

**KALA**

**LEARN TO PLAY**



**QUICK START GUIDE**



# K

Learn to play ukulele with the **FREE KALA APP!**

Includes a tuner, lessons for beginners to advanced players, chord and strumming techniques, and tutorials for your favorite songs!



*If you prefer a clip-on tuner, we have a variety of them in our online store at [shop.kalabrand.com](http://shop.kalabrand.com)*

**WELCOME TO KALA BRAND MUSIC COMPANY** and your Learn to Play Starter Kit! We are excited for you to begin your ukulele journey with us.

We want you to have success right away, so we are providing you with everything you need to get started playing today!

*If you want to bypass this Quick Start Guide, go online to [kalabrand.com/start](http://kalabrand.com/start) and begin your **FREE lessons now.** Just follow the simple steps.*

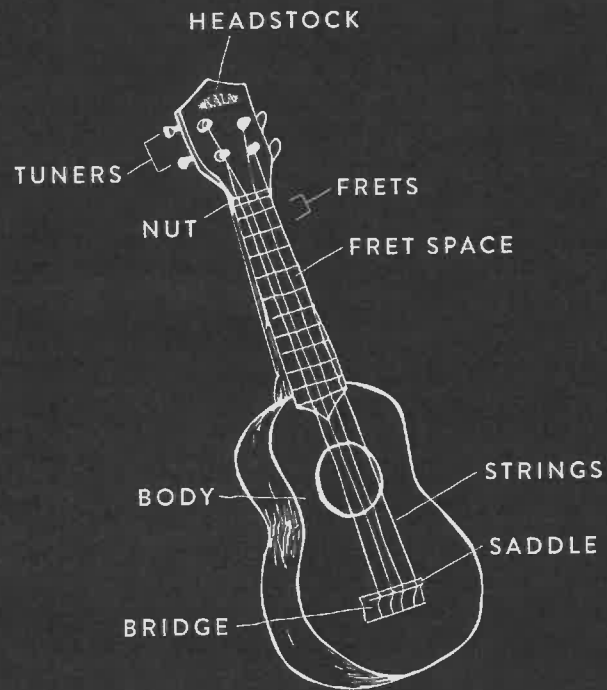
For those who prefer a booklet, everything you need to get started is right here in your hand.

Thank you for choosing Kala!

God Bless You,

**MIKE UPTON**

## THE PARTS OF YOUR UKULELE



## 1. HOW TO TUNE YOUR UKULELE

**CONGRATULATIONS!** *You are starting down a lifelong, rewarding journey of playing in tune!*

- The strings on your new ukulele need to be stretched before tuning.
- You will need to tune your uke each time you play.
- Place your hand on the bridge and lightly tug on the strings, pulling them away from the face of the ukulele. Do this to each string a few times during the tuning process.
- Sound each string individually. The string name will appear on the display.
- The most common ukulele tuning is G-C-E-A.
- When the needle is in the middle and the letter turns **GREEN**, the string is in tune. **WHITE** is out of tune.

### HOW TO KNOW IF YOU ARE GETTING CLOSE TO BEING IN TUNE:

- If you are trying to tune to G and the tuner reads to the left of center, you are flat and will need to tighten the tuner. If the tuner reads right of center, you are sharp and will need to loosen your tuner. Be careful not to over tighten your string or it will break.

SEE OUR CORRESPONDING VIDEO AT [KALABRAND.COM/START](https://www.kalabrand.com/start)

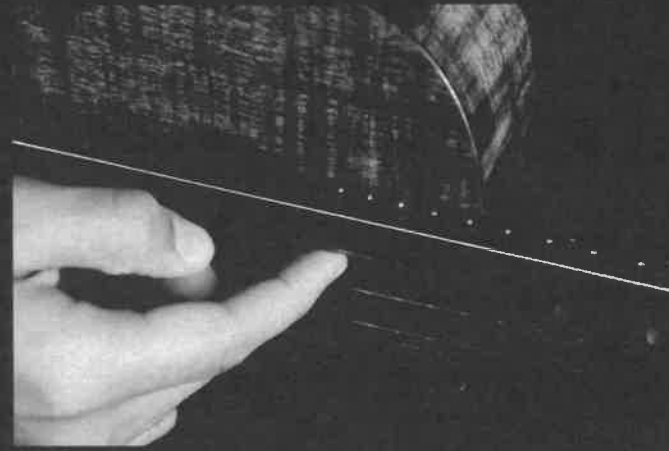
## 2. HOW TO HOLD YOUR UKULELE

- Hold the ukulele in your left hand.
- Looking down at the ukulele, the G String (4th string) is up and the A String (1st string) is down.
- The neck should be cradled in your left hand with your thumb behind the neck and your fingers on the front side of the neck.
- Cradle the body in your right arm with your forearm pressing it to your body.
- The ukulele will be held high on your body in the crook of your elbow.
- Your right hand points towards the neck of the ukulele.



## 3. HOW TO STRUM YOUR UKULELE

- To strum, make a loose fist with your index finger extended.
- Hold your fist in the center of your chest pointing left.
- Brush the fingernail of your index finger down across the strings towards the floor.
- Use the tip of your finger and nail to strum on the way up.
- Practice strumming down-down-down-down, initially.



## 4. HOW TO MAKE CHORDS

- Each of the frets on the ukulele, the strings, and your fingers are given a number.
- The fret closest to the headstock of the ukulele is the 1st fret. As you move up the neck towards the sound hole, the fret under the 1st fret is the 2nd fret, and so on.
- Please reference the chart below for visual.

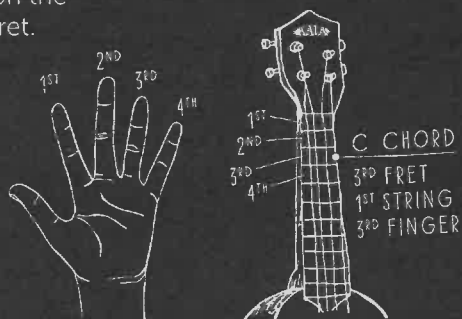
### WHEN FORMING A C CHORD USING THE FINGER CHART:

- Press your 3rd fingertip on the first string at the 3rd fret.

### WHEN FORMING AN Am CHORD USING THE FINGER CHART:

- Press your 3rd fingertip on the fourth string at the 2nd fret.

**NOTE:** If you press too hard or not hard enough on the string, it can cause unwanted buzzing.



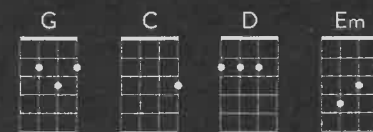
## 5. HOW TO PLAY SONGS

- Practice forming chords while strumming very slowly.
- Continue to practice chord changes until you can speed up and become fluid.

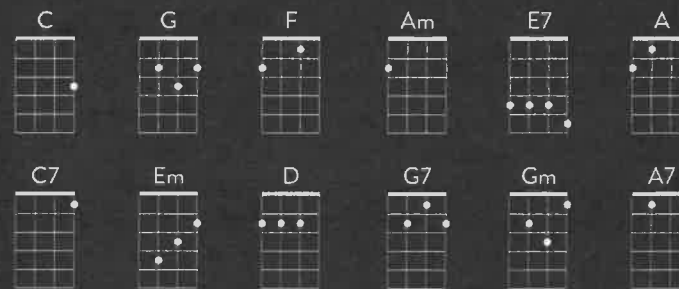
### CHORDS IN THE KEY OF C



### CHORDS IN THE KEY OF G



### BASIC CHORDS



LEARN MORE UKULELE CHORDS AT [KALABRAND.COM/START](http://KALABRAND.COM/START)

# THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

Words & Music by Woody Guthrie, Public Domain



**G** **C** **G**  
This land is your land, this land is my land

**D** **G**  
From California to the New York Island

**(G7)** **C** **G**  
From the Redwood Forest to the Gulf Stream waters

**D** **G**  
This land was made for you and me

**G** **C** **G**  
As I went walking that ribbon of highway

**D** **G**  
I saw above me that endless Skyway

**(G7)** **C** **G**  
I saw below me that Golden Valley

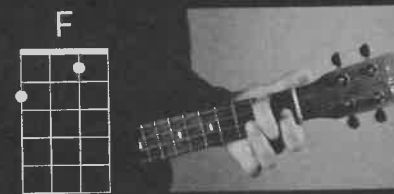
**D** **G**  
This land was made for you and me

SEE THE CORRESPONDING VIDEO AT [KALABRAND.COM/START](http://KALABRAND.COM/START)

# PACHELBEL'S CANON IN C

PLAY THESE CHORDS IN THIS ORDER  
FOR INSTANT SUCCESS:

**C, G, Am, Em, F, C, F, G**



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# HOUSE OF THE RISING SUN

Traditional: Public Domain



Am C D F  
There is a house in New Orleans,  
Am C E7  
They call the Rising Sun,  
Am C D F  
It's been the ruin of many a poor boy,  
Am E7 Am  
And Lord, I know, I'm one.

Am C D F  
Oh, mother, tell your children  
Am C E7  
Not to do what I have done—  
Am C D F  
Spend your lives in sin and misery  
Am E7 Am  
In the House of the Rising Sun.

SEE THE CORRESPONDING VIDEO AT [KALABRAND.COM/START](http://KALABRAND.COM/START)



# SCARBOROUGH FAIR

Traditional, Public Domain



Am G Am  
Are you goin' to Scarborough Fair?

C Am C D Am  
Parsley, sage, rosemary, & thyme

Am C G  
Remember me to one who lives there

Am G Am  
She once was a true love of mine

Am G Am  
Tell her to find me an acre of land

C Am C D Am  
Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme

Am C G  
Between the salt water & the sea strands

Am G Am  
Then she'll be a true love of mine

SEE THE CORRESPONDING VIDEO AT [KALABRAND.COM/START](http://KALABRAND.COM/START)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Traditional; Public Domain*



**G7 C G**  
Happy birthday to you

**G7 C**  
Happy birthday to you

**C F**  
Happy birthday dear {NAME}

**C G7 C**  
Happy birthday to you.

**G7 C G**  
From good friends and true,

**G7 C**  
From old friends and new,

**C F**  
May good luck go with you,

**C G7 C**  
And happiness too.

SEE THE CORRESPONDING VIDEO AT [KALABRAND.COM/START](http://KALABRAND.COM/START)

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