

Notes for Beginners

You have just bought a ukulele – beginner, here are a few tips to



great! If you are a complete help get you started before you join us!

Tuning

- First you need the 4 strings tuned to the right notes!
- You can buy an electronic tuner that clips onto your ukulele
- Or you can get a free tuner app for your ipad or iphone, etc.



- If you don't have either of these, look at our website: www.marlowuke.co.uk and go to the 'Help' section
- Then choose '**Click to Tune your Ukulele**'.
- You will hear the sound of each string

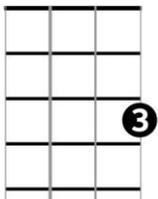
.. try turning the pegs on your uke to get the 4 strings to sound the same notes : G C E and A.

- If your uke is very new or you have fitted new strings, you will need to repeat this quite often until the strings have stretched.

Pick a Song and Look at the Chords

- Now on the website, click on '**Songs**' -- then go to: '**MUG Beginners Songs**'.
- Find the first song in the book - **Clementine** - it has 2 chords, **C** and **G7**.
- Look at the **C** chord shape ..

C



- This is like a picture of the top of your ukulele looking from the front .. it shows the top 4 'frets' as they are called.
- The number **3** refers to finger 3 of your left hand (if you are right handed) .. it means '**Press this string here using the third finger (3) of your left hand**'.



- Try not to touch any of the other strings with your left hand as you do this.

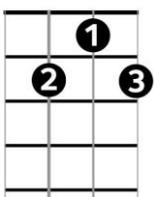
Strum a Chord

- Now strum down across ALL 4 strings while fingering a C chord. Use the nail of your first finger (right hand) to strum down. You are strumming a C chord!
- Keep going, counting **1 2 3 / 1 2 3 / 1 2 3** etc. (waltz time)



More Chords

G7



- Now try the **G7** chord
- Notice where to put your first finger (1) on the second string, second finger (2) on the third string and third finger (3) on the first string.
- This triangular shape is more difficult but try to strum all 4 strings again, without any buzzing!



