

A Boy Named Sue

Shel Silverstein/Johnny Cash



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Original Key: Bb (capo on first fret to match recording)

Tempo: 101 BPM

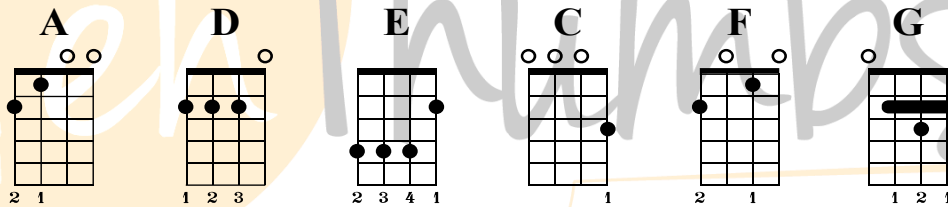
Chords needed in A: A, D, E

Chords needed in G: G, C, D

Chords needed in C: C, F, G

Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-N-jb8wxc8>

Chords



Country Rhythm In the key of A

Ukulele notation for Country Rhythm in the key of A (4/4 time).

Measure 1: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 1-1-1, 2-2-2.

Measure 2: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 1-1-1, 2-2-2.

Measure 3: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 1-1-1, 2-2-2.

Measure 4: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 1-1-1, 2-2-2.

Measure 5: Chord D. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 2-2-2, 2-2-2.

Measure 6: Chord D. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 2-2-2, 2-2-2.

Measure 7: Chord D. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 2-2-2, 2-2-2.

Measure 8: Chord D. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 2-2-2, 2-2-2.

Measure 9: Chord E. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 4-4-4, 4-4-4.

Measure 10: Chord E. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 4-4-4, 4-4-4.

Measure 11: Chord E. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 4-4-4, 4-4-4.

Measure 12: Chord E. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 2-2-2, 4-4-4, 4-4-4.

Measure 13: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 0-0-0, 0-0-0, 1-1-1.

Measure 14: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 0-0-0, 0-0-0, 1-1-1.

Measure 15: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 0-0-0, 0-0-0, 1-1-1.

Measure 16: Chord A. Rhythm: V □ V V □ V V □ V V □ V. Fingering: 0-0-0, 0-0-0, 1-1-1.

[Verse 1]

A

My daddy left home when I was three

D

And he didn't leave much to ma and me

E

A

Just this old guitar and an empty bottle of booze.

A

Now, I don't blame him cause he run and hid

D

But the meanest thing that he ever did

E

A

Was before he left, he went and named me "Sue."

[Verse 2]

A

Well, he must o' thought that is quite a joke

D

And it got a lot of laughs from a' lots of folk,

E

A

It seems I had to fight my whole life through.

A

Some gal would giggle and I'd get red

D

And some guy'd laugh and I'd bust his head,

E

A

I tell ya, life ain't easy for a boy named "Sue."

[Verse 3]

A

Well, I grew up quick and I grew up mean,

D

My fist got hard and my wits got keen,

E

A

I'd roam from town to town to hide my shame.

A

But I made a vow to the moon and stars

D

That I'd search the honky-tonks and bars

E **A**
And kill that man who gave me that awful name.

[Verse 4]

A
Well, it was Gatlinburg in mid-July

D
And I just hit town and my throat was dry,

E **A**
I thought I'd stop and have myself a brew.

A
At an old saloon on a street of mud,

D
There at a table, dealing stud,

E **A**
Sat the dirty, mangy dog that named me "Sue."

[Verse 5]

A
Well, I knew that snake was my own sweet dad

D
From a worn-out picture that my mother'd had,

E **A**
And I knew that scar on his cheek and his evil eye.

A
He was big and bent and gray and old,

D
And I looked at him and my blood ran cold

E **A**
And I said: "My name is 'Sue!' How do you do! Now you gonna die!!"

[Verse 6]

A
Well, I hit him hard right between the eyes

D
And he went down, but to my surprise,

E **A**
He come up with a knife and cut off a piece of my ear.

A
But I busted a chair right across his teeth

D
And we crashed through the wall and into the street

E Kicking and a' gouging in the mud and the blood and the beer. **A**

[Verse 7]

A
I tell ya, I've fought tougher men

D
But I really can't remember when,

E He kicked like a mule and he bit like a crocodile. **A**

A
I heard him laugh and then I heard him cuss,

D
He went for his gun and I pulled mine first,

E He stood there lookin' at me and I saw him smile. **A**

[Verse 8]

A
And he said: "Son, this world is rough

D
And if a man's gonna make it, he's gotta be tough

E And I knew I wouldn't be there to help ya along. **A**

A
So I give ya that name and I said goodbye

D
I knew you'd have to get tough or die

E And it's the name that helped to make you strong." **A**

[Verse 9]

A
He said: "Now you just fought one hell of a fight

D
And I know you hate me, and you got the right

E To kill me now, and I wouldn't blame you if you do. **A**

A
But ya ought to thank me, before I die,

D
For the gravel in ya guts and the spit in ya eye

E

Cause I'm the son-of-a-bitch that named you "Sue."

A

[Verse 10]

A

I got all choked up and I threw down my gun

D

And I called him my pa, and he called me his son,

E

And I came away with a different point of view.

A

A

And I think about him, now and then,

D

Every time I try and every time I win,

[No Chords]

And if I ever have a son, I think I'm gonna name him

A (Strum until you want to finish)

Bill or George! Anything but Sue! I still hate that name!

