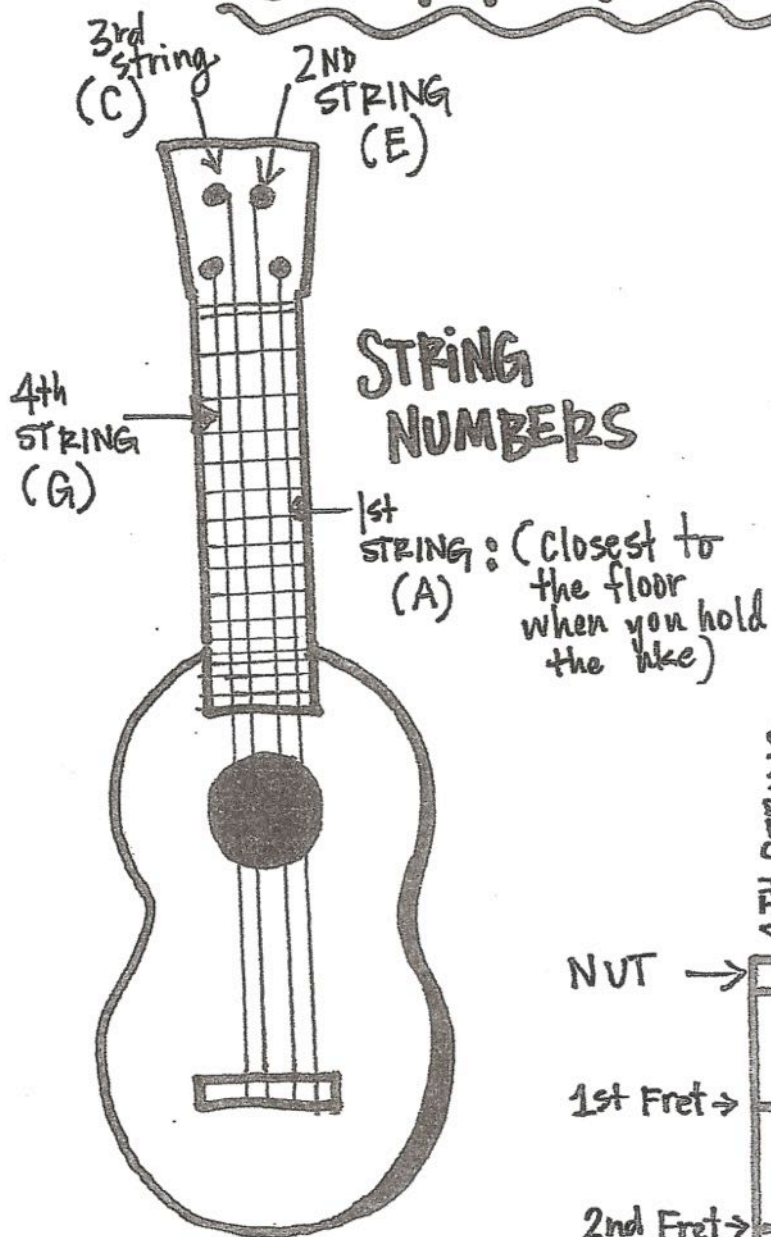


Ukulele Basics

INTRO TO READING
TABLATURE & MELODIES

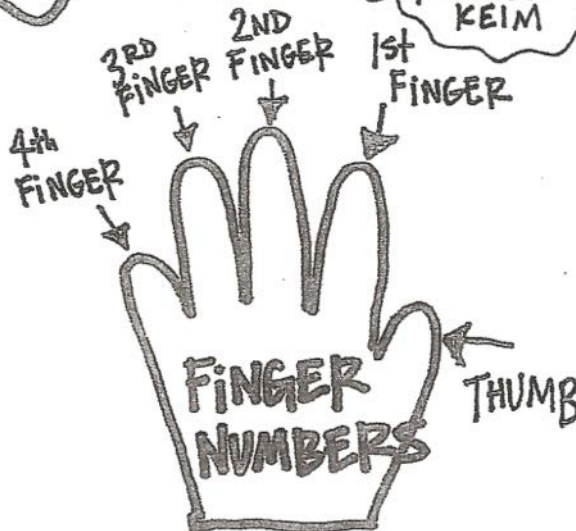
BY: NICOLE
KEIM

Pg. 1



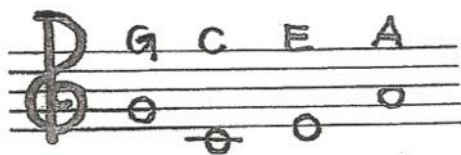
STRING NUMBERS

1st string: (Closest to the floor when you hold the uke)

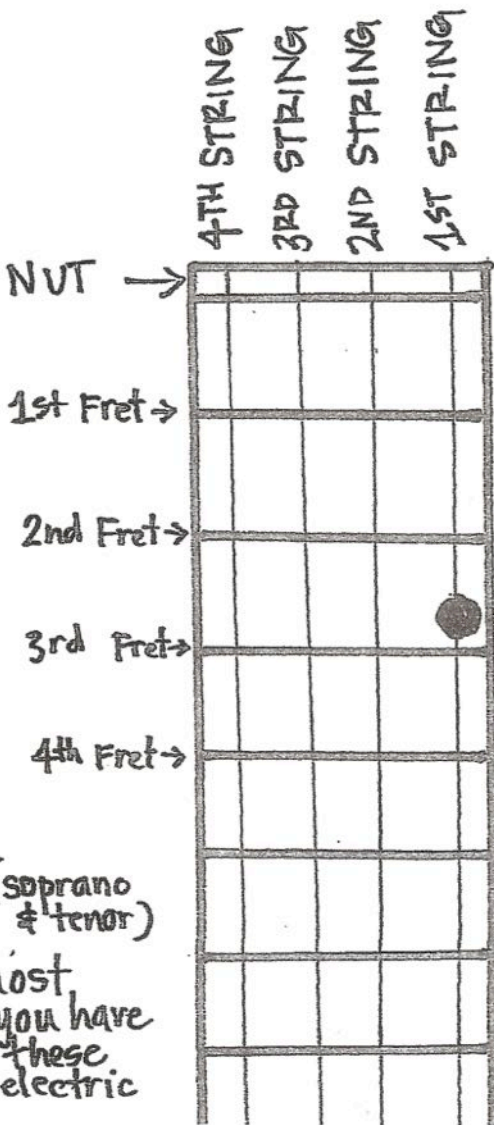


FINGER NUMBERS

WHAT ABOUT TUNING?



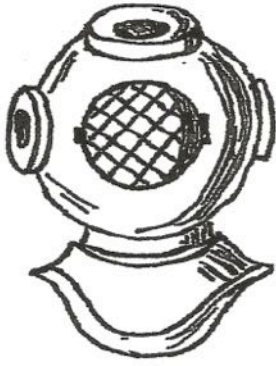
The strings of the uke are most commonly tuned GCEA. If you have a piano, tune them to match these notes. I recommend a clip on electric tuner - very handy!



FRET NUMBERS

To play a note, you have to press the string down just behind the fret.

← PRESS LIGHTLY HERE. If you press the string too hard, the pitch goes sharp and your hand gets tired! If you press too lightly, the string will make a buzzy sound!



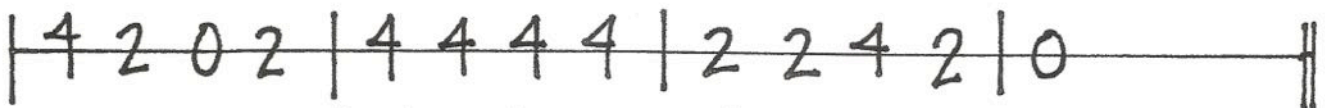
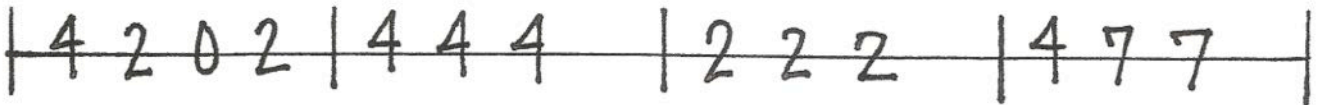
◦ LET'S PLAY SOME MELODIES

* Instead of a normal music staff (like they use in piano lessons) we will use tablature. It shows where to fret the notes on the strings. Although it's a great tool to show you where to put your hands, it does not show rhythms or note names.

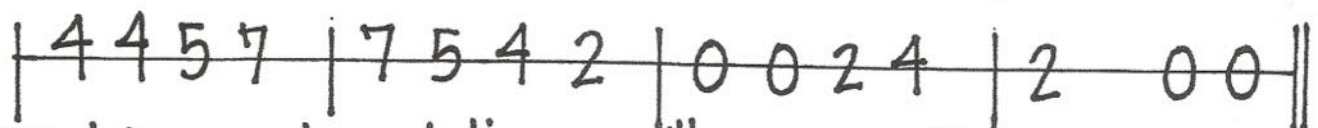
This line represents your first string.



* A **number** added to this string represents a **fret**. Just press right behind it and pluck the string with your right thumb.



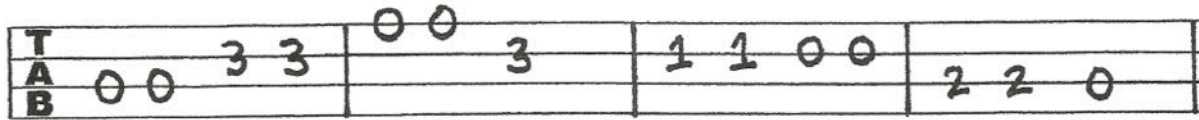
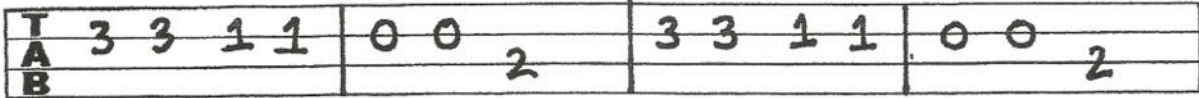
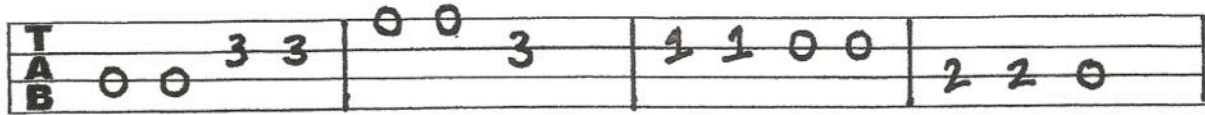
* Nice! You just played "Mary Had A Little Lamb"! Now try a bit of "Ode to Joy".



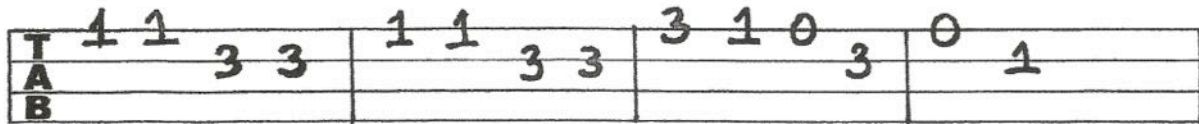
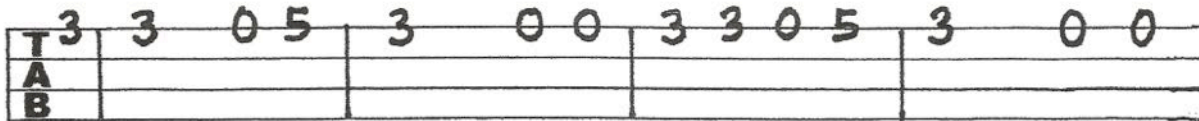
* Next time we play melodies we will use more than one string.

tinyurl.com/HandbookMelodies

★ TWINKLE, TWINKLE LITTLE STAR



A TISKET, A TASKET



Excerpt from A Ukulele Handbook
quietamericanmusic.com

★ tinyurl.com/HandbookMelodies3