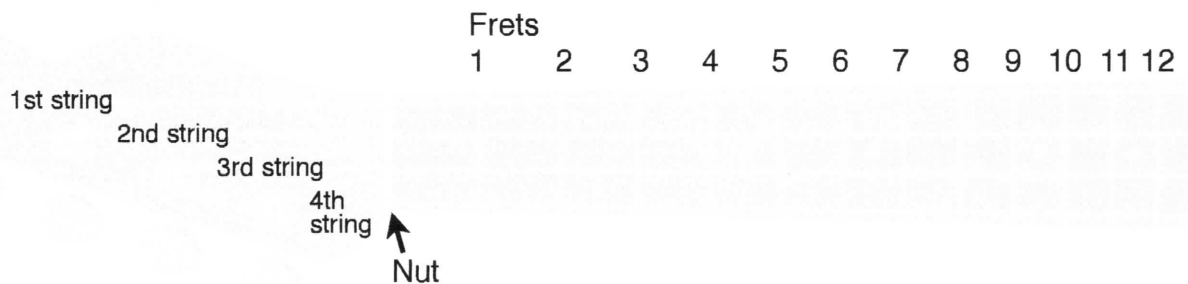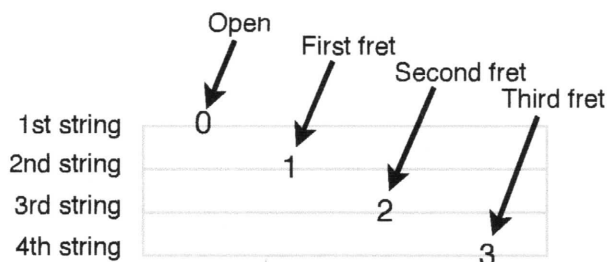# Tablature

Tablature, or tabs, is a form of musical notation indicating instrument fingering rather than musical pitches. Visualize the tab as a tiny drawing of your ukulele with the lines indicating the strings and the numbers indicating which fret to press.

Frets

1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 11 12

1st string
2nd string
3rd string
4th string
Nut

The numbers in the tab show you which string to use and what fret you need to press on to get the correct note.

Open
First fret
Second fret
Third fret

1st string   0
2nd string   1
3rd string   2
4th string   3

Piano Keyboard

| C | D | E | F | G | A | B | C |

Notes in Staff

```
A                       0   2   3
E           0   1   3
C   0   2
G
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Notes in Tablature

This is how the scale would appear in actual tab format.

This shows some of the common chords with the notes and the tab positions.

Reading Musical Notes

The symbols for the notes are as follows:

○ Whole note   ♩ Half note   ♩ Quarter note   ♪ Eighth note   ♪ Sixteenth note

What that means is that in each measure, the shape of the note describes how long the note is held or how quickly it is played
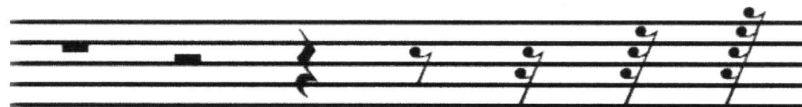

In 4/4 time, there are four beats to the bar, so with the quarter notes, you could count out: *one, two, three, four.* The whole note would last for the same amount of time and the half notes would last for two beats.

The eighth notes would be counted out as: *one and, two and, three and, four and.* You probably couldn't count fast enough for the sixteenth notes.

E G B D F   F A C E

These are the notes on the musical scale.
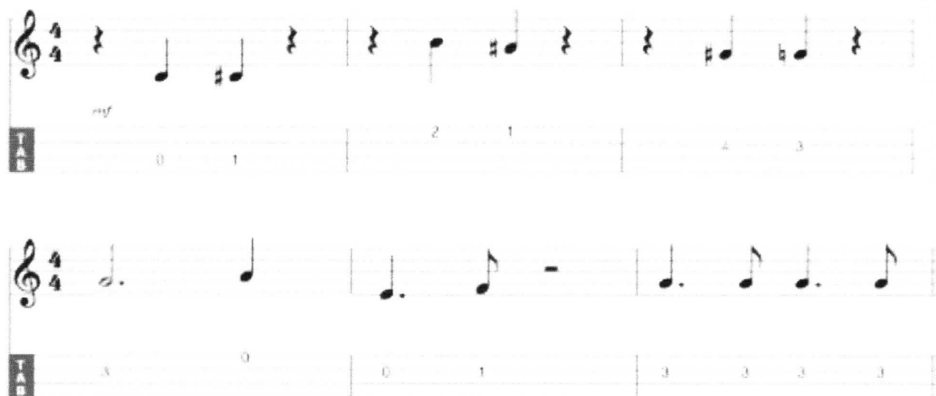
whole   half   quarter   eighth   16th   32nd   64th

These symbols indicate the length of rests, or pauses in the music.

♯   ♭   ♮   ♩.
Sharp   Flat   Natural

The dot after a note indicates that half of its value is added to it. If a half note (in 4/4 time) is two beats, then when a dot is present, the note is equal to three beats.

The example on the left shows the symbols as they are used. In the second bar the note is A♯ which is the same note as B♭.

Tablature, finding notes on Ukulele

Positions of notes on fret board

A		B	C		D		E
E	F		G				
C		D					
G		A		B			

With low G tuning (G, C, E, A), the notes will be sequential.

With high G or re-entrant tuning, (g, C, E, A) the 4th string will be tuned to same note as the 2nd string at the 3rd fret (G).

GCEA

The tab above shows low G tuning. which gives you three extra notes below middle C (3rd string, open).

gCEA

The tab showing this scale is for high g tuning. Notice that in the centre measure that two same notes (A and B) are found on two separate strings.

One octave of notes on fret board

A		B	C		D		E	F		G		A
E	F		G		A		B	C		D		E
C		D		E	F		G		A		B	C
G		A		B	C		D			E	F	G

This shows the positions of the notes for one octave which is up to the 12th fret. The blank fret immediately to the right of a note would be a sharp, while the spot to the left would be a flat.

The first fret on the A, or first string, would be B♭ while the fourth fret on that string would produce C♯.