

# How to read chord charts

For now, practise strumming the strings using just down-strokes, counting evenly in groups of four. We can write this exercise down as a chord chart; a useful shorthand way for writing down songs. Here it is with a few explanatory notes:

The chord symbol tells you which chord to play

The dashes tell you to keep playing the same chord until you see the next chord symbol

Play a down-stroke for each chord

Count each chord evenly as you play them

Let the chord ring on for the full count



A metronome (or metronome app such as "Pro Metronome") is a great investment. Playing along with one is a good way to improve your ensemble skills.