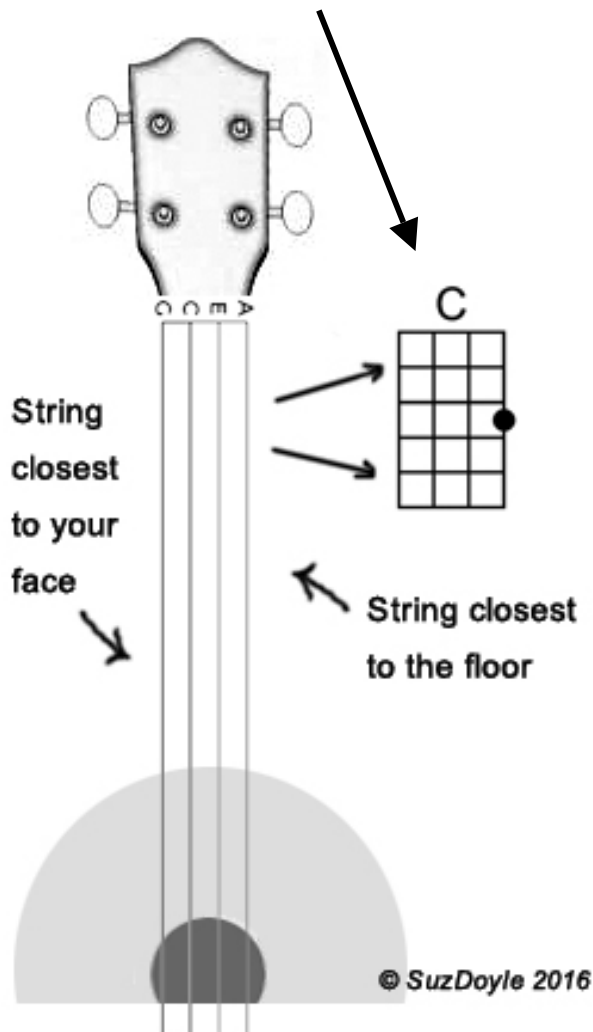


Ukulele Tablature vs. Chord Diagrams

UKULELE TABLATURE (also called “tab” for short) is a visual diagram of the 4 strings of the uke **SIDEWAYS**, with numbers representing which frets of a given string to press.

Ukulele **CHORD DIAGRAMS**, on the other hand, are a picture of the 4 uke strings **UPRIGHT**, with lines representing the frets and dots where fingers would press the fret to make a chord. In the diagram below, the 1st string (the A String, closest to the floor) is on the **RIGHT** side of the diagram, and is pressed on fret 3 (as shown by the dot) in order to create a C chord.

PICTURE OF UKE STRINGS UPRIGHT = UKE CHORD DIAGRAM *



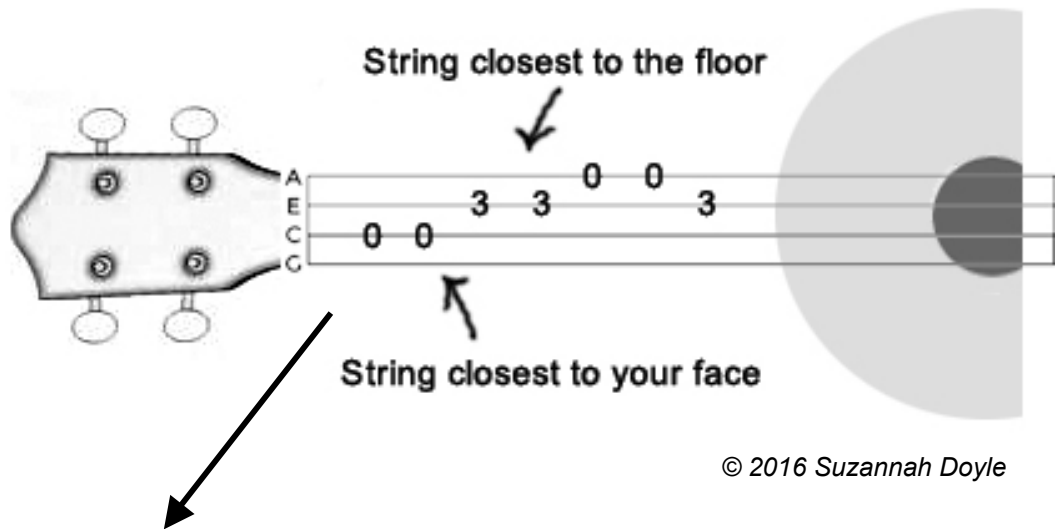
* Dots on the string(s) = which frets in which to place your fingers to form chords.

In UKULELE TABLATURE, single melody notes (or even harmonies or chords) are shown by a picture of the 4 strings SIDEWAYS, with the 1st string (the A string, closest to the floor when you are holding the uke) shown at the TOP. Numbers on any given string show you which fret to press to create a note or sequence of notes.

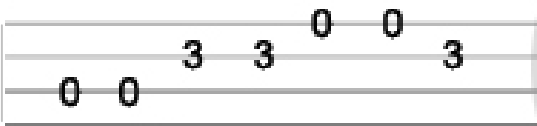
In the example below, the first 2 notes are the open C string (indicated by the numbers “0” on the 3rd, or C string), followed by notes G and A being made by pressing frets 5 and 6 on the 2nd, or E, String). Can you guess what song the tablature below makes?

PICTURE OF UKE STRINGS SIDEWAYS = UKE TABLATURE

Numbers indicate which fret(s) to press on the string(s) shown



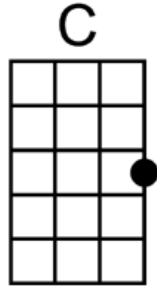
A typical ukulele tablature looks like this:



The important thing to remember in UKE TAB reading is that what looks like the top string in tab is actually the string closest to the floor while you are holding your uke, so you have to “flip the picture upside down” to translate the tab to actual playing. In UKE CHORD DIAGRAMS, the string on the right is actually the string closest to the floor when holding the uke, so you have to “flip the picture to the left and down” to translate the chord.

BONUS: CHORD vs. TAB VIEW OF A CHORD

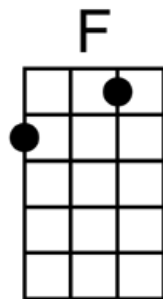
Here is what a C chord looks like in a UKE CHORD DIAGRAM:



-- and the same C chord, viewed as a UKE TABLATURE:

```
----- 3 -----  
----- 0 -----  
----- 0 -----  
----- 0 -----
```

Here is what an F chord looks like in a UKE CHORD DIAGRAM:

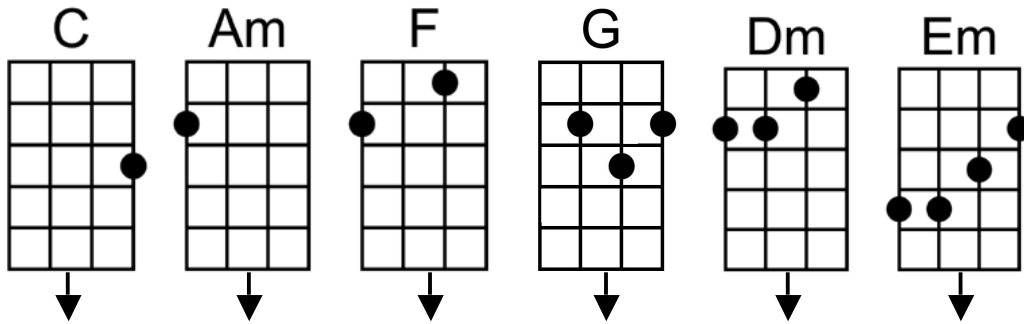


And the same F chord, viewed as a UKE TABLATURE:

```
----- 0 -----  
----- 1 -----  
----- 0 -----  
----- 2 -----
```

For extra fun, practice writing out chords in tablature using the blank uke tablature on the following page.

WRITE OUT YOUR OWN UKE TABLATURE:



Four horizontal dashed lines for writing tablature, with a vertical dashed line on the left side.

Four horizontal dashed lines for writing tablature, with a vertical dashed line on the left side.

Four horizontal dashed lines for writing tablature, with a vertical dashed line on the left side.

Four horizontal dashed lines for writing tablature, with a vertical dashed line on the left side.

Four horizontal dashed lines for writing tablature, with a vertical dashed line on the left side.