

chords and lyrics to hey there delilah

Chords and lyrics to Hey There Delilah are a significant part of the musical landscape, especially for fans of acoustic and folk rock music. Written and performed by the band Plain White T's, this song has captured the hearts of listeners since its release in 2006. In this article, we will explore the background of the song, the chords used, and the lyrics that make it so memorable. Additionally, we will provide tips on how to play the song on guitar, making it accessible for budding musicians.

Background of "Hey There Delilah"

"Hey There Delilah" is a love ballad that tells the story of a long-distance relationship. The song's narrator addresses Delilah, reassuring her of his love despite the physical distance between them. It resonated with many listeners, especially young couples navigating the challenges of being apart.

The song was a commercial success, reaching No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. It was nominated for a Grammy Award and has since become a staple in acoustic music covers. The simplicity of its lyrics and melody makes it a favorite among aspiring guitarists and singers alike.

Chords to "Hey There Delilah"

The song is primarily played in the key of D major, and it features a simple chord progression that is easy to follow. Below are the main chords used in the song:

- D
- A
- Bm
- G

Chord Progression

The chord progression for the verses is as follows:

- D
- A
- Bm
- G

This progression repeats throughout the verses and can be played in a straightforward strumming pattern. The chorus utilizes the same chords, making it easy to transition between sections.

Basic Strumming Pattern

To enhance your performance, consider using a simple strumming pattern. A common pattern that works well with "Hey There Delilah" is:

- Down, Down-Up, Up-Down-Up

This pattern can be adjusted according to your playing style, but it's a good starting point for beginners.

Lyrics to "Hey There Delilah"

The lyrics of "Hey There Delilah" are heartfelt and relatable, capturing the essence of longing and reassurance in a relationship. Here's a look at the lyrics, broken down into sections:

Verse 1

Hey there Delilah, what's it like in New York City?
I'm a thousand miles away, but girl, tonight you look so pretty.
Yes, you do.
Time Square can't shine as bright as you, I swear it's true.

Chorus

Oh, it's what you do to me.

Verse 2

I'm a thousand miles away, but girl, tonight you look so pretty.
Yes, you do.
I can't promise you, I'll never be the same.
I don't have a lot of money, but my love is all I can.

Chorus

Oh, it's what you do to me.

Verse 3

Hey there Delilah, you'll be good.
Don't you miss me?
I'm a thousand miles away, but girl, tonight you look so pretty.
Yes, you do.
Time Square can't shine as bright as you, I swear it's true.

Chorus

Oh, it's what you do to me.

Analyzing the Lyrics

The lyrics are simple yet profound, effectively conveying feelings of love and longing. The repeated phrase "Oh, it's what you do to me" serves as the emotional anchor of the song. It emphasizes the impact that Delilah has on the narrator, despite their distance.

The imagery of New York City, particularly Time Square, adds a romantic touch, contrasting the bustling city with the personal connection shared between the two characters. This juxtaposition enhances the song's theme of love transcending physical space.

Tips for Playing "Hey There Delilah"

For those looking to play "Hey There Delilah," here are some helpful tips to enhance your performance:

1. **Familiarize Yourself with the Chords:** Make sure you are comfortable with the chord shapes and transitions before attempting to play along with the song.
2. **Practice the Strumming Pattern:** Spend time perfecting the strumming pattern to achieve a smoother sound. You can practice it slowly and gradually increase your speed.
3. **Listen to the Original:** Listening to the original recording will help you understand the timing and feel of the song, allowing you to replicate it more accurately.
4. **Focus on Dynamics:** Pay attention to the dynamics of the song. Strumming softly during verses and building up during the chorus can add emotional depth to your performance.
5. **Record Yourself:** Recording your practice sessions can help you identify areas for improvement and track your progress.

Conclusion

In summary, the chords and lyrics to "Hey There Delilah" make it a timeless piece that resonates with many listeners. Its simplicity in both musical composition and lyrical content allows it to be approachable for musicians of all skill levels. Whether you are a beginner guitarist or an experienced musician, this song is a wonderful addition to your repertoire.

By understanding the background, structure, and emotional depth of the song, you can not only play "Hey There Delilah" but also appreciate the heart behind it. So grab your guitar, and let the beautiful story of Delilah and her narrator unfold through your music!

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the basic chords used in 'Hey There Delilah'?

The basic chords for 'Hey There Delilah' are D, A, Bm, G, and Em.

What is the key signature of 'Hey There Delilah'?

'Hey There Delilah' is in the key of D major.

Can you provide a simple chord progression for the verse?

The chord progression for the verse is D - A - Bm - G.

What is the theme of the lyrics in 'Hey There Delilah'?

The theme revolves around long-distance love and reassurance.

Who wrote 'Hey There Delilah' and which band performs it?

'Hey There Delilah' was written by Tom Higginson and is performed by the Plain White T's.

When was 'Hey There Delilah' released?

'Hey There Delilah' was released in 2006.

What is the song's structure for the chorus?

The chorus typically follows the chords D - A - Bm - G.

Are there any notable performances of 'Hey There Delilah'?

Yes, it was notably performed at various award shows and has been covered by many artists.

What is the song's biggest commercial success?

'Hey There Delilah' reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in 2007.

Is 'Hey There Delilah' suitable for beginner guitarists?

Yes, due to its simple chord progression and strumming pattern, it is suitable for beginner guitarists.

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