Vocal Range
How to find it and use it

TenThumbs

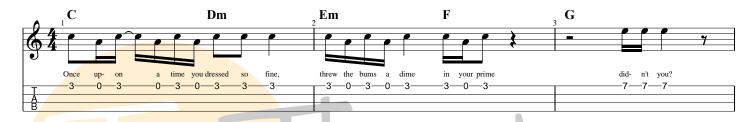Tenthumbspro.com
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Keys: C and G
Harmony: C, Dm, Em, F, G, Am, Bm, D
Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRywpvlPAy8
Chord Shapes:

Vocal Range:
- This is the lowest note you can sing and the highest note that you can sing

How to Find Your Vocal Range
- Using an instrument (to do this you have to be able to hear when you sing in pitch)
    o Piano is the best because of range and sustain
    o Guitar works well to because of range
    o Digital keyboards
    o Keyboards and pianos built into your computer
- Using a Tuner App
    o You don't need to be able to hear when you sing in pitch for the app
    o You simply sing the highest and lowest note and write them down
    o Do your best to find the highest and lowest note you can sing in tune, if the tuner is all red then it doesn't count as a note you can sing
- Using a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation)
    o Some DAWs will take audio and tell you the pitch
    o Sing and record the lowest and highest notes and then look at the pitch that computer tells you
- Once you find your vocal range write it down.
- Your vocal range isn't set in stone, when I started mine was A to B, one octave and one note, note it is G# to F#, one note short of two octaves. You can expand your range with exercise.

So… what do you do with it?

- When learning a new song find the vocal range of that song and make sure that it fits for your range.
- If the highest note is too high for you, you'll need to transpose the key down
    o Lets say your highest note is C but the song sings an E, that means the song is 4 notes out of your range

- o **C# - D – D# - E**
- o **That means you need to transpose the song down a minimum of 4 keys**
- **If the lowest note is to low for you you'll need to transpose up**
  - o **Lets say the lowest note is G and your lowest note is A, that means the key is two notes out of your range**
  - o **G – G# - A**
  - o **So you would transpose this song up a minimum of two keys.**

Example Range

A – C

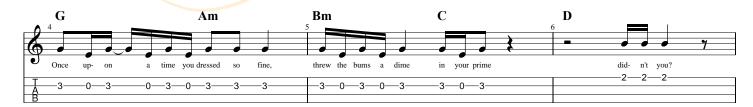**Example Phrase**

- **The highest note being song here is E, but the highest note we can sing is C, so we need to transpose it down a minimum of four steps.**
- **Four steps down is G#, this is an awkward key to play on the ukulele, really any instrument, so we will go one more to G**
- **When transposing find a key that is both easy to sing and play**
- **Now we have chosen our new key of G, what is next?**
- **NOTE: This melody on the ukulele is an octave above what we would actually sing, that is what makes the ukulele a tricky vocal coach _unless_ you can sing octaves.**

Transposed Phrase

- **First thing is to move the melody**
- **All notes in a key have an interval, you simply find the matching intervals**
  - o **C is the root in C – G is the root in G**
  - o **A is the 6th in C – E is the 6th in G**
  - o **E is the 3rd in C – B is the 3rd in G**
- **Transposing chords works the same, the chords have a number and you find the matching chords**
  - o **C is I – G is I**
  - o **Dm is ii – Am is ii**

- o **Em is iii – Bm is iii**
- o **F is IV – C is IV**
- o **G is V – D is V**
- **Now you have the new chords and the new key**
- **Ideally you would play the melody, even on the ukulele, to get more familiar with it**
- **The next thing I do is hum the melody with the new chords**
- **Lastly I sing**

Homework

1. Find your vocal range
2. Choose a song that you like that is hard for you to sing
3. Find the range of that song that
4. Transpose that song into a key that fits your range
5. Sing the song
6. Upload you singing it to instragram and tag us @tenthumbspro or upload it Youtube and link it on Patreon, or upload it Facebook so we can see you jam it out!

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