

## San Jose Ukulele Club Beginner Lessons

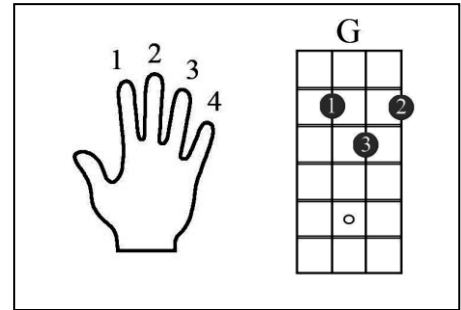
*These lessons are very condensed and PRACTICE between sessions is highly recommended!*

The goal is to become familiar with the major, minor and sevenths of the most frequently used chords. Techniques such as barred chords, "moveable" chords, and simple strum patterns will be also be addressed.

Print out the chord charts from the link on our website's home page. These charts show where to place your fingers to form the chords.

Example: to play the G major chord, place your index finger on the 3<sup>rd</sup> string/2nd fret, your middle finger on the 1<sup>st</sup> string/ 2<sup>nd</sup> fret and ring finger on 2<sup>nd</sup> string/3<sup>rd</sup> fret.

*Note for Lefties:* Ukuleles can be easily re-strung for left-handed players by simply reversing the order of the strings. However, most, if not all, song sheets provide diagrams for right-handed players. The left-handed player has the added task of memorizing the chord patterns, rather than relying on the visual diagrams.



### First lesson: F, C7, C, G, and G7.

Practice these two-chords songs: The Banana Boat song (F, C7), Paperback Writer (C, G) , Jambalaya on the Bayou (C, G7) and Buffalo Gals (C, G7). Do a simple downstrum where you see a timing dot.

### Second lesson: A, Am, A7, D, Dm and D7.

D7 is the first **barred** chord to learn. A barred chord is where the index finger is placed across all the strings. Make sure your thumb is behind the neck of the ukulele in order to apply pressure to achieve clean sounding chords.

Songs: Da Doo Ron Ron (A, D) or Bad Moon Rising (A, D, G), Up On the Roof-Key of C (C, Am, F, G), Where Did Our Love Go? (C, G, Dm), Act Naturally (D7, G, C, A7), The Hukilau Song (C, G7, A7, D7), Hey, Good Lookin' (C, D7, G7, F, C7),

### Third lesson: E, Em, E7, Bb, Bm, B7

This lesson will cover more barred chords (Bb, B, Bm) and secondary positions, like C<sup>2</sup> (see diagram below).

Songs: Three Little Birds (A, D, E), Stand By Me-Key of G (G, Em, C, D) or El Condor Pasa (Em, G, C), Peggy Sue (A, D, E7, F),

### Fourth lesson: Cm, Fm, F#m, Gm

Songs: Blue Bayou-Key of G, (G, D7, Cm, C), Up on the Roof -Key of A (A, F#m, D, E7) I'll Follow the Sun (C, F, G, D7, Am, G7, C7, Fm). Groovin, (F, Am, Gm, C7, Bb), and a beginner version of Pachelbel's Cannon in D (D, A, Bm, F#m, G)