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Three More Things to Know

1 How to Change Strings

There's a great deal of variety in how often people change their strings. Some people like the strings well worn, some people find their strings die faster than other people's. And, of course, it depends how often you play. I find I usually change the strings on a uke every three months or so.

If you're looking for a bit of guidance on how to change strings, Aldrine has made a video showing how to do it for various types of uke.

ukulele.me/presents/StringChange

2 How to Play the Minor Pentatonic Scale

Now you've practicing chords for a while, you might want to start looking at playing single notes. A great place to start is with the minor pentatonic scale. It's the scale that's most used in blues and rock and many other places and is fun to mess around with. You can learn how to play it here:

ukulele.me/presents/pentatonic

3 A Few Strumming Patterns

I wrote a post about basic strumming here:

ukulele.me/presents/strumpatterns

And if you want to get deeper into it, I can highly recommend Ralph Shaw's *Essential Strums for the Ukulele* DVD.

ukulele.me/presents/ralphshaw

Three More Songs to Play

If you've conquered the world of three chord songs, it's time to move on to something a little trickier.

1 Oh, It Is Love

Hellogoodbye have recently released an EP of ukulele songs, but this tune - originally played on mandolin - seems to have become a bit of a standard for ukulele players recently.

ukulele.me/recommends/itislove

2 Build Me Up Buttercup

Julia Nunes has to be the biggest ukulele star in the world at the moment and her version of the song is adorable.

ukulele.me/recommends/buttercup

3 (I Wish I Could Shimmy Like My) Sister Kate

One of my favourite songs to play on the ukulele. It's quite challenging to play. It's up tempo and full of jazz chords, but it's well worth the effort.

ukulele.me/recommends/sisterkate

And don't forget you can find the chord sheets in these posts by clicking on the red song title just under the videos.

Three More Websites to Visit

1 Ukulele Underground Forum

If you're looking to chat with other ukulele players online, the Ukulele Underground forum is the most active uke forum around. There's always something going on. Right now there's a contest to find the best ukulele cover of Hanson's *Mmbop*.

ukuleleunderground.com/forum

2 Curt Sheller on Scribd

Curt Sheller has written a number of instructional books for the ukulele and has recently made them available to read free online here:

ukulele.me/recommends/curtsheller

3 Ukuleles for Peace

Ukuleles for Peace is a charity which teaches ukulele to school children in Israel and Palestine and brings them together to play in an orchestra. You can find out more about them here: ukulelesforpeace.com

And watch a video of their work here:

ukulele.me/likes/ukesforpeace

And if you want to support them, a great way is to buy this ukulele tab ebook featuring a number of ukulele tabbers.

ukulele.me/likes/peacetab

Three Riffs to Play

Playing guitar riffs on the ukulele is great fun. People are always surprised to hear big, classic rock guitar riffs coming out of a uke. They are trickier to play than chords, but here are a few easier ones to get you started.

1 Deep Purple - Smoke on the Water

ukulele.me/likes/smoke

2 Black Sabbath - Iron Man

ukulele.me/likes/iron

3 The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army

ukulele.me/likes/army

Once you've got those three under your belt, you can get to work on these:

ukulelehunt.com/guitar-riffs-for-ukulele

Three More YouTube Channels

1 Bosko and Honey

Bosko and Honey spent the best part of 2008 traveling the globe meeting and playing with ukulele players and they're currently uploading videos of the entire journey.

youtube.com/user/boskohoney

2 Sweetafton23

Sweetafton's version of Britney's *Toxic* was a huge viral success, she won the award for Ukulele Video of the Year 2008 and has played live with Jonathan Coulton.

youtube.com/user/sweetafton23

3 Taimane Gardner

Taimane is a wild solo-ukulele player. She's very talented and a massive show off. It's not on her channel, but you have to watch [this video of her playing at Ong King](#).

youtube.com/user/napolianboo

So You've Just Got Your First Ukulele 2

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