

# Ear Training For Ukulele

## Where to Start



Tenthumbspro.com  
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Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SG4lWbg0jFQ>

### The Benefits of ear training

- Hear specific pitches
- Hear chord progressions
- Decipher what type of chord is being played, ie Major, Minor, etc
- Hear the melody
- Play the melody
- Play the chord progression
- Improvise with the song

These aren't even all of them, there are more and I'm sure you could create your own list if you thought about it for some time, but the question is where to start? A lot of people think it listening to a song and just trying to play it, but that is actually further down the road. Step one is simply distinguishing the types of chords being played, and when I say that I don't mean the ability to say "C minor" or "A7sus4#5" I just mean to be able to hear a chord and say whether that chord is major, or minor, that is it.

This activity makes a great warm up at the local ukulele group as well. I know a lot of ukulele groups are just song books and sing-alongs but there is a massive wasted opportunity of ukulele players developing their ability to play their instrument in these groups. If you are in a local group you should propose this exercise as a warm up, it is also great for chord vocabulary, or if you run a local group you should dictate this exercise at the start of your classes to get your students going.

In the Patreon post I have included 3 more 10 chord exercises that you can download to keep on practicing as well. If it is something that you like let me know and I can create more.

### The activity

- One person plays a chord, the chords are limited to major and minor, no 7, maj7, sus, etc., just major or minor.
- The other person guesses whether the chord is major or minor.
- After 10 chords the participants switch
- Repeat as many times as you would like.