

From Piano to Ukulele

Sheet Music to Tabs



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Key:

Chords:

Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4UOJ5Nr25k>

Chord Shapes:

Related Links:

How to read sheet music 1/4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ve4BK9wBhbA>

How to read sheet music 2/4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kqnH5Ez0TE>

How to read sheet music 3/4 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjQivlpYpag>

How to read sheet music 4/4 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HLNn8qcmFg&t=523s>

Learn the ukulele fretboard - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tO_8M4QaCUI

Rhythm - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gt8YizmOP_g

The Piano Riff

A sheet music score for a piano riff in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The riff consists of four measures. The first measure starts with a Dm chord. The second measure has a Bb chord. The third measure has an F chord. The fourth measure ends with a Dm chord. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some bass clef notes in the second and third measures. There are fingerings (1, 2, 3) and triplets indicated above the notes.

Measure 1

Detailed sheet music for the first measure of the piano riff. It shows the treble and bass clefs. The treble clef has a Dm chord at the start, followed by a sequence of notes: G4, F4, E4, D4. The bass clef has a Dm chord at the start, followed by a sequence of notes: G2, F2, E2, D2. The measure is divided into two halves by a bar line. Below the bass clef, there is a ukulele chord diagram for Dm, showing the fret positions for the four strings: T (top), A (second), B (third), and B (bottom). The fret numbers are 0, 8, 7, 5, 3, 0, 3, 2.

- There are a couple things to notice right away
 - o 4/4 so we have four quarter notes to a beat
 - o A flat B note and a Flat E note, this unless otherwise noted with naturals all the B notes will be B flat and all the E notes will be E flat

- Two flats is the key of Bb, you don't need to know what to do this exercise, but it is good to know. You can get that information by google "key signatures"
- Now let's examine the actual music
 - The Dm above the measure means this entire measure is harmonized with the D minor, if someone was strumming an instrument they would strum a Dm
 - It is safe to assume the first beat is a Dm and on inspection we see it is an A, D and F note, the three notes making up a Dm chord
 - The next 6 notes are all 1/8 notes, F E D C A G
 - The E note as a symbol in front of it meaning "natural" so you would play the E as opposed to the E flat.
 - You'll also notice the Ukulele run is an octave higher, that is because I don't have a low G so I was forced to move the lick up an octave, you will have to experiment with the fretboard to find the best spot for the lick.

Measure 2

- This measure is all rhythm but it is swing rhythm, it isn't straight 8ths
- If you have ever strummed a blues or played 12/8 this will be easier
- Down Up Down Up Down
- Ties, or the lines connecting sheet music, mean those count as one hit or strum, but there is an error on my part and only the 2nd beat should be tied

Measure 3

- This one is going to take some work
- The first beat is an F chord, but just two notes, with that said I would just strum the entire F chord to establish the harmony
- You are allowed to add notes and take notes away, as long as you aren't taking away from the melody
- You will hear some notes contribute more to the sound than others.
- Rest on the second beat then play the rest of the triplet
 - o To help me stay in time I count the rest out loud.
- Note the two notes there in the melody, here one is a G note, a note not in the chord, which means it is a color tone and more important to the melody.
- On the 3rd beat we have a triplet in a triplet, or basically the 2nd beat of the triplet is a triplet itself, to help me count this I cant all 3 notes as one beat in the triplet
- Again we have a tie on the first two beats of the last triplet, count those rests to stay in time.

The final product

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features four measures:

- Measure 1:** Chord Dm. Melody: quarter note G4, quarter note F4. Bass line: 0, 8, 7, 5, 3, 0, 3.
- Measure 2:** Chord Bb. Melody: quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4. Bass line: 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 3.
- Measure 3:** Chord F. Melody: quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4. Bass line: 0, 0, 3, 3, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 2.
- Measure 4:** Chord Dm. Melody: quarter note G4, quarter note F4, quarter note E4. Bass line: 1, 2, 2.