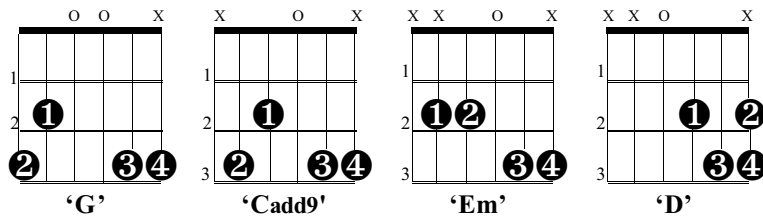


Green Day - 'Good Riddance' (Strum-along version)

Words and music by *Billy Joe Armstrong, Frank Wright, and Michael Pritchard* Transcribed by *Kevin Paluzzi*

Key of 'G' Major



Intro

G G Cadd9 D G G Cadd9 D

First Verse/Chorus (0:15)

G G Cadd9 D G G Cadd9 D
 Another turning point a fork stuck in the road. Time grabs you by the wrist - directs you where to go.
 Em D Cadd9 G Em D Cadd9 G
 So make the best of this test and don't ask why It's not a question but a lesson learned in time. It's...
 Em G Em G Em D G (repeat Intro)
 something unpredictable, but in the end its right. I hope you have the time of your life

Second Verse/Chorus (0:52)

G G Cadd9 D G G Cadd9 D
 So take the photographs and still frames in your mind Hang it on a shelf in good health and good time
 Em D Cadd9 G Em D Cadd9 G
 Tattoos of memories and dead skin on trial For what its worth it was worth all the while It's...
 Em G Em G Em D G (repeat Intro)
 something unpredictable, but in the end its right. I hope you have the time of your life ...

Third Verse/Chorus (1:20)

G G Cadd9 D G G Cadd9 D
 (repeat)
 Em D Cadd9 G Em D Cadd9 G
 It's...
 Em G Em G Em D (to Closing Section)
 something unpredictable, but in the end its right I hope you have the time of your...

Closing Section/Ending (1:58)

G G Cadd9 D G G Cadd9 D
 ...life It's...
 Em G Em G Em D G G
 something unpredictable, but in the end its right I hope you have the time of your life
 Cadd9 D G G Cadd9 D G (end)
 (strum once)

'Good Riddance' - Performance Notes

This basic 'strum-along' arrangement of 'Good Riddance' is designed for beginners and singers who will perform the song unaccompanied. On the original recording, there are various arpeggios and strum patterns played as the song progresses. For this arrangement, one strum pattern will be used that allows for a slower, less-challenging version to play that remains steady and consistent throughout the song.

The Strum Pattern

The first step is to learn the *strum pattern*, as it will remain consistent throughout this arrangement. The strum pattern can be described either using strokes ('down - down-up-up-down') or by using a count ('one - one-two-three-four'). Starting with the opening 'G' chord, repeat the strum a few times before moving on to the chord changes.

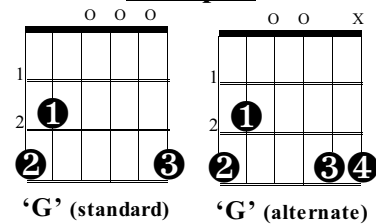
Example

'down - down-up-up-down'
1 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4

Alternate Chord Shapes

With the *alternate 'G' chord*, the third and fourth fingers fret the top two strings, and they will remain 'anchored' there throughout the entire arrangement. Doing so will keep the fretting hand steady and in position throughout the entire song. Try not to strum the first 'top' string so much to avoid having the chords sounding too 'bright'.

Examples



Three Strumming Steps

The speed or *tempo* of the original recording is set at a relatively fast pace, especially for beginning guitarists. When playing unaccompanied, there is no need to play at the exact speed of the original version. Once the chords are memorized, the priority should be to focus on maintaining a steady tempo and consistent strum pattern, regardless of speed.

Three Strumming Steps

1. Memorize Chord Progression
2. Maintain Steady Tempo
3. Faster Chord Changes

Adding Vocals

For this step, simply 'talk' through the lyrics and try to 'land' each chord change to its corresponding lyric. This can be done at any pace, as the initial objective is to establish proper timing between lyrics and chords. Once the timing is established, the final step will be to actually sing at proper pitch.

Three Sing-Along Steps

1. Memorize Chord Progression
2. 'Sync-up' Chords with Lyrics
3. Focus on Vocal Melody

'Syncing' Chords with Lyrics

G	G	Cadd9	D	G	G
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓
<i>Another</i>	<i>turning point a fork stuck in the road</i>			<i>Time grabs you by the wrist...</i>	

The lyrics are aligned so that the first downstroke of each strum pattern occurs with each chord symbol. There is actually a downstroke before (*not with*) the 'Another', 'Time', and 'So' vocals. (*Many beginners tend to start singing too soon along with the first downstroke.*)