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## Sweet home alabama acoustic lesson

Sweet Home Alabama Chords (& Bonus Tips For Playing This Classic Song) This song revolves around three primary chords – D major, Cadd9 and G major. The advantage that we have in this song is that all of these chords can be played with minimal alterations in hand position. If you're an absolute beginner and this is one of the first songs you're learning, we've stripped down the chords for you to make it easier. Pro Tip: Start out by practicing these Sweet Home Alabama chords individually before you put it all together. Regardless of what song you're learning, it always helps to break things down to their individual chords first before tackling the song in its entirety. Let's have a look at what we're working with: D (aka 'D major') (If you don't understand the above image please read our article "How To Read Guitar Chordboxes In 60 Seconds". It will make everything clear!) Cadd9 (pronounced 'C added 9') G (aka 'G major') Because each of these Sweet Home Alabama chords moves with the sound of the bass guitar, using a top-heavy style of strumming helps us to follow along in a stronger way. Pro Tip: Start by strumming the lowest note (the thickest strings) in each of the chords below to bring out the bass element. You can start with a strumming pattern that looks something like this: (Pick strokes with a ^ next to them indicate a longer pick stroke) D Major – Down, Down, Down -, Up Cadd9 – Down, Down, Down -, Up G Major – Down, Down, Down -, Up Learn the 12 EASIEST beginner chords with our famous FREE guide </ Stop struggling, Start making music. </ Learn 12 beginner-friendly versions of every chord. </ This is our most popular guide and it will improve your chord ability quickly. Sweet Home Alabama Chords – Song Structure Some songs are created with three or more different musical sections, chock-full of different chords that are all theoretically woven together. Some songs stick to two distinct sections to make the song stand out. Well, this song does neither of those things! Instead, we are more or less locked into this pattern of D major – Cadd9 – G major for the entirety of the song! The Sweet Home Alabama chords loop around for most of the song. But Lynryd Skynyrd compensates for this seemingly static chord progression by providing lots of musical movement through the lead guitar sections (as well as other instruments). The chords provide a basic foundation, and they run wild on top of that base. It works wonderfully! Each chord is accompanied by a riff of some kind by the lead guitarist that accentuates what is already happening in the song. The beauty in this song comes in the strumming. We can make great use of our picking hand to pick through all of the Sweet Home Alabama chords to carry the rhythm and melody of the song all at once. Practice your arpeggios if you really want to harness the melodic elements of the Sweet Home Alabama chords as they're presented on the original recording. At this point, we want to turn your attention to this breakdown of the chords of the song here. If we read through this chord chart, do you see anything that stands out to you? Sweet Home Alabama Chords – A Wild F Chord Appears! For one fleeting moment, we have to contend with a chord that isn't as easy as the other Sweet Home Alabama chords on this list. That's alright though, we're going to walk you through it! The F chord appears once (and briefly) in the second verse. It's pretty unusual. Have a look at the layout of this section below with the lyrics: D C G F C D In Birmingham they love the Gov'nor Ooo hoo hoo! D C G Now we all did what we could do. D C G Now Watergate does not bother me. D C G Does your conscience bother you? (tell the truth) For how briefly this chord pops up, it almost seems like it doesn't make sense to play it – but it totally does. This F chord serves as a transition back to the C chord, which then transitions us back to D major. We can try playing this progression with just two C chords back-to-back, but it just doesn't sound the same. Try This: Rather than tackling the full F chord, we can instead play just the A, D and G strings of the chord. This will help us transition to C major more easily, then back to D major. Additionally, this short-form version of the F major contains all the notes you need to still sound like the Sweet Home Alabama chords you're going for. This means you don't have to worry about missing the mark when jamming with other people! Pro Tip: The best C chord to play in this song is most definitely the Cadd9, but if you're not comfortable with that chord yet you can easily swap for C major without any problem. Once you've gotten comfortable with this section of the song, let's move on to some riffs. Sweet Home Alabama Chords – How To Play The Riff One of the things that makes up for the simplicity in these Sweet Home Alabama chords is the riff that is played over top of those chords. The main riff is based directly around the chords themselves, so it's super easy to play. In the simplest sense, we can follow these simple steps to playing the riff that accompanies these Sweet Home Alabama chords – Make a D chord, then pick the strings D – D – B – G – Make a C chord (or Cadd9), then pick the strings A – A – B – G – Make a G Chord, then pick the strings E – E – G (x2) You want to make sure that you pick each of these strings separately, but allow them to ring out altogether. Download our lead guitar cheat-sheet to make things easier It can be disorientating for guitarists to understand which scales work with which keys. With this in mind, we created a cheat-sheet; a key and scale-finder that you can use again and again. A big part of this technique lies in the positioning of our hand. If we are leaning in too hard on a string with our fingers, we may end up muting other strings that we need. Pro Tip: A great way to practice letting strings ring out is to play arpeggios. Arpeggios are not only a great way for us to make chords sound even more beautiful, but they also help us check our hand position to ensure that we aren't muting any necessary strings. Click here for a full guide on arpeggios Now that we've got the essence of these Sweet Home Alabama chords under our fingers, it's time to get the melody through our ears and into our heads! Singing = Ear Training We know - You didn't sign up for singing lessons. Well guess what? We're not giving singing lessons. We're giving melody lessons. Regardless of if you sing jazz music or can't sing at all, learning melody is a crucial part of being a guitarist. One of the best ways that we can learn to internalize a melody from a song is to sing it or hum it in order to let it travel into our ears. But I'm playing the song on my guitar, it's already in my ears! That may be so - but singing helps us vocalize the melody of the song out loud, and that's different than just playing chords on a guitar. When we sing, we bring a melody into physical space, allowing us to hear it and deconstruct the parts of it easier. It sounds weird, but it works wonders. Want free guitar tips and video lessons delivered to your inbox? Join over 100,000 other guitar learners and subscribe to our guitar-tips-by-email service. (It's free.) We'll send you a series of lessons that will move you to the next level of your guitar journey. Learn how everything fits together quickly, easily and effectively. We share ninja tips (for instant fun!) but also timeless fundamentals that will deepen your understanding. Ear training is one of those things where you don't necessarily see or notice your improvement immediately. Often times, we won't even notice that our ears are sharper until we end up picking out something distinct from a song that we didn't know was there previously! As you progress along your guitar journey, come back to these Sweet Home Alabama chords and see what new things you pick out. Take the time to give your ears the training they need to keep up with your hands. It's important to strike a balance between the two to make sure you're always at the top of your game. Ear training is powerful, but it is one of the most overlooked pieces of musical training by most guitarists. Sweet Home Alabama Power Chords If you really want to rock out with this track, you can use power chords to beef up this song and forego the riff altogether. Power chords can be swapped out in almost any instance to add a bit more 'rock flair' to a song we already know. This is great practice for mastering the sound of a song in different ways. We always recommend experimenting with a song in as many different ways as possible in order to really get it into your head. Check out the power chord versions of these Sweet Home Alabama chords below and give them a shot! D5 (D powerchord) C5 (C powerchord) G5 (G powerchord) F5 (F powerchord) Pro Tip: As you learn new chord shapes, come back to this song and try them out to see how they sound in context against the other Sweet Home Alabama chords you know already. Practicing new chords in this way helps us determine which chords sound good with other chords, and which chords don't. It's also develops your chord vocabulary which makes you more articulate as a musician. Where Do I Go From Here? If you want to get more out of these Sweet Home Alabama chords, be sure to check out our suggestions below: Play along to the track Practice your chord transitions Practice to a metronome here Count out loud as you play Find other songs by Lynryd Skynyrd that use similar chord progressions Recommended Resources If you enjoyed this free guitar lesson, you'll enjoy some of the other free material we have for you. Check out these lessons from National Guitar Academy below! What Type of Guitarist Are You? Take our 60-second quiz & get your results: Take The Quiz Want free guitar tips and video lessons delivered to your inbox? Join over 100,000 other guitar learners and subscribe to our guitar-tips-by-email service. (It's free.) We'll send you a series of lessons that will move you to the next level of your guitar journey. Learn how everything fits together quickly, easily and effectively. We share ninja tips (for instant fun!) but also timeless fundamentals that will deepen your understanding. Popular Lessons How To Learn Guitar: An 11-Step Programme For Beginners 10 Easy Songs For Beginners How To Strum A Guitar How To Choose The Perfect Beginner Guitar Guitar Notes Explained: A Guide For Beginners How To Play Lead Guitar 3 Easy Ways To Play Bm More Cool Guitar Stuff Learn about the National Guitar Academy: About Us Visit our YouTube channel for fun guitar videos. Join us on Facebook for daily guitar tips. Listen to our Learn Guitar Podcast for rapid guitar progress. Check out our free chord lessons. Continue reading on page 2: Page 1 Page 2 This is a classic guitar song, lots of fun to play, and the riffs take a bit of practice to get them comfortable under your fingers. I got a bit of shtick from a few guys when I wrote here that I didn't like what this song stands for... Let me explain. Neil Young wrote a song "Southern Man" about the racism going on in the deep south and the Lynryd didn't like him singing bad things about their homeland and this was their fight back. Neil Young also wrote a pretty heavy song called Alabama (great track actually, must do a lesson on that too...). But as it turns out there was a little more to it... I got sent an interesting email from a guy called Colin about it... and he sent in an interesting article. Worth a read I think... and maybe I missed a few things :) But then I found this too... so if you are really into finding out more about this then this is deep. Anyhow, regardless of all the politics, it's a cracking song, great guitar parts and lots of challenges to overcome when you play it. So get stuck in! Watch The Video Lesson Here we look at how to play the chords G, Cadd9 and D on an acoustic guitar. We can then play the song Sweet Home Alabama by Lynryd Skynyrd, which uses these chords in the same chord progression all the way through the song! Check out more easy songs you can play with the simple chords here See a tutorial for the opening riff further down this page.Sweet Home Alabama guitar tutorial Chords usedSweet Home Alabama tutorial - ALL RIFFSFor more intermediate and advancing players, here's how to play the signature intro riff, all rhythm sections and the first lead break! Sweet Home Alabama original recording Chorus: |D - C - | G |D - C - | G Sweet home Alabama, where the skies are so blue|D - C - | G |D - C - | G Sweet home Alabama, lord I'm coming home to youSolo 1|D - C - | G x2Verse:|D - C - | |G - F C|In Birmingham they loved the governor. (ooh ooh ooh)|D - C - | G Now we all did what we could do|D - C - | G Now watergate doesn't bother me|D - C - | G Does your conscience bother you, (now tell the truth!)Chorus:|D - C - | G |D - C - | G Sweet home Alabama, where the skies are so blue|D - C - | G |D - C - | G Sweet home Alabama, lord I'm coming home to youSolo 2: |D - C - | G x8Interlude|D - C - | G x2Verse:|D - C - | G Now Muscle Shoals has got the Swampers|D - C - | G And they've been known to pick a song or two|D - C - | G Lord they get me off so much|D - C - | G Sweet home Alabama, where the skies are so blue|D - C - | G |D - C - | G Sweet home Alabama, lord I'm coming home to youRepeat chorus out.This file is the author's own work and represents his interpretation of this song. It's intended solely for private study, scholarship or research.Want to improve your guitar playing?

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