

Lesson 3: Uke'an Play Am Chords

Lesson Date: Friday, November 18th, 2016

Course: Ukulele Instruction

Lesson Title: Uke'an Play Am Chords

Level: Beginner

Arrival: 2:40 (for tuning & set-up)

Lesson Duration: 3:00 - 4:00

Lesson Objectives:

- Review rules of class/handling of ukulele
- Review terms: strumming and frets
- Members will learn how to switch from Am to C chord
- Members will be able to play C and Am chords in songs
- Some Members may progress to F chords

Preparation:

- Include requested songs in song binder
- Arrive 20 minutes early to tune ukuleles
- Print out Am Chord Handout and bring C Chord Handout

Instruction Outline:

- Introduction
 - Take roll call
 - Use tape to label ukulele bags (Members responsible for instrument)
 - #1 Rule: "Don't touch the tuners"
- Quick Strumming Review
 - Group sing/strum along using requested songs / songs in song binder
 - Say, "Who remembers how to strum? We're going to strum and sing along to the *insert song* song!"
- Take songs further with chords
 - Review C Chord by frets & strings
- Teach Am Chord
 - Show Members the Am Chord by playing it yourself
 - Explain verbally where chord is by using terms: fret and strings
 - 1st string, 2nd fret
 - Use Am Chord for visual aid
 - Then go around individually to help Members who appear to be struggling
- Play C to Am Chord Switch Game
- Practice songs again using Am and C chords
- Practice singing / playing chords as a group
- Practice two performance songs
- Extra time:

- Introduce F chord in the songs
- Members may spend last 15 minutes playing songs
- Members will help clean up

Activities:

- Strum Game
 - Instruct Members to strum on certain counts
 - Say, "Strum down every time I say 8: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8." Continue with 4 and 8, then even numbers, etc.
- Fret Game
 - Game to find the frets the fastest. Call out Fret #'s and Members will race to identify them first.
 - Use Strum Game and Fret Game to progress to Switch Game using strum game because Members are familiar should be familiar with these 2 games already
- C to Am Switch Game
 - Members switch from C to Am on counts
 - Use same counts as used in strumming game
 - If Members are struggling, use as opportunity to review the C chord and Am chord
- Play songs
 - Members play C and Am chords on song sheets
 - C Chords = highlighted yellow
 - Am Chords = highlighted green
 - Advanced Members may play F Chords on song sheets
- Members may play songs of their choice at end of lesson

Key Vocab:

- Strumming
- Frets
- Chords
- C Chord
- Am Chord
- F Chord

Materials/Equipment:

- Ukulele Tuner
- 15 Tuned Ukuleles
- Chairs
- Ukulele Song/Handout Binder
- Treat Incentive

Additional Information:

- Taught in Learning Center (large room)
- Attendance: 8 Members

Ukulele Teaching Tips:

- Always bring extra paper for members to write their own songs or bring a ukulele coloring page - it's sometimes difficult for Members to focus for full hour
- Consider bringing treat incentive if Members are having a hard time focusing, but make sure treat incentive doesn't distract from goals of lesson