

Upgrade Your Rhythm



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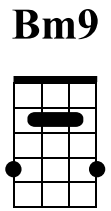
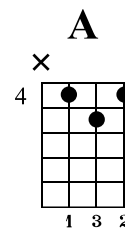
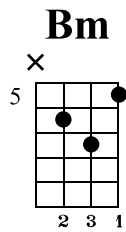
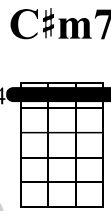
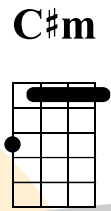
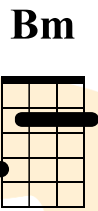
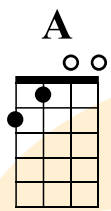
Key of tutorial: A

BPM of backing: 80 BPM

Chords needed: A, Bm, C#m,

Video Tutorial:

Chord Shapes:



Basic Strum Pattern - I-iii-ii-I in A

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
 A C#m | Bm A | A C#m | Bm A |
 D D DUD D DU | D X D D DUDU | D D DUD D DU | D X D D DUDU |

New Updated Groove

Measure 1

- The A chord used here is the original shape, we just did some basic fingerpicking to give it movement. Note instead of 8th notes we used 16th notes because that gives the piece more movement.

- The C#m starts of with a C#m7 that we hammer into the root note. You can make any minor chord a minor 7 and playing with the b7th can create movement and groove. A good way to do that is exactly what we did here, hammering into the root from the flat 7th. This will work on any Ukulele, low or high G, in fact doing this on the high G gets a cool result because you are landing on the root, so it has a cool uplifting SRV kind of vibe to it.
- Before moving on note the 6th fret of the C string being played on the & before going over to the B minor. This is part of the B minor shape we are playing here, we will take a look at the shape in the 2nd measure, what I want to point out here is the timing. We are playing this note before landing on the chord. This is called "anticipating the change" and it is a very cool well to push the rhythm forward.

Measure 2

The image shows a musical staff for a ukulele in the key of D major (two sharps). The first measure contains a Bm chord with a 7th fret extension. The second measure contains an A chord. The fretboard diagram below the staff shows the following fingerings: for Bm, the C string is fretted at the 5th fret, and the E string is fretted at the 7th fret; for A, the C string is fretted at the 4th fret, and the E string is fretted at the 4th fret. There are 'X' marks above the 5th and 7th frets on the C string in the second measure, indicating that the notes at those frets are not played.

- Our first new shape, we have moved the B minor up the fretboard and we did so using the G minor shape. This shape as the root on the E string, so you simply find the B note on the E string and then build the shape around it. We already played the note on the C string so we are just finishing it off and playing the E and A string to complete the shape.
- The A chord is also a new shape this time based on the G major. Same root, the E string. Pro tip, anytime you learn a new chord, Bbmaj7, C#6, Dmaj7, whatever, find the root, know where the Bb note is, the C#, the D, knowing this information will give you the ability to move this chord all over the entire fretboard.

Measure 3

The image shows a musical staff for a ukulele in the key of D major. The first measure contains an A chord with an 8th fret extension. The second measure contains a C#m chord. The fretboard diagram below the staff shows the following fingerings: for A, the C string is fretted at the 8th fret, and the E string is fretted at the 0th fret; for C#m, the C string is fretted at the 4th fret, and the E string is fretted at the 4th fret.

- Here we are simply playing two strings of the chords and letting them ring out. Two notes of a 3 note chord are enough to imply the sound, especially if you have already establish a key and a chord progression, your ear will know exactly what you are playing even though the chord doesn't have all three notes.

Measure 4

The image shows a musical score for Measure 4. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble clef staff has a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 9th interval. The notes are B2 (quarter), D3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), and G3 (quarter). The bass clef staff has a 4-2-2-0-0 sequence. The first two notes (4 and 2) are connected by a slur with a 'p' (piano) dynamic marking. The second and third notes (2 and 2) are also connected by a slur with a 'p' dynamic marking. The fourth and fifth notes (0 and 0) are connected by a slur. The first two notes (4 and 2) are marked with 'X' above them, indicating they are muted. The third and fourth notes (2 and 0) are marked with 'X' below them, indicating they are muted. The fifth note (0) is marked with '0' below it, indicating it is a natural note.

- Here we have essentially done the same thing as measure 3, but we added a 9th interval. You can also add the 9th interval to our minor chords to give a cool, Al Green, Miles Davis vibe, this is a semi-stable note, the 9th and the 6th, and they are great for adding color to your chords. Here we play it and simply pull off, going to our chord tones before we finish the way we started the 3rd measure. Feel free to play the full A chord from the 2nd measure here as well.

What is next? Apply these ideas to chord progressions you already know. Mix up the rhythm with fingerpicking, find new shapes for the chords and play them up the fretboard. Add colorful extensions. This type of rhythm will create interest and give new life to the songs that you are already playing.

Ten Thumbs