

find the chords to songs



This can help you find chords to a song you hear, but is also great for trying out different chords and learning what fits together nicely or not. My favorite way of learning music is exploring, rather than learning things exactly as they are :)

basic method

1. listen to the song. try to hum the root note (=fundamental) to each chord (if there is a bass guitar, try listening to that)
2. play those notes on the guitar
3. play the chords to those notes. play major if it sounds major and minor if it sounds minor.

more complete method (using triads)

1. find the key (note that you can hum the whole way through and it keeps sounding good. it's often the 1st chord of the song but not always. if guitar is complicated or irregular, listen to the bass guitar or other instruments)
2. play the major scale starting on that note
3. now play that same scale but play chords instead of notes. and adapt major-minor (and DOM7) as needed, based on this pattern: **Maj** Min Min **Maj** **Dom7** Min Min7b5 and see which ones sound good with the song

or you can cheat and use this chart:

- instructions: all the chords on one line sound good together (don't forget to look if it's MAJOR or minor)
- if you're trying to find the chords to a song, you want to find which row to use. find the note that you can hum all along the song (key) in the 1st column, and try the other chords on that row. this usually works, but if some chords sound off, also try finding your hum note (key) in the 6th (relative minor) column, and playing that line instead.
- the chord positions here are for **guitalele** (or **guitar**). for the **ukulele**, it's simple, just pretend that the 2 strings on the left don't exist. the shapes for the 4 strings to the right are the same exactly. it's also good to know that if you're learning ukulele you're also learning guitar, and the other way around! :)
- oh and the chart to the left works no matter which instrument you're using.

1 key	2	3	4	5	6 relative minor	7
MAJOR	minor	minor	MAJOR	MAJOR (or DOM7 5)	minor	DIM (or minor7 flat5)
C	D	E	F	G	A	B
G	A	B	C	D	E	F#
D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#
A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#
E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#
B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#
F	G	A	A# (Bb)	C	D	E
A# (Bb)	C	D	D# (Eb)	F	G	A
D# (Eb)	F	G	G# (Ab)	A (Bb)	C	D
G# (Ab)	Bb	C	C# (Db)	D (Eb)	F	G
C# (Db)	Eb	F	F# (Gb)	G# (Ab)	Bb	C
F# (Gb)	G# (Ab)	Bb	B# (Cb)	C# (Db)	D (Eb)	F

MAJOR based on A on guitalele (E on guitar)	minor based on A on guitalele (E on guitar)	half-DIM based on A (E on guitar)	DOM 7 based on A (E on guitar)	minor 7 (m7) based on A (E on guitar)
based on D on guitalele (A on guitar)	based on D on guitalele (A on guitar)	based on D (A on guitar)	based on D (A on guitar)	based on D (A on guitar)
based on G (D on guitar)	based on G (D on guitar)	based on G (D on guitar)	based on G (D on guitar)	based on G (D on guitar)
				m7b5

extra notes:

- this chart is based on [triads](#) (google it for more info). you can also search "circle of fifths", which is basically the same thing but in a circle
- anything outside of this triad method is called an "altered chord"
- a great bonus altered chord is 4th minor, played together with the 4th major. for example 1major 6minor **4major 4minor** 1major (play 4maj and 4min twice shorter)

happy playing! 🎵(-∩-)🎵