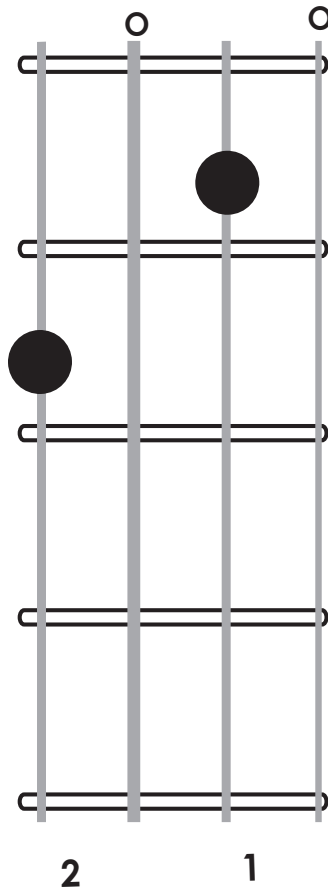


CHORDS

Open Position



60 Suggested Reading:

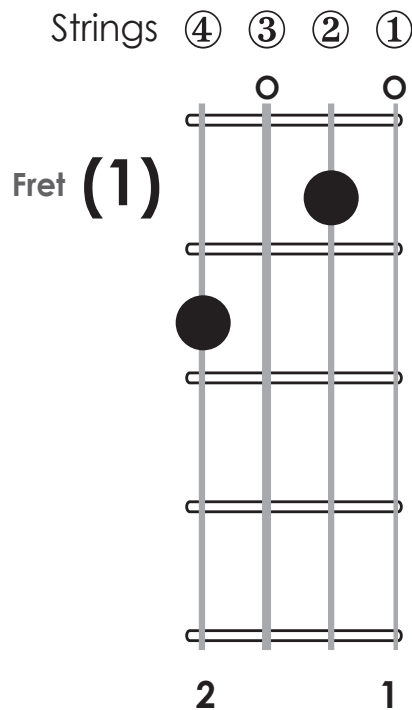
- **A Guide to Advanced Ukulele Chords - Jazz Chords** by Curt Sheller
- **Advanced Guide the Chord Progressions for Ukulele - Vol I** by Curt Sheller
- **A Guide the Blues Chord Progressions for Ukulele - Vol I** by Curt Sheller



The Chord Diagram

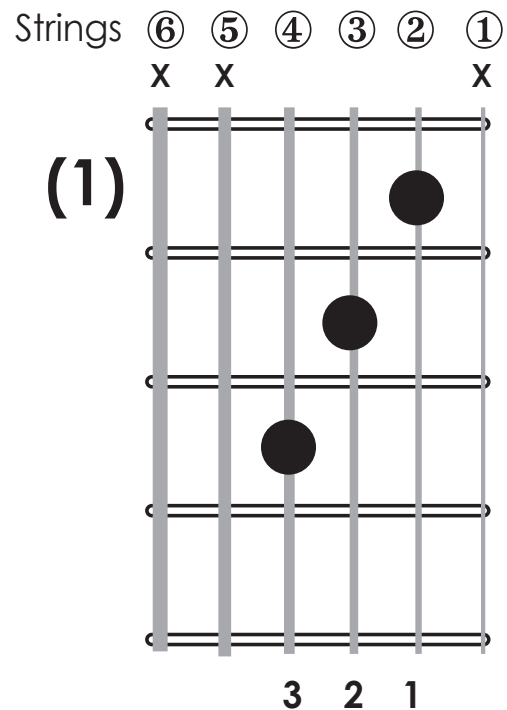
Ukulele Chord Diagram

F



Guitar Chord Diagram

F



X = String is not sounded. Either mute or do not play.

○ = Open String

● = Fingerboard notes to finger.

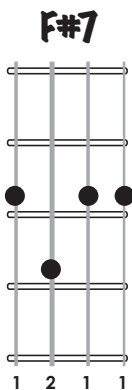
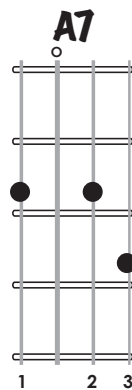
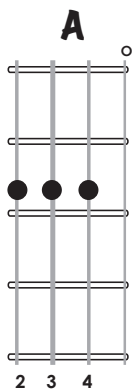
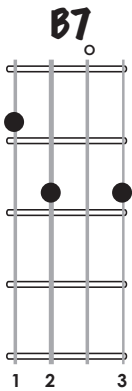
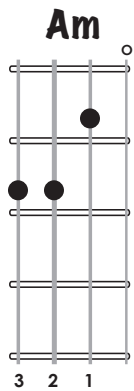
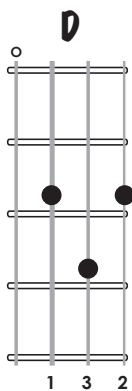
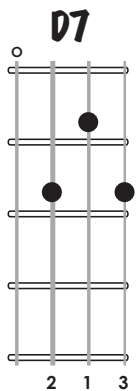
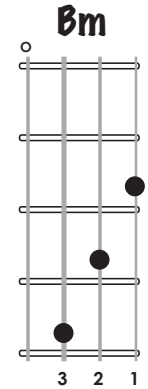
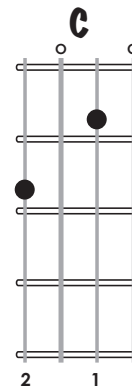
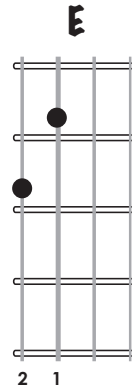
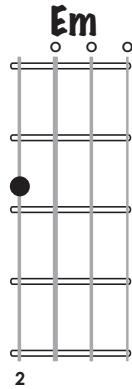
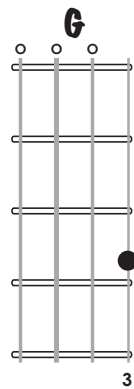
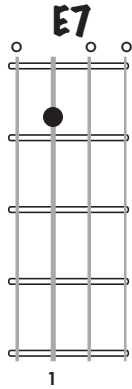
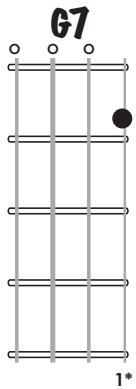
A ukulele chord diagram for Ukulele is similar to a guitar chord diagram but contains only four strings.





"G" Tuning Open Position Chords

"G" Tuning for Tenor and Baritone Ukuleles



Here are a few common open position chords.

These basic chords allow you to play common chord progressions in the popular Rock, Pop, Country and Folk keys.



* All fingerings are recommended but not mandatory.



Baritone Ukulele & Guitar



“G” Tuning - Baritone and Tenor Ukuleles

The *Baritone* ukulele is tuned the same as the thin four strings of a *standard tuned** guitar. This tuning is referred to as “G” tuning among ukulele players

D G B E
④ ③ ② ①

E A D G B E
⑥ ⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Ukulele **Guitar**

This tuning can also be used on the next smaller sized *tenor* ukulele.



“G” Tuning Variation

A common tenor ukulele tuning variation is for string four to be tuned one octave higher for the classic ukulele re-entrant sound.

This would affect the sound and standard music notation of a chord but not the chord diagram, fingering or chord fingerboard shape.

D G B E

* Standard Guitar Tuning is considered to be E A D G B E



Transferring Chords to "G" Tuning



Transferring Guitar Chords to a Ukulele in "G" Tuning

Any guitar chord can transfer to the ukulele as long as you restrict the notes of the chord to strings 1, 2, 3, and 4. Chords such as **D**, **Dm** and **D7** transfer directly to the four strings of the ukulele. Three example open position chords are shown below.

The diagram illustrates the transfer of three guitar chords to a ukulele in G tuning. Each chord is shown with its guitar fretboard, a ukulele neck, and its ukulele fretboard. Dotted lines connect the notes on the guitar strings 1, 2, 3, and 4 to the corresponding notes on the ukulele strings. The ukulele diagrams show the notes on strings 1, 2, 3, and 4, with a (2) indicating the second fret on string 4 for the D and G chords.

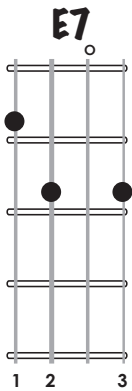
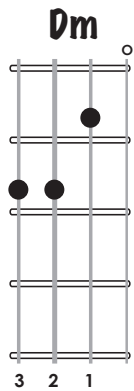
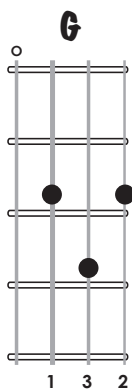
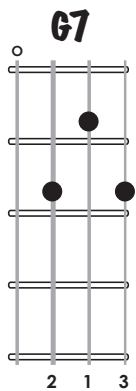
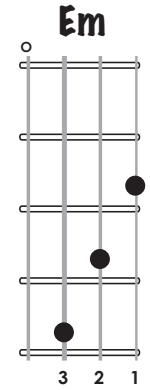
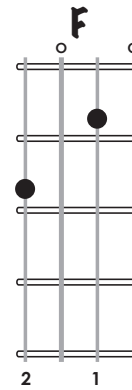
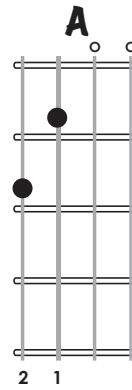
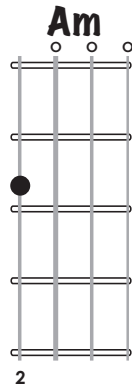
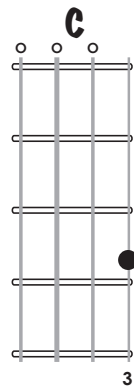
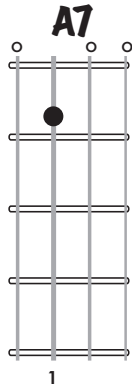
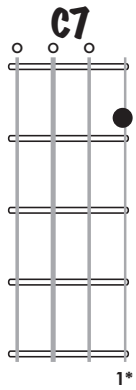
- D Chord:** Guitar fretboard shows notes on strings 2, 3, and 4. Ukulele fretboard shows notes on strings 1, 2, 3, and 4 (2).
- Am Chord:** Guitar fretboard shows notes on strings 2, 3, and 4. Ukulele fretboard shows notes on strings 1, 2, 3, and 4 (2).
- G Chord:** Guitar fretboard shows notes on strings 2, 3, and 4. Ukulele fretboard shows notes on strings 1, 2, 3, and 4 (2).

Notice only the notes that were on strings 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the guitar chord are used on the ukulele.



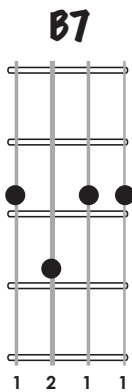
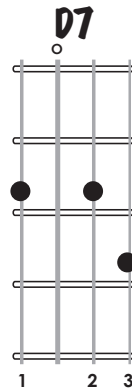
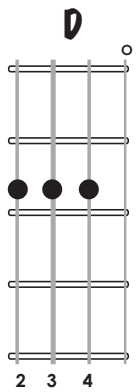
"C" Tuning Open Position Chords

"C" Tuning for Soprano, Concert and Tenor Ukuleles



Here are a few common open position chords.

These basic chords allow you to play common chord progressions in the popular Rock, Pop, Country and Folk keys.



* All fingerings are recommended but not mandatory.



"C" Tuning Relative to Guitar



"C" Tuning - Soprano, Concert and Tenor Ukuleles

A ukulele in "C" tuning with a low "G" is the same as the thin four strings of a standard tuned guitar with a capo at the fifth fret. This tuning is referred to as "C" Tuning by ukulele players. The names of the frets are the same whether using a re-entrant "C" tuning or the low "G" variation.

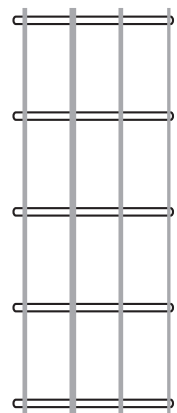
G C E A

Re-entrant Tuning

G C E A

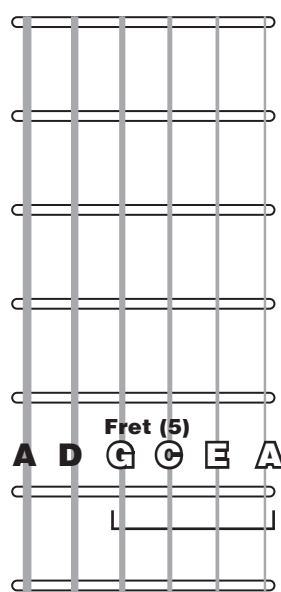
Low "G" Tuning

G C E A
④ ③ ② ①



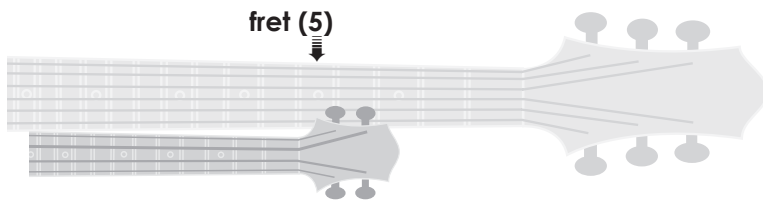
Ukulele

E A D G B E
⑥ ⑤ ④ ③ ② ①



Fret (5)
A D G C E A

Guitar



Low "G" Variation

The low "G" tuning extends the range of the ukulele to G below middle C.

G C E A



Transferring Chords to "C" Tuning



Transferring Guitar Chords to a Ukulele in "C" Tuning

Any guitar chord can transfer to the ukulele as long as you restrict the notes of the chord to strings 1, 2, 3, and 4. Three example open position chords are shown below.

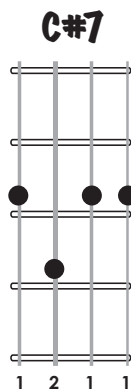
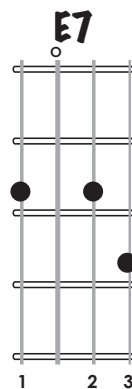
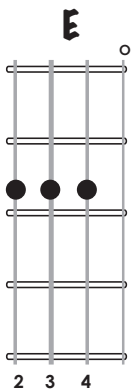
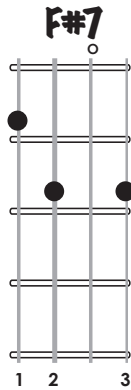
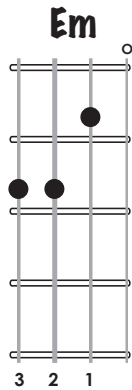
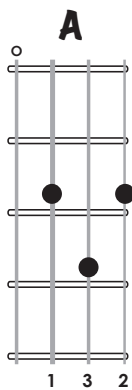
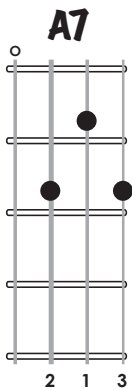
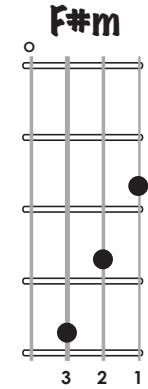
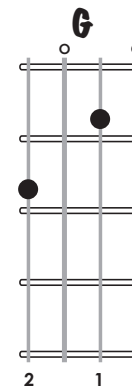
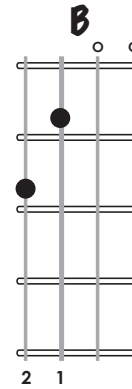
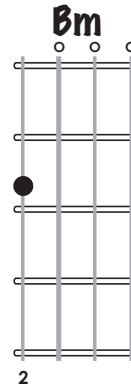
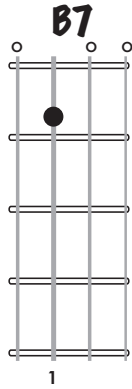
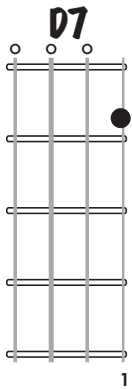
NOTE: For chord shapes transferred directly to the same fret on the ukulele from the guitar, the name the chord would change with the type of the chord remaining the same. (See the transposition chart on page 36 for correct root name).

NOTE: Fret (7) can be thought of as the open thin four strings (D G B E) of the guitar.




"D" Tuning Open Position Chords

"D" Tuning (A D F# B) or Low A "D" Tuning for Soprano, Concert and Tenor Ukuleles



Here are a few common open position chords. These basic chords allow you to play common chord progressions in the popular Rock, Pop, Country and Folk keys.



* All fingerings are recommended but not mandatory.



"D" Tuning Relative to Guitar



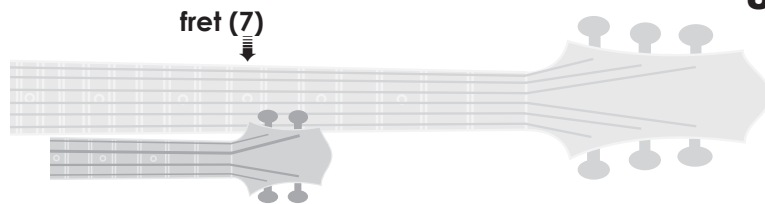
"D" Tuning - Soprano, Concert and Tenor Ukuleles

A ukulele in "D" tuning with a low "A" is the same as the thin four strings of a standard tuned guitar with a capo at the seventh fret. The names of the frets are the same whether using a re-entrant "D" tuning or the low "A" variation.

This tuning is referred to as the "D" Tuning among ukulele players and was popular in the first half of the twentieth century and currently popular in Europe and Canada.

A D F# B
Re-entrant Tuning

A D F# B
Low "A" Tuning



A D F# B
④ ③ ② ①

Ukulele

E A D G B E
⑥ ⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Guitar

Fret (7)
B E A D F# B



Low "A" Variation

The low "A" tuning extends the range of the ukulele to A below middle C..

A D F# B



Transferring Chords to "D" Tuning



Transferring Guitar Chords to a Ukulele in "D" Tuning

Any guitar chord can transfer to the ukulele as long as you restrict the notes of the chord to strings 1, 2, 3, and 4. Three example open position chords are shown below.

NOTE: For chord shapes transferred directly to the same fret on the ukulele from the guitar, the name the chord would change with the type of the chord remaining the same. (See the transposition chart on page 36 for correct root name).

NOTE: Fret (5) can be thought of as the open thin four strings (D G B E) of the guitar.

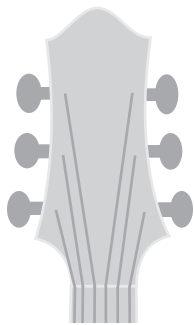


Tuning Transposition Chart

Any chord can be transposed to different keys.

Using the transposition chart below. A guitar chord played on a ukulele at the same fret and shape as the guitar version would follow the chart below.

Examples: a **Dm** chord fingering on guitar is on ukulele is a **Dm** in “G” tuning, a **Gm** in “C” tuning and **Am** in “D” tuning.



Guitar Standard Tuning	“G” Tuning <i>Baritone & Tenor</i>	“C” Tuning <i>Tenor, Concert & Soprano</i>	“D” Tuning <i>Tenor, Concert & Soprano</i>
A	A	D	E
A#, Bb	A#, Bb	D#, Eb	F
B	B	E	F#, Gb
C	C	F	G
C#, Db	C#, Db	F#, G	G#, Ab
D	D	G	A
D#, Eb	D#, Eb	G#, Ab	A#, Bb
E	E	A	B
F	F	A#, Bb	C
F#, Gb	F#, Gb	B	C#, Db
G	G	C	D
G#, Ab	G#, Ab	C#, Db	D#, Eb
A	A	D	E



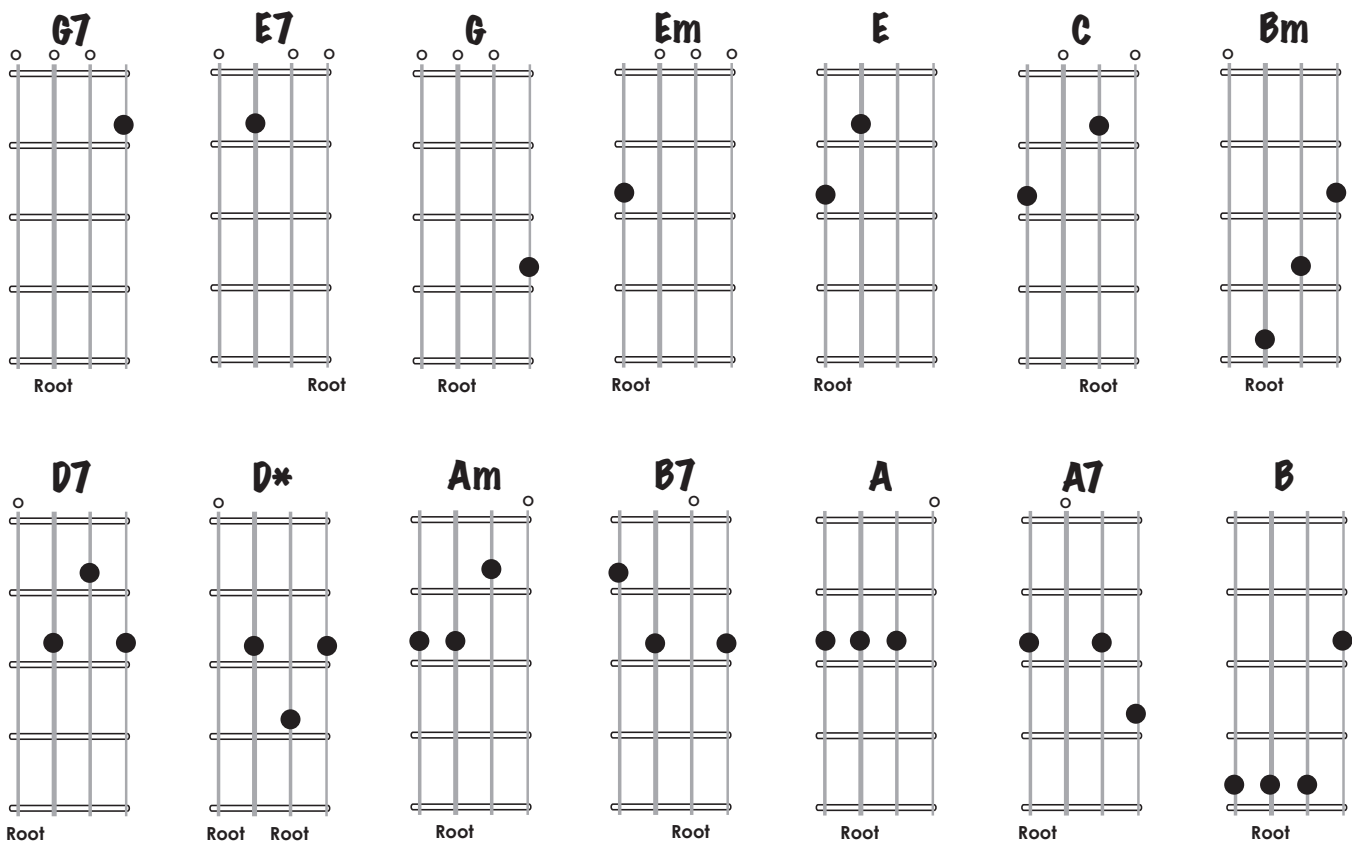
More on Transposition

For transposing purposes, you are better off treating the ukulele as a different instrument and learn the notes of the neck for your particular tuning (*see the ukulele fingerboard charts*).

Strings 1, 2, 3 and 4 of any chord that you are familiar with on the guitar can be used on ukulele, especially if you know what string the root is on.

To transpose a chord to a different key, you move each note of that chord up or down the fingerboard until the root is on the right fret. Remember to transpose any open strings as well.

Here are the root locations for the open position Guitar/Baritone chords.





* A chord can have more than one root. The root does not have to be the lowest note of the chord.



Transposing Chords

Transposing Chords

- a) Any chord can be transposed to any key.
- b) In order to transpose a chord you need to determine what string and fret the Root  of the chord is on.
- c) Following the Transposition Chart below, move all the notes of the chord the number of frets ascending (higher in pitch) or descending (lower in pitch) to place it so the Root  of the chord is on the proper fret.

Be sure to move any open string up the same number of frets.

Transposition Chart

Ascending	Descending
B	C
A#, Bb	B
A	Bb, A#
G#, Ab	A
G	Ab, G#
F#, Gb	G
F	Gb, F#
E	F
D#, Eb	E
D	Eb, D#
C#, Db	D
C	Db, C#

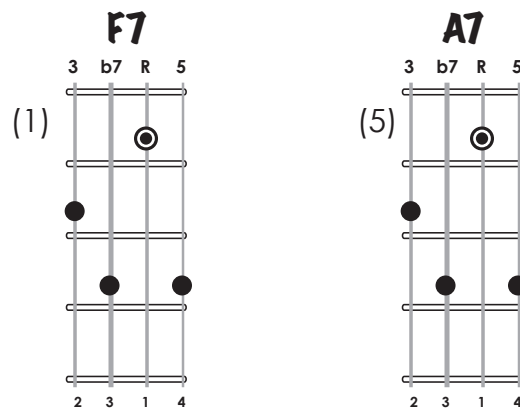


How to Use the Transposition Chart

- Pick a chord with out any open strings.
- Determine what string and fret the Root \odot is on.
- To transpose upward, use the left (ascending keys) chart.
To transpose downward, use the right (descending keys) chart.
- Each new key is 1 fret above or below the original key.
- Don't forget to transpose each note of the chord.
- Remember that the fingering of the chord remains the same for the chord.

Examples

If you are in the key of F and move all notes of the chord up 4 frets, you are now the key of A.



If you are in the key of E and move all notes of the chord up 3 frets, you are now in the key of G.



Summary

- Many more open position chords are possible.
- Chord shapes and fingerings are the same regardless of the tuning selected. Just the roots are different.
- By building on these basic open position chords you can expand your chord vocabulary.
- Learning the notes of the ukulele neck for your particular tuning is a great aide in transferring your chord knowledge from guitar to ukulele.

