes,
Through the circle fast and slow
I know, it can't stop, I wonder

Chorus X 2

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 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

## Orphan Girl

© Gillian Welch

I am an orphan on God's highway

1

But I'll share my troubles if you'll go my way

1

5

1

I have no mother, no father, no sister no brother

1

5

1

I am an orphan girl

I have had friendships pure and golden But the ties of kinship I have not known them I know no mother, no father, no sister no brother I am an orphan girl

Oh When he calls me I will be able
To meet my family at God's table
I'll meet my mother, my father, my sister, my brother
No more an orphan girl

Blessed Savior, make me willing Be my family till I'm with them Be my mother, my father, my sister my brother I am an orphan girl

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

### **Little Liza Jane**

A P	art		
1	1	1	1
1	1	5	1
BF	Part		
1	4/:	11	1
1	4/:	L 5	1

I've got a gal and you've got none, li'l Liza Jane. I've got a gal and you got none, li'l Liza Jane.

### Oh Eliza, li'l Liza Jane (2x)

Liza Jane done come to me...li'l Liza Jane We're as happy as we can be...li'l Liza Jane

### Oh Eliza, li'l Liza Jane (2x)

Come my love and live with me...li'l Liza Jane I will take good care of thee...li'l Liza Jane

#### Oh Eliza, li'l Liza Jane (2x)

House and a lot in Baltimore...li'l Liza Jane Lots of children running out the door...li'l Liza Jane

### Oh Eliza, li'l Liza Jane (2x)

Bumble bee is out to sip... li'l Liza Jane Takes my sweet tea from her lip... li'l Liza Jane

#### Oh Eliza, li'l liza Jane (2x)

**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
```

### **Tennessee Waltz**

1		
I was dancing with my darli	ing	5
4		
To the Tennessee waltz	5	
1	5	
When an old friend I happer  1	ned to see	
I introduced him to my love	ed one	
	4	
And while they were dancing	ng	- /-
1 5	1	-
My friend stole my sweethe	eart from me	
1 5	4 1	
I remember that night and	d the Tennessee walt	Z
Only you know how much	I have lost	\
1	4	-
I lost my little darling the		ing
The beautiful Tennessee w	valtz	

Alternate Chord Progression

17

2

4

5

1	1	17	4
1	5	1	1
B Pa	ırt		
1	3	4	1
1	6m	2	5
1	1	17	4
1	5	1	1

A part

1

6m

1

1

Lyrics By : Redd Stewart Music by Pee Wee King

<b>Chord Progression</b>					
Time:	3/4	Key:			
Intro 7	<b>Furnar</b>	ound			
1	1	1	4		
1	5	1	1		
V:					
1	1	1	4		
1	1	5	5		
1	1	1	4		
1	5	1	1		
Choru	s:				
1	5	4	1		
1	1	5	5		
1	1	1	4		
1	5	1	1		

Arrangement
Intro over Verse & Chorus
Verse
Chorus
solo over A Part
Sing B Part
Fiddle out once through
A

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

### **Faded Love**

D		G		Cho	rd Prog	ressio	<u>n</u>
As I look at the l	etter	that, you	wrote to me		e: 4/4	•	: D
D		A	4 5	V &	C & So 1	10s: 4	4
It's you that I am	thin	king of	5 5	1	1	5	5
D		G	3 /	1	1	4	4
As I read the line	s tha	t to me v	were so sweet	1	3	1	1
D	A	D					
I remember our f	aded	love					

#### **Chorus:**

D G
I miss you Darlin' more and more everyday
D A
As heaven would miss the stars above
D G
With every heartbeat I still think of you
D A D
And remember our faded love

I think of the past and all the pleasures we had As I watched the mating of the dove It was in the springtime that you said goodbye I remember our faded love

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

### **Sweet Rosyanne**

Oh Rosyann Sweet Rosyanne
Bye bye my Rosyanna
I'm going away but not to stay
And I won't be home tomarra

Bye bye bye bye bye bye bye

Bye bye my Rosyanna

Bye bye bye bye bye bye bye

And I won't be home tomarra

Sweet Rosyanne my darlin' child Bye bye my Rosyanne Sweet Rosyanne my darlin' child And I won't be home tomarra

The steam boat coming around the bend Bye bye sweet Rosyanne She's loaded down with harvest men Bye bye sweet Rosyanne

*Time* : <u>3</u>

Verse & Chorus						
1	1	1	1			
1	1	5	5			
57	57	5	5			
5	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	$\mathbf{C}$
G	a	b	$\mathbf{C}$	D	e	f#	G
D	e	f#	G	A	b	C#	D
A	b	C#	D	$\mathbf{E}$	f#	g#	A

### **Bad Moon Rising**

By: Credence Clearwater Revival

1 5 4 1
I see a bad moon arising
5 4 1
I see trouble on the way
5 4 1
I see earthquakes and lightening
5 4 1
I see bad times today

Don't go out (around) tonight

1
It's bound to take your life
5 4 1
There's a bad moon on the rise

I hear hurricanes a blowing
I know the end is coming soon
I fear rivers over flowing
I hear the voice of rage and ruin

Hope you got your things together Hope you are quite prepared to die Looks like we're in for nasty weather One eye is taken for an eye

Chord Progression					
Time:	4/4	Key: D			
		ď			
Intro:					
	C /A	1	1		
1	5 /4	1	1		
V :					
1	5 / 4	1	1		
1	5 / 4	1	1		
	5 / 4		1		
1	5 / 4	1	1		
Chorus	S:				
4	4	1	1		
5	4	1	1		
· ·	•		-		
TT.	1				
Turn a	round				
5	4	1	1		

Chaud Duaguagian

#### **Arrangement**

Intro turn around form
Verse 1
Chorus
Verse 2
Chorus
Solo over verse
Verse 3
Chorus
Chorus
Chorus

**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
```

#### Little Boxes

Malvina Reynolds

**Little Boxes on the hillside** 

Little boxes made of ticky tacky

57

1 ( 🕽

Little boxes little boxes all the same

There's a green one and a pink one and a blue and a yellow one

And they're all made out of ticky tacky and they all look just the same

And the people in the houses all go to the university
And they all get put in boxes little boxes all the same
And there's doctors and there's lawyers and business executives
And they're all made out of ticky tacky and they all look just the same

And they all play on the gulf course and drink their martini dry And they all have pretty children and the children go to school And the children go to summer camp and go to university And they all get put in boxes and they all come out the same

And the boys go into business and marry and raise a family And they're all get put in boxes little boxes all the same There's a green one and a pink one and a blue and a yellow one And they're all made out of ticky tacky and they all look just the same

3/4	Verse	& Ch	orus	
1	1	1	1	
1	57	1	57	(57)
1	1	1	1	
1	57	$1/5_{7}$	1	

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

57

### Wildwood Flower

1 Oh, I'll twine with my mingles and waving black hair 5 1
With the roses so red and the lilies so fair 4 1
And the myrtle so bright with the emerald hue 5 1
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

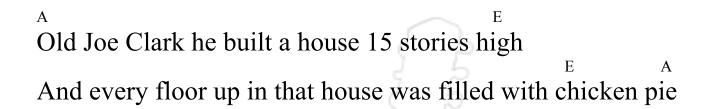
He taught me to love him and promised to love And To cherish me over all others above How my heart is now wond'ring no mis'ry can tell He's left me no warning, no words of farewell

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.

### Old Joe Clark



Fare the well old Joe Clark, Fare thee well I say
E A
Fare the well old Joe Clark, Old Joe's gone away

Old Joe Clark had a mule his name was Morgan Brown And every tooth in that mules head was 16 inches round

A Part VERSE

**B Part CHORUS** 

### Little Bird of Heaven

Reel Time Travelers

I lit out from your back door, kicked an old can fifty miles or more Written right there on the side of the can There's a little bird of heaven right here in your hand

I looked up, and I looked back, walked a hundred miles on the railroad track All's I can tell from where I stand There's a little bird of heaven right here in my hand

So toss it up, or pass it round, pay mind to what you're carryin' round Oh, keep it close, hold it while you can There's a little bird of heaven right here in your hand

Well love, they tell me is a fragile thing, it's hard to fly on broken wings I lost my ticket to the promised land There's a little bird of heaven right here in my hand

Fallen hearts and fallen leaves, starlings light on the broken trees I find we all need a place to land There's a little bird of heaven right here in your hand

4/4