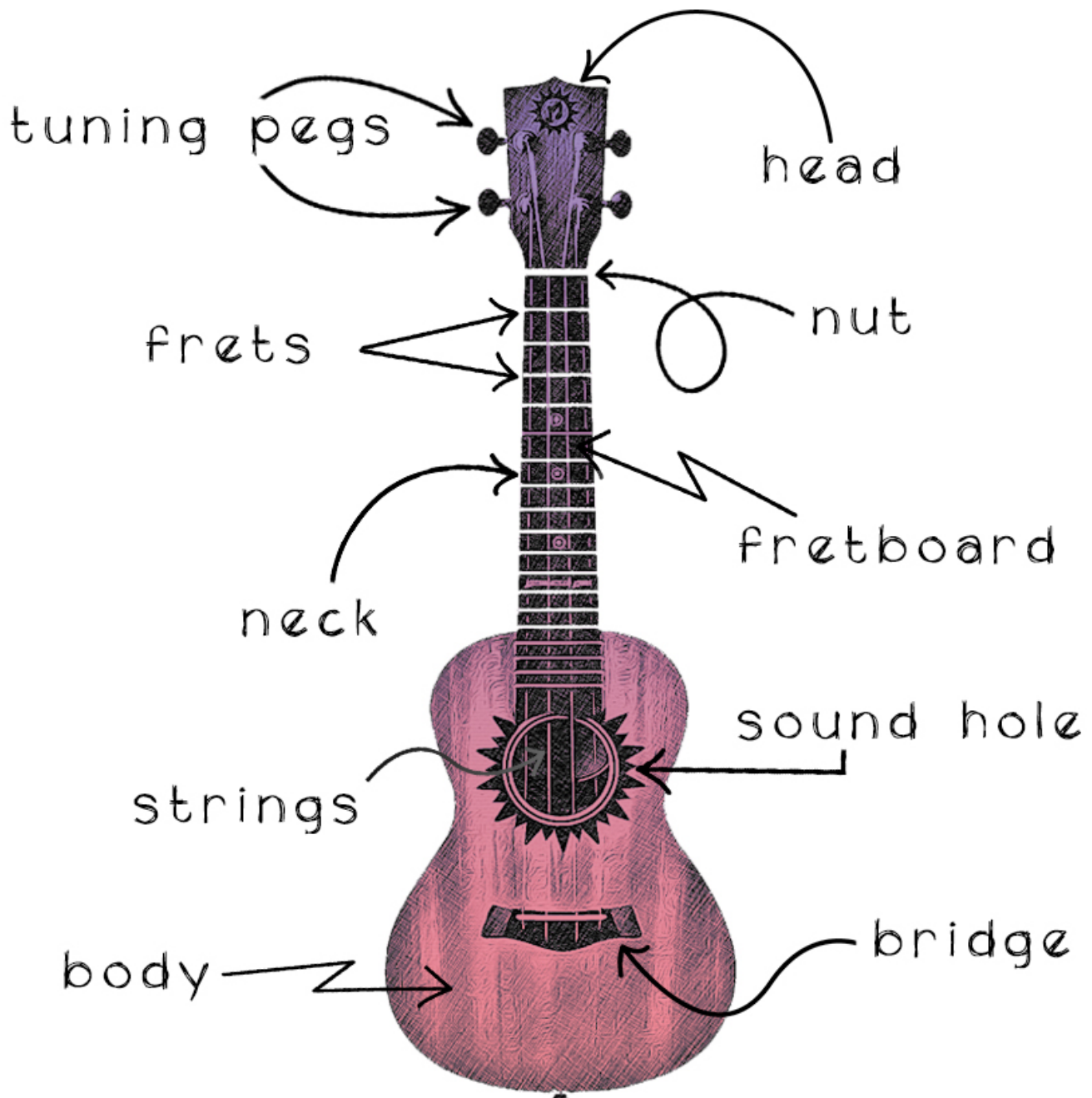

MECHANICS OF MUSIC

BEGINNER UKULELE GUIDE



HOLDING THE UKULELE



- ⚙ Sit with your feet flat on the floor and a straight back.
- ⚙ Relax your shoulders and arms.
- ⚙ Your left hand should be under the neck, gently supporting the weight of the ukulele.
- ⚙ Your right hand should rest over the body of the ukulele.

TUNE YOUR UKULELE



- ⚙ Push and hold the yellow button to turn the tuner on.
- ⚙ Push the button again until the small “ukule.” is lit up. This is ukulele mode.
- ⚙ Clip the tuner onto the head of your ukulele and hold the ukulele as above.
- ⚙ Pluck the string closest to the floor with your thumb. This is the A string.
- ⚙ Use the tuning peg to tighten the string until the tuner says “1 A” and the dial is directly in the middle. The tuner will light up green when the string is in tune.
- ⚙ Repeat these steps for the other 3 strings

▪ 1 A 2 E 3 C 4 G

NOTE: The first time you tune a new ukulele, you will have to tighten the string a lot.

STRUMMING

OPTION 1: THUMB



- ⚙️ Gently brush the strings with the soft part of your thumb in a downwards direction.
- ⚙️ Use the nail of your thumb on the way up.
- ⚙️ Rotate your wrist and relax

OPTION 2: FINGER

- ⚙️ Extend your index finger
- ⚙️ Brush the nail your finger across the strings
- ⚙️ Use the soft part of your finger on the way up
- ⚙️ Twist your wrist as you strum

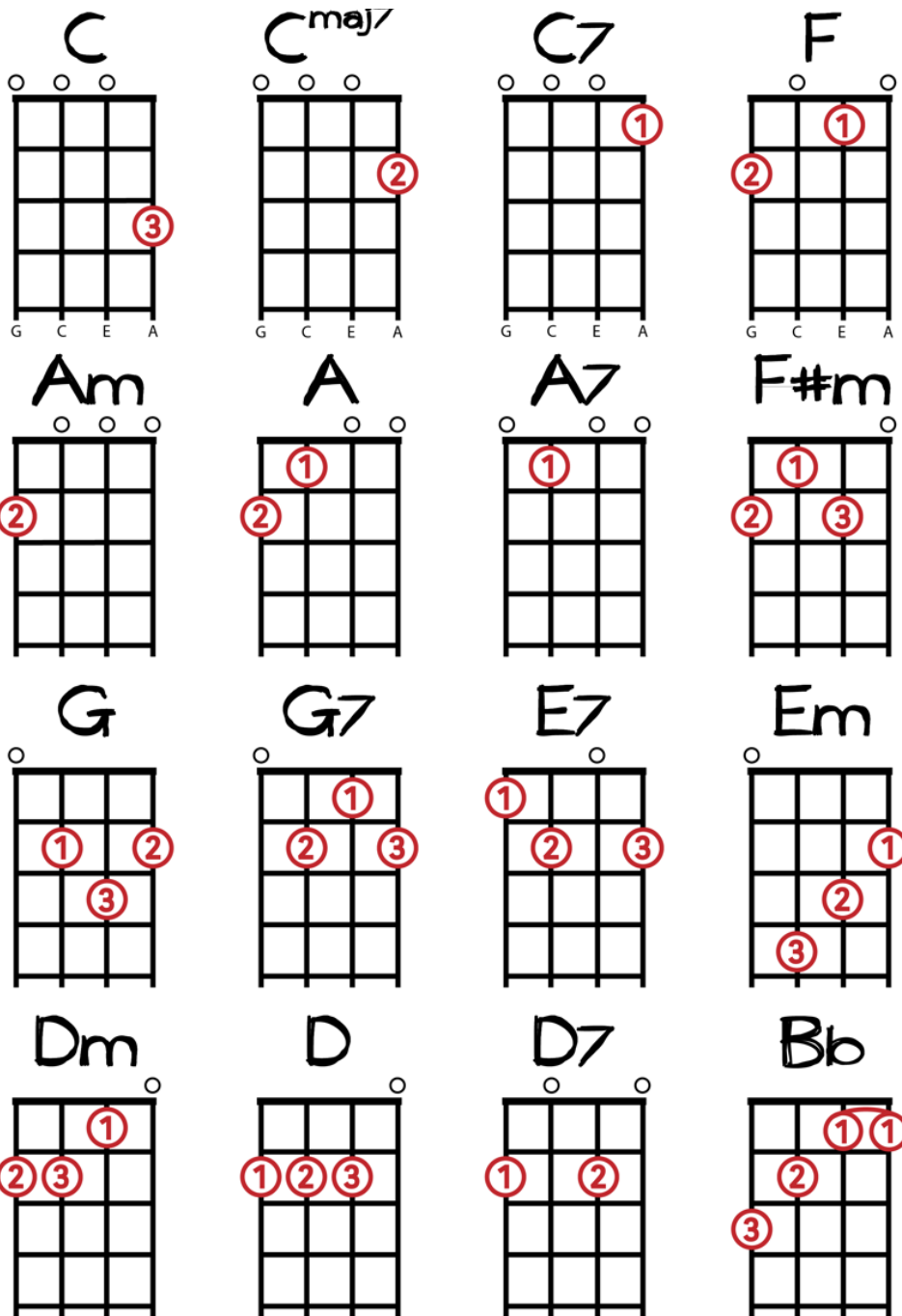
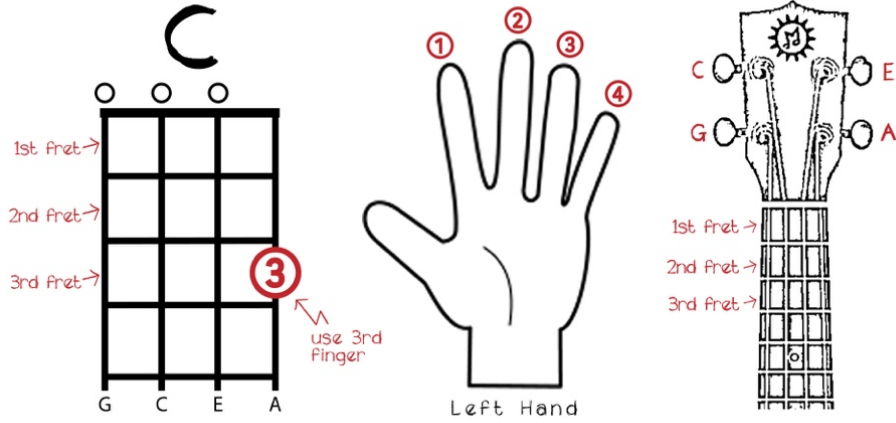


OPTION 3: WHOLE HAND



- ⚙️ Make a very loose fist with your right hand
- ⚙️ Rotate your wrists as you brush the strings with the nails of all of your fingers
- ⚙️ Imagine you are brushing water droplets off your fingers
- ⚙️ Use the nail of your thumb on the way up

MAKING CHORDS



FUN STRUMMING PATTERNS

count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

1 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

2 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑

3 ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

4 ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑

5 ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓

6 ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓

7 ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑

8 ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

9 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

10 ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

11 ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

12 ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑

13 ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

14 ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑

15 ↓ ↓

16 ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓

17 ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

18 ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓

19 ↓ ↓ ↓

20 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑

POPULAR CHORD CHANGES

Play the strumming pattern once for each chord

1 C C_{maj}7 C7 F

2 C Am F G7

3 C F C G7

4 C F G7 C

5 Am F C G

6 C Am Dm G7

7 Am C Dm F

8 G C Em D7

9 C Em F G

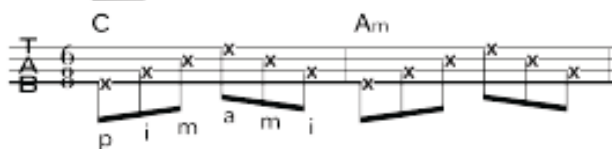
10 A E7 F#m D

11 F Bb F C7

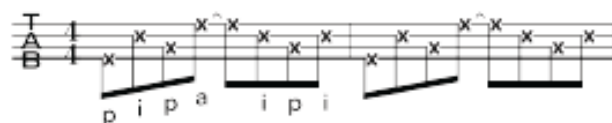
FINGER PICKING PATTERNS



p - pulgar (thumb)
i - índice (index)
m - medio (middle)
a - anular (ring)
c - chiquito (pinky)



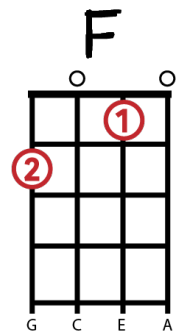
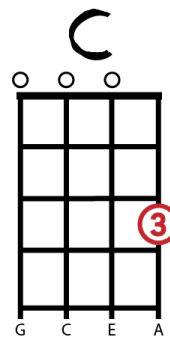
Use this pattern for songs like *Hallelujah*,
Can't Help Falling in Love, *House of the Rising Sun*
& *What a Wonderful World*



Use this pattern for songs like *Landslide*
& *The Sound of Silence*

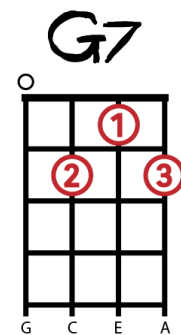
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

C G7
Happy Birthday to You



G7 C
Happy Birthday to You

C F
Happy Birthday dear -NAME-



C G7 C
Happy Birthday to You

ROW ROW ROW YOUR BOAT

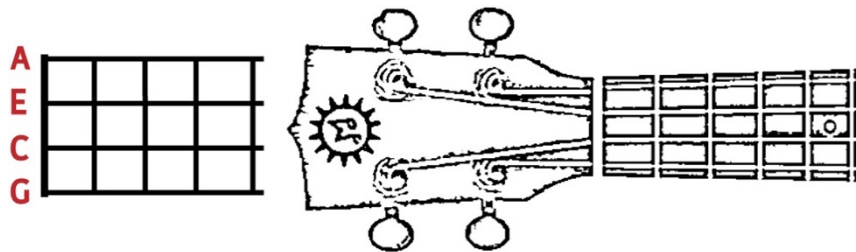
C C C C
/ / / v / / v / v / / /
Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream

F F F F C
/ v / / v / / v / / v / v / / /
merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily life is but a dream.

/ = down strum v = up strum

HOW TO READ TAB (TABLATURE)

- ☀ Each *line* represents a *string* on the ukulele
- ☀ The *number* on the line tells you *which fret* to put your finger in
 - ☀ fret 1 is the space between the nut and the first metal fret
 - ☀ “0” means play the open string (no fingers)
- ☀ The number usually also tells you *which finger* to use
- ☀ CAREFUL - it seems to be upside down at first!
 - ☀ The line closest to the floor is the “G” string



Here is the TAB for HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

A —————
E ————— 1 — 0 ————— 3 — 1 —
C — 0 — 0 — 2 — 0 ————— 0 — 0 — 2 — 0 —
G

ha - ppy birth-day to you ha - ppy birth-day to you

A ————— 3 — 0 ————— 1 — 1 — 0 —
E ————— 1 — 0 ————— 1 — 3 — 1 —
C — 0 — 0 ————— 2 —
G

ha - ppy birth-day dear “ — — ” ha - ppy birth-day to you