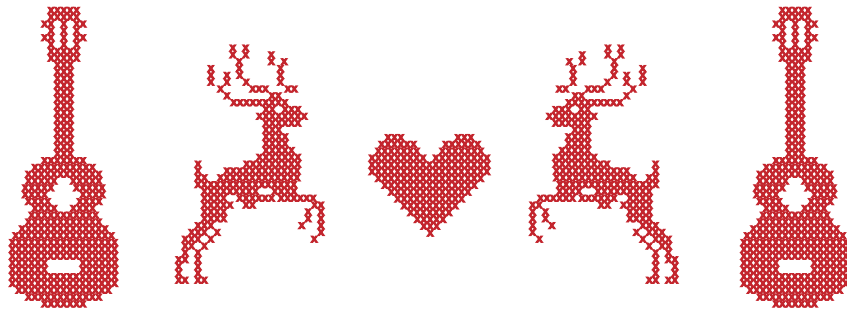


BEGINNER HOLIDAY JAM

with **CYNTHIA LIN**



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Notes

*songs with 4 chords or less

strums are suggested - you can always simplify by playing downstrums

/ = single strum

shuffle island strum has a bluesy, syncopated feel

ALOHA, UKE FRIENDS!

December 2020 Update

Happy holidays! Thank you for downloading this updated Beginner Holiday Jam Songbook. For the 2020 Update, I've added 2 Hanukkah songs at the end of the packet. You'll also find new green video link tabs at the top of each song page. Just click the button to go directly to the YouTube practice video.

You can now find a list of these videos on my website <http://ukulele101.com>. Visit the Holiday Songbook link for holiday videos, and explore the other tabs for more beginner-friendly videos and song sheet links.

You are welcome to share this free Songbook with friends, family, and your local ukulele group. The download link is <http://bit.ly/BeginnerHolidaySongbook>. I hope you'll find it useful for singing, jamming, and making music together during this holiday season.

2020 Holiday Livestream Events

Please join me online for these live events, and invite your friends and family to watch together! Tune up your uke, and play and sing along with hundreds of uke players across the world!

12/5 Holiday Strum-Along, with Ukulenny: <http://bit.ly/HolidayUkeJam2020>

12/12 Holiday Aloha Concert, with Ukulenny, Craig Chee & Sarah Maisel: <http://bit.ly/HolidayAloha2020>

To support this free Songbook and these free livestream events, you can join my positive online community via Patreon and support my mission: <http://patreon.com/cynthialin>

You can also download and stream my ukulele holiday albums:

- *Cozy Christmas*: <http://bit.ly/StreamCozyChristmas>
- *A Very Merry Christmas*: <http://bit.ly/StreamCLVeryMerry>

Wishing you a wonderful holiday with lots of opportunity to share the joy of ukulele!

xo cynthia 

BEGINNER UKULELE BASICS

Video tutorials at youtube.com/cynthialinmusic

HOLD AN UKE

- 1 Neck points 10 o'clock on your body.
- 2 Left hand at neck, right arm wrap around, use right forearm to tuck uke against your body.
- 3 Right hand should be able to strum on the fretboard above the sound hole.

TUNE AN UKE

- String order: G C E A (top to bottom)
- Practice plucking each string clearly, and say each string's name
- Video on how to use an electronic tuner available at youtube.com/cynthialinmusic

STRUM CLEARLY

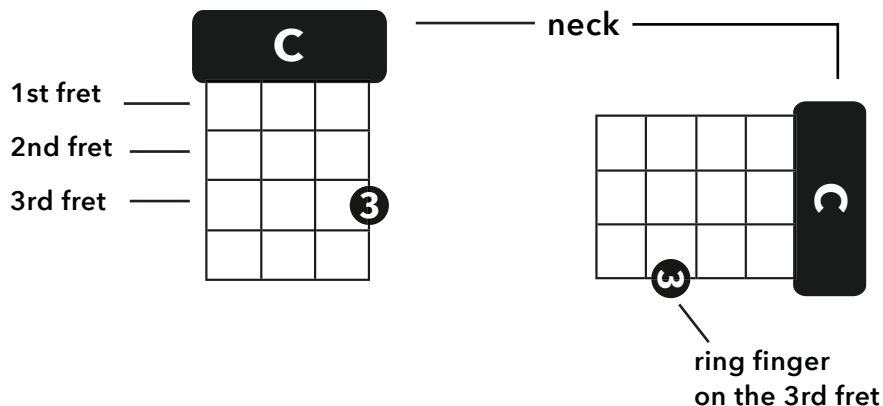
- Start with your thumb (easier grip) but you'll want to move to using your index finger. Get under the string and pluck each individual string clearly and loudly-don't be afraid of plucking hard.
- Then use the same force to pluck down onto the next string. Build control to be able to stop on each string. Articulate each string, G C E A, and build into a slow strum.
- When the slow strum sounds clear, then you can speed up.
- Do this for each new chord that you try.

PLACE YOUR FINGER FOR CHORDS

- I recommend the "handshake" method. Hold your left hand out like you're going to shake someone's hand, straight and vertical. Allow the neck of the ukulele to make contact with your hand at the inside knuckle joint - this will serve as your anchor point, try to maintain this connection to the uke at all times.
- Curl your fingers around into chord position. The very tips of your fingers should press straight into the strings, and your knuckles should be perpendicular to the fretboard, like a nail into a wall. Your thumb should be placed on the back of the neck so that it's as if you are pinching your thumb against your fingertips.
- Your palm should be curled, like you have a ping-pong ball tucked in your hand-be careful that your palm does not press against the neck. Your wrist should be straight, and your arm should support your wrist and hand.
- It will take some time for your hand and fingers to build stretch and strength. Practice chord fingering for 5 minutes a day, and you will see fast improvement!

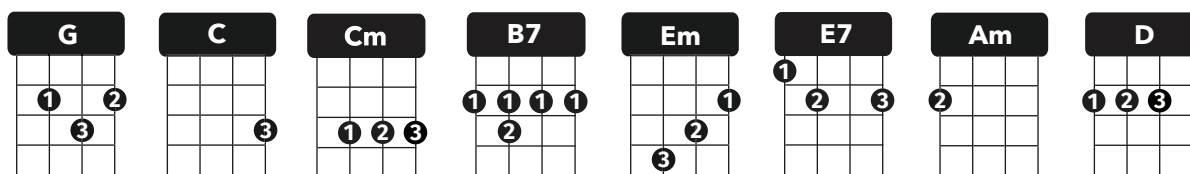
READ CHORD DIAGRAMS

- 1 index finger
- 2 middle finger
- 3 ring finger



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU

by Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff



SHUFFLE ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu
TIMING: 1 strum per chord



INTRO

G

VERSE

G

G

I don't want a lot for Christmas

G

G

there is just one thing I need

C

C

I don't care a-bout the presents

Cm

Cm

underneath the Christmas tree

G

G

I don't need to hang my stocking

G

G

there upon the fireplace

C

C

Santa Claus won't make me happy

Cm

Cm

with a toy on Christmas day

CHORUS

G

[G// - B7//]

I just want you for my own

Em

[Em// - Cm//]

more than you could ever know

G

E7

Make my wish come true, baby

Am

D

All I want for Christmas is

G

Em

C

you,

D

baby

VERSE

G

G

I won't ask for much this Christmas

G

G

I won't even wish for snow

C

C

I'm just gonna keep on waiting

Cm

Cm

here under the mistletoe

G

G

I won't make a list and send it

G

G

to the North Pole for Saint Nick

C

C

I won't even stay awake to

Cm

Cm

hear those magic reindeer click

CHORUS

G

[G// - B7//]

I just want you here to-night

Em

[Em// - Cm//]

holding on to me so tight

G

E7

What more can I do, baby

Am

D

All I want for Christmas is

G

Em

C

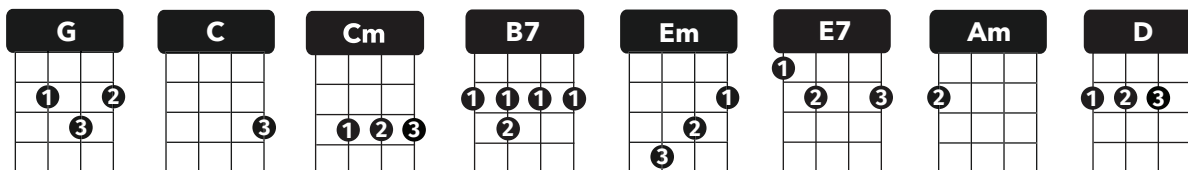
you,

D

you...

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU

(continued)



BRIDGE

B7	B7	Em	Em
All the lights are shining so brightly every-where			
B7	B7	Em	Em
And the sound of children's		laughter fills the air	
Cm	Cm	G	E7
and every-one is singing		I hear those sleigh bells swinging	
Am/		Am/	
Santa won't you bring me		the one I really need, won't you	
D/	D/	(hits) D////	D////
please bring my baby to		meeee yeah yeah yeah	

VERSE

G	G	G	G
I don't want a lot for Christmas		this is all I'm asking for	
C	C	Cm	Cm
I just want to see my baby		standing right out-side my door	

CHORUS

G	[G// - B7//]	Em	[Em// - Cm//]
I just want him for my own		more than you could ever know	
G	E7	Am	(hits) D//// D////
Make my wish come true, baby		All I want for Christmas is	
G	Em	C	D
you....			

OUTRO x3

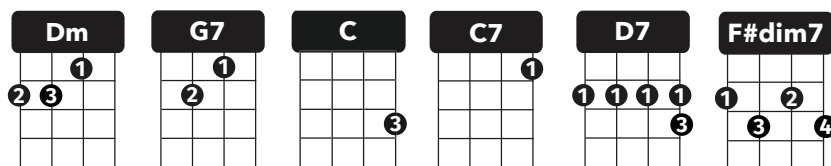
G	Em	C	D
All I want for Christmas is you, baby			

END

G/
ooh

BLUE CHRISTMAS

by Bill Hayes and Jay Johnson



SWING STRUM: d- du d- du

TIMING: 1 strum per chord



INTRO

Dm G7 C G7/

VERSE

C	C	G7	G7
I'll have a blue	Christmas	with-out you	
Dm	G7	C	C
I'll be so blue just	thinking	a-bout you	
C7	C7	Dm	Dm
Deco-rations of red on a		green Christmas tree	
D7	D7	G7// - Dm//	G7/
Won't be the same, dear if	you're not	here with me	

VERSE

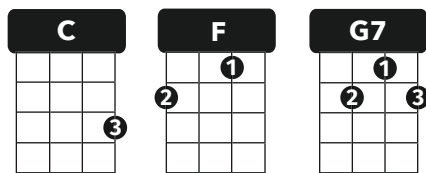
C	C	G7	G7
And when those blue	snowflakes	start fallin'	
Dm	G7	C	C
That's when those blue	memories	start callin'	
C7	C7	Dm	F#dim7
You'll be doin' al-right with your	Christmas of	white	
G7	G7	C	C
But I'll have a blue, blue	Christmas		

ENDING

G7	G7//	G7/ - G7/ - G7/	C	C/ G7/ C/
But I'll have a blue,	blue, blue, blue	Christmas		

FELIZ NAVIDAD

by José Feliciano



CLICK TO
PLAY ALONG
ON YOUTUBE

ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu

TIMING: 1 strum per chord

INTRO

C C/

VERSE

F	G7	C	C
Feliz Navi-dad	Feliz Navi-dad		
F	G7	C	C/
Feliz Navi-dad Prospero	Año y	Felici-dad	
F	G7	C	C
Feliz Navi-dad	Feliz Navi-dad		
F	G7	C	C/
Feliz Navi-dad Prospero	Año y	Felici-dad	

VERSE

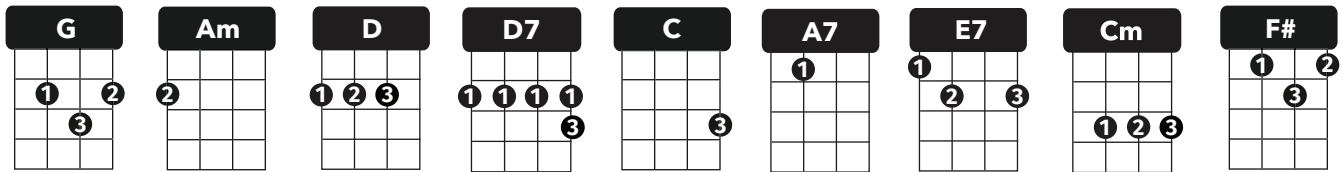
F	G7	C	C
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas,	I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas		
F	G7	C	C/
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas from the bottom of my heart			
F	G7	C	C
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas,	I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas		
F	G7	C	C/
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas from the bottom of my heart			

ENDING

F	G7	C	C/	/// (cha-cha-cha)
I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas from the bottom of my heart				

JINGLE BELL ROCK

by Joseph Beal and Jim Boothe



SWING STRUM: d- du d- du

TIMING: 1 strum per chord; on split measure, play [d du - d du]

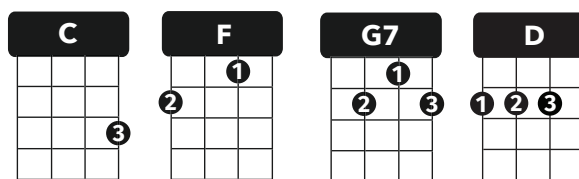
SHUFFLE ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu

TIMING: 1 strum per chord

INTRO	G			
VERSE	G	G	G	[Am - D]
	Jingle-bell Jingle-bell	Jingle Bell Rock	Jingle bell swing and	Jingle bells ring
	[Am - D]	[Am - D]	Am /	D7 (<i>island strum</i>)
	Snowin' and blowin' up	bushels of fun	Now the jingle hop	has begun
VERSE	G	G	G	[Am - D]
	Jingle-bell Jingle-bell	Jingle Bell Rock	Jingle bells chime in	Jingle bell time
	[Am - D]	[Am - D]	[Am - D]	G (<i>island strum</i>)
	Dancin' and prancin in	Jingle Bell Square,	In the frosty	air
BRIDGE	(<i>island strum</i>)	C	C	G G
		What a bright time,	it's the right time	to rock the night away
		A7	A7	D7/ D7
		Jingle-bell time	is a swell time	To go glidin' in a one-horse sleigh
VERSE	G	G	G	E7
	Giddy-up jingle horse	pick up your feet	Jingle a-round the	clock
	C	Cm	[A7 - D]	G (<i>island strum</i>)
	Mix and mingle in a	jinglin' beat	That's the Jingle Bell	Rock
ENDING	[A7 - D]	[A7 - D]		
	That's the Jingle Bell,	that's the Jingle Bell,		
	[A7 - D]	G (<i>island strum</i>)	G/ F#/ G/	
	that's the Jingle Bell	Rock!		

JINGLE BELLS

by J.S. Pierpont



CLICK TO
PLAY ALONG
ON YOUTUBE

BACKBEAT STRUM: d D d D

TIMING: 1 strum per chord

INTRO

C

VERSE

C	C	C	F
Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh			
F	G7	G7	C
O'er the fields we go		laughing all the way	
C	C	C	F
Bells on bob-tail ring		making spirits bright	
F	G7	G7	C/ G7/
What fun it is to ride and sing a		sleighting song to-night - oh!	

CHORUS

C	C	C	C
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way			
F	C	D	G7/ G7/
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh - ay!			
C	C	C	C
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way			
F	C	G7	C C
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh			

VERSE

C	C	C	F
Now the ground is white		Go it while you're young	
F	G7	G7	C
Take the girls tonight		And sing this sleighing song	
C	C	C	F
Just get a bob-tailed bay		Two forty as his speed	
F	G7	G7	C/ G7/
Hitch him to an open sleigh		and crack, you'll take the lead - oh!	

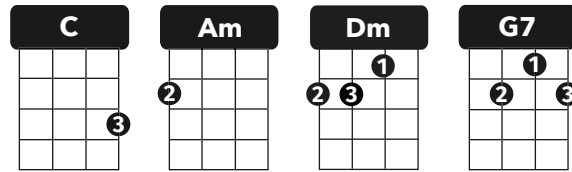
REPEAT CHORUS

ENDING

F	C	G7	G7	C	F	C	C/
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh							

LAST CHRISTMAS

by Wham!



ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu
TIMING: 2 strums per chord

*practice singing the underlined syllables on the downbeat to build your singing-while-playing skills

INTRO

C Am Dm G7

CHORUS x2

C **Am**
Last Christmas I gave you my heart But the very next day you gave it away
Dm **G7**
This year to save me from tears I'll give it to someone special

VERSE

C **Am**
 Once bitten twice shy I keep my distance, but you still catch my eye
Dm **G7**
 Tell me baby, do you recognize me? Well, it's been a year, it doesn't surprise me
C **Am**
 (Happy Christmas) I wrapped it up and sent it With a note saying "I love you", I meant it
Dm **G7**
 Now I know what a fool I've been, but if you kissed me now, I know you'd fool me again

REPEAT CHORUS x2

VERSE

C **Am**
 Crowded room, friends with tired eyes, I'm hiding from you, and your soul of ice
Dm **G7**
 My god, I thought you were someone to rely on, Me? I guess I was a shoulder to cry on
C **Am**
 A face on a lover with a fire in his heart A man under cover but you tore me
Dm **G7**
 a-part, Oh oh Now I've found a real love you'll never fool me again

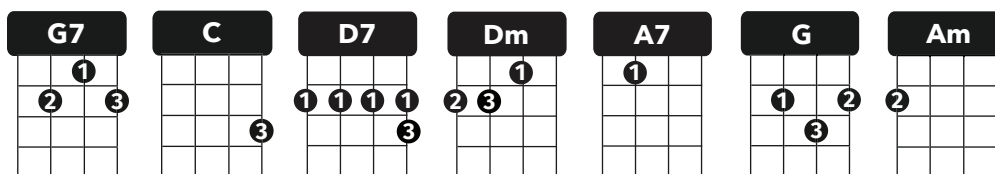
REPEAT CHORUS x2

FINAL
CHORUS

C **Am**
 A face on a lover with a fire in his heart A man under cover but you tore me
Dm **G7** **C/**
 a-part, Oh I'll give it to someone, give it to someone special

LET IT SNOW!

by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne



SHUFFLE ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu

TIMING: 1 strum per chord;

on split measure, play 2 swing strums: [d du - d du]

INTRO

G7 **C/ //** (two hits)

VERSE

[C - G7] C	[C - D7] G7
Oh, the weather out-side is frightful	But the fire is so de-lightful
[Dm - A7] Dm	G7 C
And since we've no place to go,	Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow
[C - G7] C	[C - D7] G7
It doesn't show signs of stopping,	And I brought some corn for popping
[Dm - A7] Dm	G7 C
The lights are turned way down low,	Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

BRIDGE

G G	[Am - D7] G
When we finally kiss good night,	How I'll hate going out in the storm
G G	[A7 - D7] G7
But if you really hold me tight,	All the way home I'll be warm

VERSE

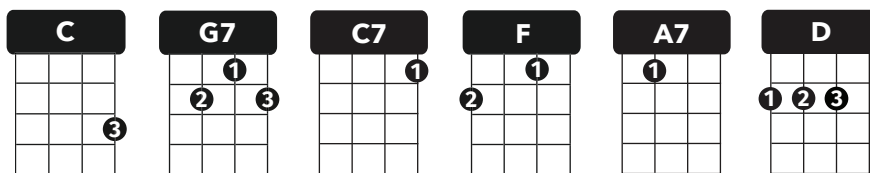
[C - G7] C	[C - D7] G7
The fire is slowly dying,	And my dear, we're still good-bye-ing
[Dm - A7] Dm	G7 C
But as long as you love me so,	Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

END

G7 **G7** **C** **C/ G7/ C/**
 Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

MELE KALIKIMAKA

by Robert Alex Anderson



BACKBEAT STRUM: d D d D

TIMING: 2 strums per chord;
on split measure, play 1 per chord: [d D d D - d D d D]

or

SHUFFLE ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu

TIMING: 2 strums per chord; on split measure, play 1 per chord

INTRO

C

VERSE

C

C

C

G7

Mele Kalikimaka is the thing to say on a bright Hawaiian Christmas day

G7

G7

G7

C

That's the island greeting that we send to you from the land where palm trees sway

C7

F

Here we know that Christmas will be green and bright

A7

[**D** - **G7**]

the sun will shine by day and all the stars at night

C

A7

[**D** - **G7**]

C

C

Mele Kalikimaka is Ha-waii's way to say Merry Christmas to you

ENDING

C

A7

Mele Kalikimaka is Ha-waii's way

[**D** - **G7**]

[**D** - **G7**]

to say Merry Christmas

a very merry Christmas

[**D**

-

G7]

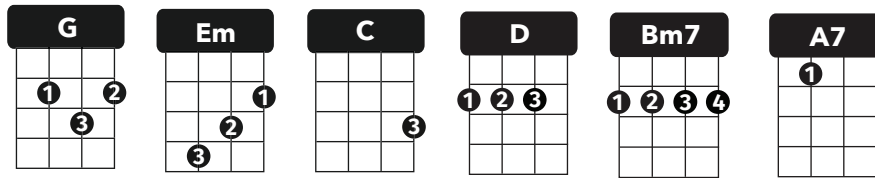
C/

G7/ C/

a very very merry merry Christmas to you

ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

by Johnny Marks



SHUFFLE ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu

TIMING: 1 strum per chord



INTRO

G Em C D

VERSE

G G D D
Rockin' around the Christmas tree at the Christmas party hop
D D D G
Mistletoe hung where you can see every couple tries to stop
G G D D
Rockin' around the Christmas tree, let the Christmas spirit ring
D D D G
Later we'll have some pumpkin pie and we'll do some carol-ing

BRIDGE

C C Bm7 Bm7
You will get a sentimental feeling when you hear
Em Em A7/ D
Voices singing let's be jolly, deck the halls with boughs of holly

VERSE

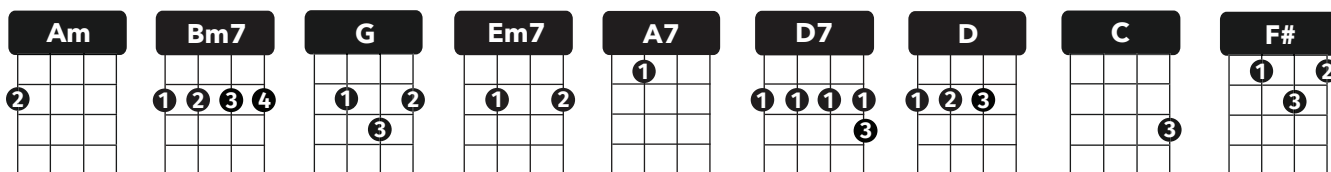
G G D D
Rockin' around the Christmas tree, have a happy holiday
D D D G
Everyone dancing merrily in the new old-fashioned way

ENDING

D D D D
Everyone dancing merrily in the new old - fa - shioned
G Em C G/
way

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER

by Johnny Marks



SHUFFLE ISLAND STRUM: d- du -udu

TIMING: 1 strum per chord

*practice singing the underlined syllables on the downbeat to build your singing-while-playing skills



OPTIONAL INTRO
(single strums)

Am / Bm7 / Am / G /
You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen
Am / Bm7 / Am / G /
Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen
Em7 / A7 / Em7 / A7 /
But do you re-call the most famous reindeer of
(island strum) **D7 D7**
all?

VERSE

G G G D
Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer had a very shiny nose
D D D G
And if you ever saw it you would even say it glows
G G G D
All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names
D D D G
They never let poor Rudolph join in any reindeer games

BRIDGE

C G D G
Then one foggy Christmas Eve, Santa came to say
D D A7 D
"Rudolph, with your nose so bright, won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

VERSE

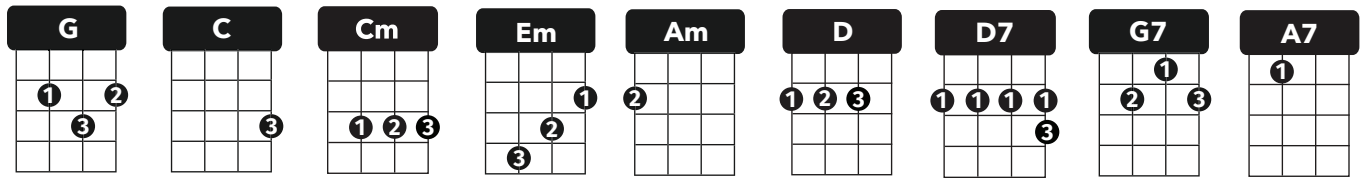
G G G D
Then how the reindeer loved him as they shouted out with glee
D D D G
"Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer, you'll go down in histo-ry!"

ENDING

D D G G/ F#/ G/
You'll go down in his- to- ry

SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' TO TOWN

by Haven Gillespie and J. F. Coots



BACKBEAT STRUM: d D d D

TIMING: 1 strum per chord; on split measure, play [d D - d D]



INTRO

G

VERSE

G **C** **G** [**C** - **Cm** /]
 You better watch out, you better not cry, you better not pout, I'm telling you why
 [**G** - **Em**] [**Am** - **D**] **G** **D7**
 Santa Claus is coming to town

VERSE

G **C** **G** [**C** - **Cm** /]
 He's making a list, checking it twice Gonna find out who's naughty and nice
 [**G** - **Em**] [**Am** - **D**] **G** **G**
 Santa Claus is coming to town

BRIDGE

G7 **C** **G7** **C**
 He sees you when you're sleeping he knows when you're a-wake
A7 **D** **A7** **D /** **D7 /**
 He knows if you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake, Oh!

VERSE

G **C** **G** [**C** - **Cm** /]
 You better watch out, you better not cry, you better not pout, I'm telling you why
 [**G** - **Em**] [**Am** - **D**] **G** **G**
 Santa Claus is coming to town

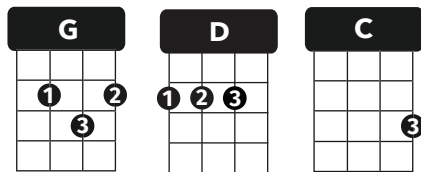
ENDING

[**G** - **Em**] [**Am** - **D**] [**G** - **C**] **G /**
 Santa Claus is coming to town

SILENT NIGHT

by Franz Xaver Gruber

Hawaiian lyrics by Stephen & Mary Desha



WALTZ STRUM: pick d d

TIMING: 1 per chord

or

FINGERPICKING: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 3 - 2

TIMING: 1 per chord

INTRO

G

VERSE

G G
Silent night
Pō la'i ē

D D
all is calm
Malu -hia

C C
'Round yon virgin
Ka makua -hine

C C
holy infant so
Me ke keiki

D D
Sleep in heavenly peace
Moe me ka maluhia lani

D D
sleep in heavenly peace
Moe me ka maluhia lani

G G
holy night
pō kama-ha'o

G G
all is bright
mālama-lama

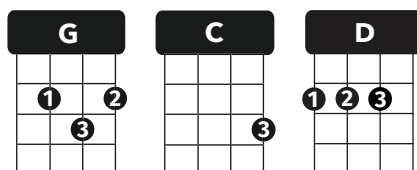
G G
mother and child
aloha ē

G G
tender and mild
hemolele ē

G G
G / (flourish)

SILVER BELLS

by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans



CLICK TO
PLAY ALONG
ON YOUTUBE

WALTZ STRUM: D du du, or pick d d

TIMING: 1 per chord

INTRO

G

VERSE

G	G	C	C
City sidewalks, busy sidewalks		Dressed in holiday	style
D	D	G	G
In the air there's a feeling		of Christmas	
G	G	C	C
Children laughing, people passing	Meeting smile after smile		
D	D	G	G
And on every street corner	you hear		

CHORUS

G	G	C	C
Silver bells	(silver bells)	silver bells	(silver bells)
D	D	G	G
It's Christmas-time		in the city	
G	G	C	C
Ring-a-ling	(ring-a-ling)	hear them ring	(hear them ring)
D	D	G	G /
Soon it will be Christmas		day	

VERSE

G	G	C	C
Strings of street lights, even stop lights		Blink a bright red and green	
D	D	G	G
As the shoppers run home	with their treasures		
G	G	C	C
Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch	This is Santa's big scene		
D	D	G	G
And above all the bustle	you hear		

REPEAT CHORUS

ENDING

D	D /	G	G /
Soon it will be Christmas		day	

HANUKKAH, OH HANUKKAH

Traditional

Watch the [YouTube tutorial](#)

Ukulele arrangement by Cynthia Lin, <http://cynthialin.com/ukulele>

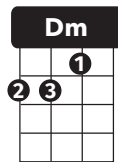
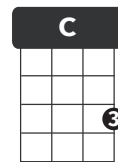
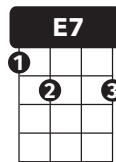
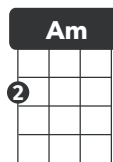
counts: 1 & 2 &

beginner: [d D d D] per chord

on low G, try a bouncing bass line variation

pick & strum: [pickG- strum- pickC- strum] per chord

you can use your thumb to pick, index to strum



INTRO

Am

VERSE

Am	Am	Am	E7/ Am/
Oh Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah	Come light the me	-no -rah	
Am	Am	Am	E7/ Am/
Let's have a party	We'll all dance the ho	-ra	
C	C	E7	Am
Gather 'round the table, we'll	give you a treat		
C	C	E7	Am
Dreidels to	play with and latkes to	eat	

BRIDGE

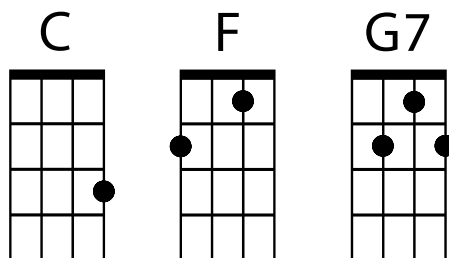
Am	Dm/	Am	Dm/	Am	Dm/	E7	E7
And while we	are	playing		The candles are	burning	low	
Am	Dm	Am	Dm	Am	Dm	E7	E7
One for each night, they	shed a sweet light	To re-mind us of	days long ago				
Am	Dm	Am	Dm	Am	E7	Am	Am
One for each night, they	shed a sweet light	To re-mind us of	days long ago				

REPEAT VERSE + BRIDGE + GO TO ENDING

Am/	Dm/	Am/	Dm/	Am/	E7/	Am/	Dm/	Am/
One for each night, they	shed a sweet light	To re-mind us of	days long ago					

Od Yavo Shalom Aleinu (Salaam)

Mosh Ben-Ari / Sheva



Verse

C/

Od yavo shalom aleinu

F/

Od yavo shalom aleinu

C/

Od yavo shalom aleinu

F/ G7/ G7/ C/

Ve al kulam

C/

Od yavo shalom aleinu

F/

Od yavo shalom aleinu

C/

Od yavo shalom aleinu

F/ G7/ G7/ C/

Ve al kulam

Chorus

Strum: D DUxUD

C

Salaam

F

Aleinu ve al kol ha olam

C

F

Salaam, Salaam

C

Salaam

F

Aleinu ve al kol ha olam

C

F

Salaam, Salaam

Verse Tab

C/

F/

A-----0-0-----
E-----0-0-----111-3-----3-1-
C-000-2-----2-0-----
G-----

C/

F/ G7/G7/C/

A-----
E-----0-0-----1---0-----
C-000-2-----2-0-----2-0-----
G-----

Translation:

Peace will come upon us

Peace will come upon us

Peace will come upon us

And upon everyone

Chorus Tab

C

F

A-----0-0-0-0-----
E-3-3-----3-1-1-3-
C-----0-----
G-----

C

F

A-----
E-----3-----0-----
C-----0-----2-0-----
G-----

Translation:

Peace (in Arabic)

Upon us and upon the whole world

Peace, Peace (in Arabic)