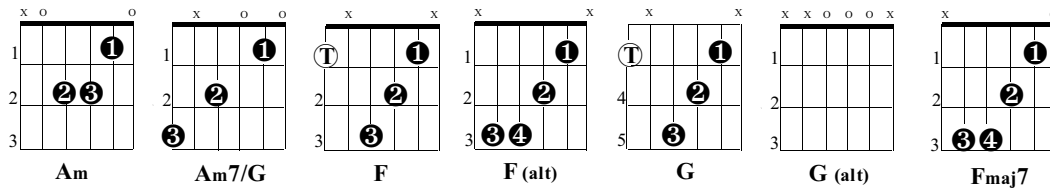


Led Zeppelin - 'Stairway to Heaven' (3)

Chord Shapes



Section 7 (5:55, 7:27)

Am	Am7/G	F	Am	Am7/G	F
1	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	1	1	1	1
3	2	0	2	0	2
4	2	2	2	2	2
5	(0) (0)		(0) (0)		
6	(3) (3)	(1) (1)	(3) (3)	(3) (3)	(1) (1)
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓

* Use thumb (T) to fret implied bass line notes in () along sixth string.
 * Some may prefer to use the alt 'F' chord shape instead if using the thumb to fret the sixth string.

Section 8 (6:44-6:58)

Am	Am7/G	F	G	Am	Am7/G	F	G
1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
2	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x
3	2 2	0 0	2 2	2 2	0 0	2 2	2 2
4	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x	x x x x x
5	0 0	x x x x x	0 0	0 0	x x x x x	0 0	x x x x x
6	(T) 3 3	1 1	1 1	3 3	3 3	1 1	1 1
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓

* Use thumb (T) to fret sixth string notes for 'G' and 'F' chords.
 * Some may prefer to use the alt 'F' and 'G' chord shapes instead of using the thumb to fret the sixth string.

Section 9 (6:59-7:16)

Am	Am7/G	F	G	Am	Am7/G	F	G
1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1
2	x x x x x	x x x x x		x x x x x	x x x x x		
3	2 2	0 0		2 2	0 0		
4	x x x x x	x x x x x		x x x x x	x x x x x		
5	0 0	x x x x x		0 0	x x x x x		
6	(T) 3 3	1 1	/5 5	3 3	3 3	1 1	/5 5

Section 10 (7:17-7:26)

Am	Am7/G	Fmaj7	Am	Am7/G	Fmaj7
1	0	0	0	0	0
2	1 1	1 1	1	1	1
3	2 2	0 0	2	0	2
4	2 2	2 2	2	2	3
5	0 0	x x	3	(0) (0)	3
6	3 3	3 3		(3) (3)	

Ending (7:41-7:45)

'Stairway to Heaven' - Performance Notes (3)

Following the acoustic and 'middle' sections, '*Stairway To Heaven*' concludes with a two-minute 'hard-rock' finale. On the original recording, several overdubbed or 'layered' guitars are played during this portion of the song. The following sections will focus on the essential rhythm guitar parts arranged for one guitarist to play.

Section 7 (5:55)

This portion of the song is the backing rhythm played during the guitar solo. Most tabs show an 'Am-G-F' progression using barre chord shapes for this section, however Jimmy Page can be seen in live performances using an open 'Am' chord shape (*using the thumb to mute the sixth string*), an 'Am7/G', and an 'F' chord shape where the thumb is used to fret the sixth string bass note. For those who find this 'F' chord shape too challenging, the [Chord Shapes](#) section shows an alternate 'F' chord shape to play instead.

On the original recording, the bass guitar rhythm is more in the forefront than the electric guitar rhythm. The notes in () represent an implied bass line that can be played by one guitarist.

This section is revisited later during the second guitar solo (7:22) as the song concludes.

Section 8 (6:44)

After the guitar solo, the vocals begin for the last verse. Though the basic chord progression remains the same, the *palm-muting* or 'scratch' effect is essential to playing this section.

One alteration made to this chord progression is the passing 'G' chord played for just one beat prior to repeating the chord sequence. Though there are many options to play this 'G' chord, Jimmy Page can be seen shifting the 'F' chord shape (*fretted with the thumb*) up two frets to play 'G'. Another option is to simply strum the open 'middle' strings for 'G'. The [Chord Shapes](#) section shows both 'G' chord options.

Section 9 (5:35)

On the original recording, an added guitar riff (7:01) is overdubbed or layered over the 'F' section and is played four times. In live performances, Jimmy Page would play this riff in place of the rhythm chords ('F' and 'G') and often simultaneously add an octave note played on the fourth string.

Section 10 (7:17-7:26)

At 7:17, the muting stops and a slight chord substitution occurs ('F' to 'Fmaj7'). The 'Fmaj7' is strummed once and sustains throughout the entire measure.

Song Arrangement

<u>'Fingerstyle' Section</u>	<u>'Middle' Section</u>	<u>'Rock' Section</u>
Section 1	Section 4/Section 5	Section 6
Section 2	Section 4/Section 5	Section 7
Section 1 (Line 1 - 2x)	Section 4/Section 5	(Solo)
Section 2	(Drums enter)	Section 8
Section 1 (Line 1 only)	Section 4/Section 5	Section 9
Section 3		Section 10
		Section 7
		Ending