

## Bass Lines and Partial Chords

### Ukulele Fretboard

Notes for – Soprano, Concert, and Tenor Ukuleles

A	A#/Bb	B	C	C#/Db	D	D#/Eb	E	F	F#/Gb	G	G#/Ab	A
E	F	F#/Gb	G	G#/Ab	A	A#/Bb	B	C	C#/Db	D	D#/Eb	E
C	C#/Db	D	D#/Eb	E	F	F#/Gb	G	G#/Ab	A	A#/Bb	B	C
G	G#/Ab	A	A#/Bb	B	C	C#/Db	D	D#/Eb	E	F	F#/Gb	G
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

### Partial Chords

If you have trouble playing a certain chords because your fingers won't get into the proper position, instead of playing the full 4 string chord, you can modify it by playing only 3 strings or 2 strings, and leaving out the strings that you can't do the frets for.

This also means strumming only the strings that you have the proper fingering for.

### Example

G chord – you may have trouble playing the G chord which is 0232.



If you have trouble reaching the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret of the C string, you could play only the fingering for the E & A strings, and strum just these 2 strings.

This is called an interval, because it is only 2 notes.

This will allow you to play a partial chord when you can't play the full chord.

Use this method for other chords when the fingering is a problem for you.

### Simple Bass and Scale Lines

( reference the note chart above )

A simple way to start learning to pick melodies is to play the first few notes of the scale of the chord the song calls for.

If the song has a G chord – the first few Notes of the G scale are -

G - open G string, A – G string 2<sup>nd</sup> fret, B – G string 4<sup>th</sup> fret, which is a Do, Ra Me, of the G scale.

This could be played with quarter notes as G – A – B – A to get 4 counts for the bar.

You may play this 2 or 4 times, depending on how many bars the chord is held for.

If the song moves to a C chord – the first few notes of the C scale are -

C – open C string, D – C string 2<sup>nd</sup> fret, E – open E string, which is the Do, Ra, Me, of the C scale.

Try these notes as quarter notes C – D – E – D to make one bar.

If the song has an F chord – the first few notes of the F scale are -

F – E string 1<sup>st</sup> fret, G – E string 3<sup>rd</sup> fret, A – open A string, which is the Do, Ra, Me of the F scale.

Try them as quarter notes F – G – A – G

Then play the 3 scales notes instead of the playing the chords of the song. This will take some practise, so maybe spend a few minutes on it, each time you practise.