

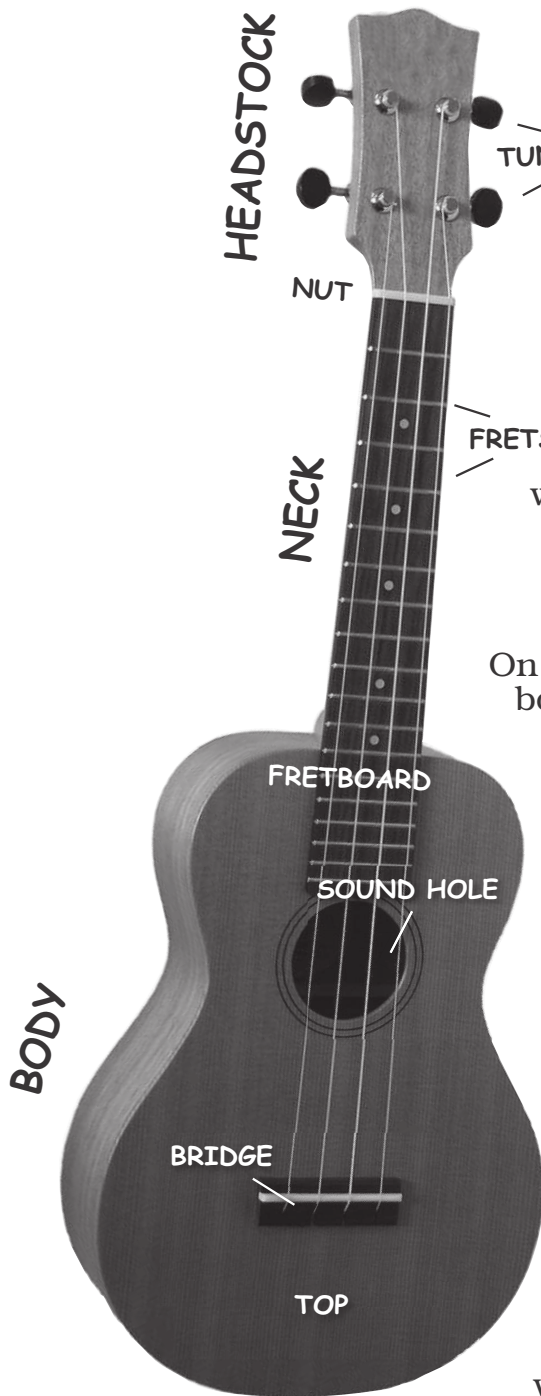


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ANATOMY



Take your ukulele
and begin to understand how it is made!

Looking at it, you notice immediately
that it is divided into three parts:
the **headstock**, the **neck**
and the **body**.

The **headstock** is the part of the instrument
which contains the **tuners**, used to adjust
string tension. Wrapping the strings around
the **string tree** and allowing tuning.

The strings run along the **neck**
which connects the **headstock** and the **body**.

It is essential that the **neck**
is reasonably straight!

On the **neck** there is the **nut**: a piece of shaped
bone (or even plastic in cheap products)
on which the strings run and where
the **headstock** meets the **neck**.
The **fretboard** is the flat part of the **neck**.
There are metal bars - **frets** - which are
repeated at intervals of decreasing width
across the fretboard.
The space between the frets is called **fret**.

The **body** is the biggest part of the instrument.
It works as a soundbox and it has the task
of amplifying the sound generated
by the vibration of the strings.

On the body we find the **bridge**, a small
wooden component on which the strings
are anchored.

The **saddle** is fixed into the bridge,
very often made of plastic, resin or bone.

Bone provides an intense and sustained
sound. The upper part of the body is the **top**,
which vibrates whilst playing.

The quality of the wood dictates the quality
of the instrument.

On the **top** we find the **sound hole**,
from which the voice of Ukulele comes out!

BEFORE YOU START

If you already know how to read the staff in Treble Clef and tablatures, skip this pages!

THE STAFF

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a ukulele tablature below it. The notes of the C major scale are written on the staff: C (first line), D (second line), E (third line), F (fourth line), G (first space), A (second space), B (third space), and C (fourth space). The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each note: C (0), D (2), E (0), F (1), G (3), A (0), B (2), and C (3).

Here are the notes of the scale of **C** on the fretboard of our ukulele, shown in the second staff considering the HIGH G.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a ukulele tablature below it. The notes of the C major scale are written on the staff: C (first line), D (second line), E (third line), F (fourth line), G (first space), A (second space), B (third space), and C (fourth space). The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each note: C (0), D (2), E (0), F (1), G (0), A (2), B (4), and C (5).

The clef reference is the Treble Clef, also called **G clef**.

In each exercise you will find the staff at the top and the tablature at the bottom (looking down at the instrument, with the headstock facing left). It is a more immediate way to translate on fretboard what the staff says.

The number "0" indicates the open string, while other numbers indicate the fret to be pressed on a corresponding string.

If you wish to study even without the CD, for each exercise you will find indicated a value of BPM (Beats Per Minute).

It determines the speed of the execution, There are faster second versions of some technical exercises to allow you to experience clearly the significant change of the execution.

It is fundamental that you practice progressively increasing the speed, reaching and going beyond the fastest paced exercise.















DURATION OF NOTES AND RESTS

Here is a diagram of notes and pauses that can you may encounter in this book.

Keep then in your mind, because they are travel companions.

**Learning to read the suggested exercises,
you also learn to write music.**

It is very useful to be able to pin down your own musical ideas!

4/4 WHOLE NOTE			4/4 WHOLE REST
2/4 HALF NOTE			2/4 HALF REST
1/4 NOTE			1/4 REST
1/8 NOTE			1/8 REST
1/16 NOTE			1/16 REST
1/32 NOTE			1/32 REST
1/64 NOTE			1/64 REST

- CONTENT OF THE CD -

Exercises are numbered and they correspond to the tracks on the CD.

The tracks are stereo. The Ukulele of the exercise is on a channel, metronome and other instruments are on the other one.

You can listen to them separately and then mute the ukulele when you play on the track. End of chapter exercises are short songs, with the accompaniment of other instruments.

In the styles section each base has a double version, to practice on accompaniment and on the melody.

The metronome plays the first bar alone and then you start with the exercise.

CHORDS TABLE

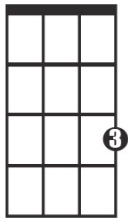
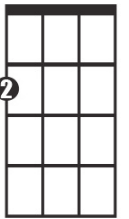
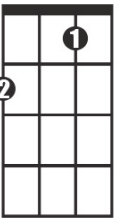
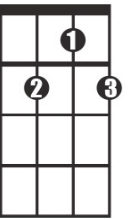
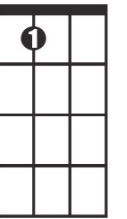
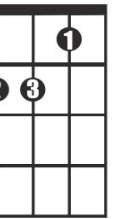
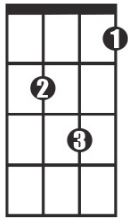
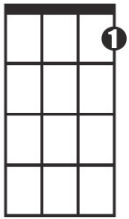
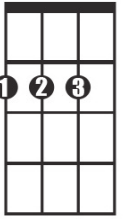
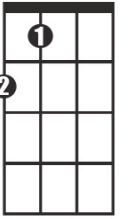
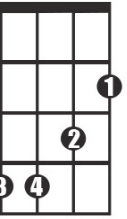
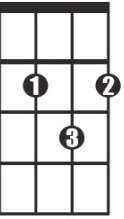
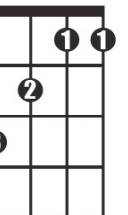
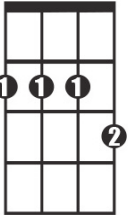
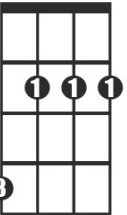
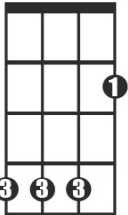
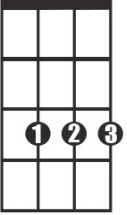
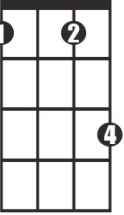
On this page you will ONLY find the chords used in this book, in order of appearance. There are many and they are already useful to play a lot of songs.

On the Internet you can easily find a lot of chords, but they are confusing and often frightening to beginners.

One last thing: to indicate the fingerings chords and musical phrases in the exercises, the number the fingers of the left hand are shown as follows.



- 1** Index finger
- 2** Middle finger
- 3** Ring finger
- 4** Little finger

C 	Am 	F 	G7 	A7 	Dm 
Gm 	C7 	D 	A 	Em 	G 
Bb 	D7 	Bm 	E 	Cm 	Fm 

STRUMMING

Let's introduce the DOWNSTROKE, in which the right index finger plays the strings from top to bottom.

The strength used on the strings should not be excessive, but proportionate to the dynamics of sound that you want to obtain: if the index finger hurts you are playing too hard!

Ex.1: play the C chord by DOWNSTROKE. Perform a downward movement and count up to 4, then execute the next and so on. **BPM: 60**

Exercise 1 shows four measures of a C chord in 4/4 time. Each measure contains a single downstroke. Above each measure is a guitar chord diagram for the C chord (x0232). Below the staff is a tablature with a '3' above the strings, indicating a downward stroke.

Once you become familiar with this movement the sound that the instrument will produce will be smooth and pleasant!

Ex.2: play the previous exercise by increasing the speed. **BPM: 80**

Ex.3: play the C string performing two DOWNSTROKES per bar, one on the first and one on the third beat. **BPM: 60**

Exercise 3 shows eight measures of a C chord in 4/4 time. Each measure contains two downstrokes on the first and third beats. Above each measure is a guitar chord diagram for the C chord (x0232). Below the staff is a tablature with a '3' above the strings, indicating a downward stroke.

Ex.4: play the previous exercise by increasing the speed. **BPM: 80**

**You immediately notice
that the right hand never stops.
It goes up and down continuously,
strictly in time.**