



Ukulele Tips Week 1



Hello everyone! We hope that during the lockdown you have kept going with your ukulele playing. We really have missed being able to teach you all in person and can't wait to see you all! You will have noticed that we have been adding lots of exciting tutorial videos, worksheets and activities to our website. So whatever standard you are we hope that there will be something for everyone to try. We hope that this Newsletter will give you extra ideas and tips to keep you motivated in your practise. If you have any questions about your practice you can email the Musica office and they will pass it on to our team and we will do our best to get back to you. Also, if you would like to send us a video of your amazing playing you can send it as a direct message to the Musica Holme Valley Facebook page #musicakirkleesathome. We would love to see how you are all doing!

FOCUS OF THE WEEK – USING VIDEO TO IMPROVE MY PLAYING!!!!!!!

Lots of the activities on our website involve playing along with a backing track or video

Before you start try to make sure you are in tune.

Choose one of the pieces that is within your ability level and have a listen to the video tutorial or backing track before you start to play. Some of the activities have some sheet music or a worksheet to go with them so look out for those too and print them out if you can to keep.

When the Saints <https://youtu.be/rHgVNudD55c>

Thank you Baked Potato https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jggzdc9_Vto

Bird Song -worksheet with backing track

We'll Meet Again (Vera Lynn) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKqzHR_krks

Need more songs?

Beginner booklets for younger players and WCET pupils with a small note range of chords:

- Learning how to use C and F with reggae music
- Learning about minor chords and how to use A minor
- Learning how to use G7 and about Louis Armstrong and jazz music

For something a little bit harder...

Ukulele Jamboree Songbook. A compilation of 20 easy songs for ukulele for players of all ages and abilities.

Always start by practising your chord changes. Check that you are using good fingerings and are strumming the way your teacher has shown you.

It is good to learn a song a line at a time or in small manageable chunks and build up until you have learned it all. Look at the trickiest bits and practice those the most. When you play to an accompaniment or backing track of any kind it is important that you play at the same speed and keep to the beat. Don't be put off if you go wrong the first few times, just try to keep going.

You can do it!



How many chords do you know?

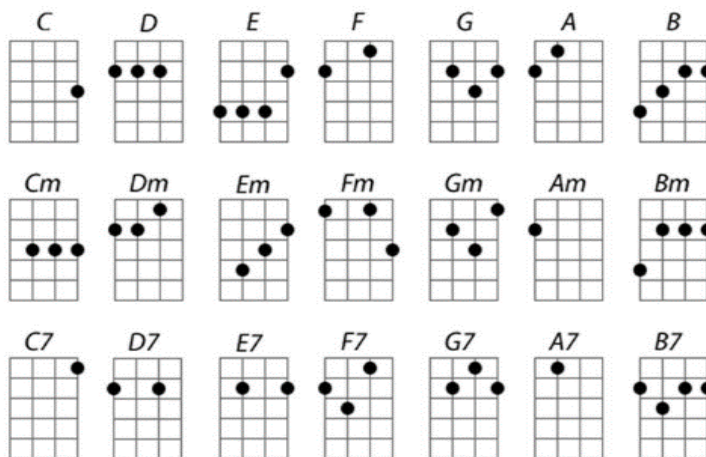
The most common chords we play fall into three types.

Major Chords

Minor Chords

Seventh Chords

UKULELE CHORDS



Listen to Limehouse Blues – Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain
<https://youtu.be/1GouPL2hNSg>



THE UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN have been finding creative ways to keep performing from home. They have set up a special lockdown page on their website and you can follow them on social media for their latest news. Click on the link opposite to hear them in action.

Limehouse Blues intro...



How many different types of ukulele can you see and hear?



Create your own pieces and songs



One of the brilliant things about learning an instrument is being able to make up your own pieces. There is a video on our website where you can learn to improvise in the key of C or compose your own piece of music to play there is a link to the scale as well <https://youtu.be/R2lbLbk3FWM> if you need to see the notes. Feel free to look at the guitar pages too for even more ideas!

If you are a beginner composer the key to success is to start simply with a little rhythmic idea and play it with a few of the notes that you already know. If you want to write a song you might choose a couple of easy chords to strum and add some lyrics. Don't be afraid to experiment until you find an idea you like and then play it over and over to make it as good as it can be.

You might opt to play along to a backing track or record yourself when you have a really good idea.

Some people like to write their music down so that others can play it too!
JUST HAVE FUN!!

