



**Get started today!**

Welcome to the ukulele club! My name is Bradley Weaver and I have two goals with this course:

1. Get you started playing the ukulele today!
2. Keep you playing the ukulele for a lifetime!

Let's have fun!

## Chapter 1: Strings and Tuning



Ukuleles have 4 strings. Most are tuned to the notes **G C E A**. (*important note: Strings are numbered from the bottom, so A=1, E=2, C=3, G=4*)

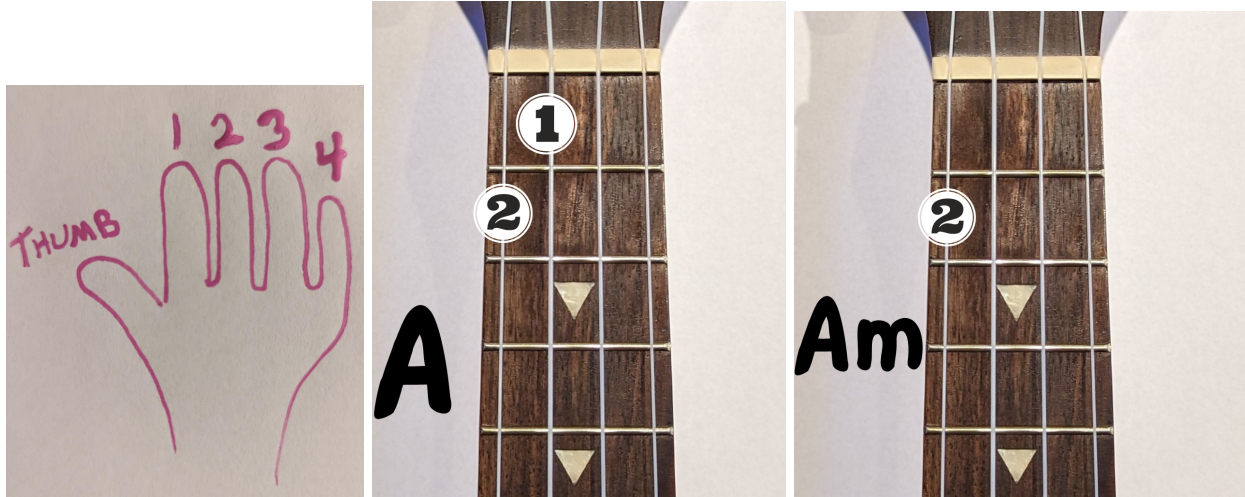
When you are holding the uke in the playing position, the string closest to your head is **G**, the next string is **C**, the next is **E**, and the string closest to the floor is **A**.

There are many ways to tune a ukulele, but I recommend a clip-on tuner for speed and ease of use!



## Chapter 2: Intro to Chord Diagrams and the A Chords

This is the way your fingers are numbered followed by an A chord and an Am (A minor) chord.



To form an A chord, we begin by placing our 2nd finger, of our fretting hand (the left hand for right handed players), on the 2nd fret (just behind the fret wire) of the G (4th) string. Next, we place our 1st finger on the 1st fret of the C (3rd) string. Then, we simply strum all of the strings!

To form an Am chord, we do the same, but we don't cover the C string.

Here are 3 basic strumming patterns to get you started.

1. All steady downstrokes- ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
2. Alternate down and up- ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑
3. Down, Up, Down with a pause- ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓

Now, let's play our first song!

This is my favorite one chord song called 'All Around the Kitchen!' The whole tune is sung over the Am chord!

## All Around the Kitchen (Traditional)

### CHORUS

All around the kitchen, cock-a-doodle doodle Doo.  
All around the kitchen, cock-a-doodle doodle Doo.

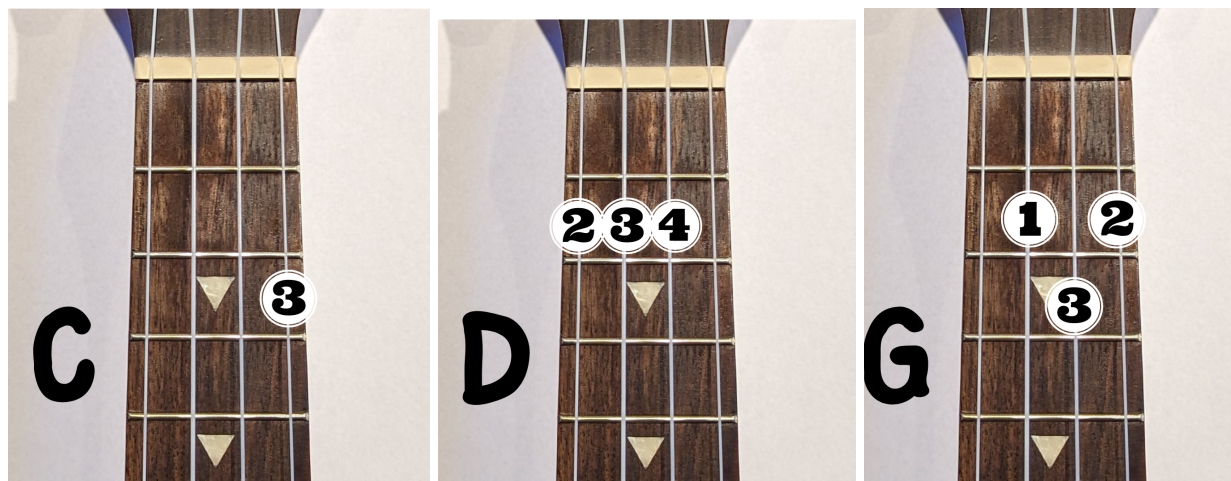
### Verse 1

Then you stop right there. Cock-a-doodle doodle do.  
Put your hand in the air.  
Cock-a-doodle doodle Doo.  
Then you wave it all around.  
Cock-a-doodle doodle Doo.

### CHORUS

*(At 'stop right there' of each verse, stop your strumming while you give your audience their command. Continue making up verses with fun things to do for each!)*

## Chapter 3: C, D, and G Chords



To form a C chord, begin by placing your 3rd finger on the 3rd fret of the A (1st) string. Then strum. Easy!

To play a D chord, begin by placing your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret of the G (4th) string. Next, place your 3rd finger on the 2nd fret of the C (3rd) string. Finally, place your 4th finger on the 2nd fret of the E (2nd) string. Then strum.

A G chord is formed by placing your 1st finger on the 2nd fret of the C (3rd) string. Next, place your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret of the A (1st) string. Finally, place your 3rd finger on the 3rd fret of the E (2nd) string. Strum away!

Let's play another tune!

# If You're Happy and You Know It!

(traditional)

G

D

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!

G

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!

C

G

If you're happy and you know it and you really wanna show it

D

G

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!

## Chapter 4: the E Chord



To play an E chord, we are moving our D chord up 2 frets. The catch is that we'll need to cover that A (1st) string, so begin by placing your 1st finger on the 2nd fret of the A string. Next, place your 2nd finger on the 4th fret of the G (4th) string. Then, place your 3rd finger on the 4th fret of the C (3rd) string. Finally, place your 4th finger on the 4th fret of the E (2nd) string. Now strum!

Here's another fun tune!

# John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt

(traditional)

A                      E  
John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt.

A  
His name is my name too.

D  
Whenever we go out, all the people shout

E                                      A  
'There goes John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt!'

Thank you so much for beginning your ukulele journey with me!  
If you'd like to continue on, please check out the community at  
[www.bradleyweaver.net/ukuleleclub](http://www.bradleyweaver.net/ukuleleclub)

If you have any questions email me at  
[bradley@bradleyweaver.net](mailto:bradley@bradleyweaver.net)

On the following page, I've included a chart with all of the  
chords we've covered plus other commonly used uke chords!



