

chords of the only exception

Chords of "The Only Exception" by Paramore is a topic of great interest for both novice and experienced musicians. This song, released in 2009 on the album "Brand New Eyes," has resonated with many listeners due to its emotional depth and relatable themes. Understanding the chords not only enhances performance but also deepens appreciation for the song's structure and lyrical content. In this article, we will explore the chords used in "The Only Exception," their progression, and how you can play them effectively on your instrument of choice.

Overview of "The Only Exception"

"The Only Exception" is a poignant ballad that touches on themes of love, heartbreak, and vulnerability. The song's emotional weight is conveyed through its lyrics, which reflect the struggles of opening up to love after experiencing past trauma. Musically, it features a gentle, flowing melody that complements the lyrics beautifully. The chord progression plays a significant role in creating the song's atmosphere.

Basic Chords Used in the Song

The song primarily uses a simple chord progression that makes it accessible for players of all skill levels. The key of the song is E major, and the chords used throughout the verses and chorus include:

- E major
- C minor
- A major
- B major

These chords can be played in various voicings and positions on the guitar or piano, allowing for personal interpretation and style.

Chord Progression Breakdown

The chord progression in "The Only Exception" is relatively straightforward. Here's a breakdown of how the chords are structured throughout the song:

1. Verse:

- E
- C minor
- A
- B

This progression repeats throughout the verses, creating a calming and reflective backdrop for the lyrics.

2. Chorus:

- E
- C minor
- A
- B

The same chord progression is maintained in the chorus, reinforcing the song's emotional core.

3. Bridge:

- A
- B
- C minor
- A
- E

The bridge introduces a slight variation, providing a build-up to the final chorus and adding to the song's emotional climax.

How to Play the Chords

To effectively play "The Only Exception," it's essential to understand how to position your fingers for each chord. Below is a guide for playing each chord on the guitar:

Chord Diagrams

- E Major:

```
\ \ \
E |---0---
B |---0---
G |---1---
D |---2---
A |---2---
E |---0---
\ \ \
```

- C Minor:

```
\ \ \
E |---x---
B |---5---
G |---6---
D |---6---
A |---4---
E |---x---
\ \ \
```

- A Major:

```
\ \ \
```

E |---0---
B |---2---
G |---2---
D |---2---
A |---0---
E |---x---
` ``

- B Major:
` ``

E |---2---
B |---4---
G |---4---
D |---4---
A |---2---
E |---x---
` ``

Tips for Playing

- Strumming Pattern: A gentle, steady strumming pattern works best for this song. Consider a simple down-up pattern to maintain the song's soft and emotional feel.
- Capo Usage: If you're not comfortable playing in E major, using a capo can help. You can place the capo on the 2nd fret and play the chords in D major, which might be easier for some players.
- Dynamics: Pay attention to the dynamics of your playing. The song's emotional intensity can be conveyed through softer strumming in the verses and a more pronounced strum in the chorus.

Exploring the Song's Emotional Impact

Understanding the chords of "The Only Exception" is vital, but grasping the emotional context of the song can enhance your performance. The lyrics discuss the struggle of dealing with past hurt while trying to embrace love, which is mirrored in the chord changes and dynamics.

Connecting with the Lyrics

The lyrics of "The Only Exception" paint a vivid picture of vulnerability. As you play, consider the following:

- Storytelling: Each chord change reflects a shift in emotion. Pay attention to how the chords align with the lyrical narrative. For instance, the somber tone during the verses transitions to a more hopeful sound in the chorus.
- Personal Interpretation: Everyone has their stories and experiences. As you play, think about how

the song resonates with your own life. This personal connection can bring added depth to your performance.

Final Thoughts

Learning the **chords of "The Only Exception"** by Paramore can be a rewarding experience for musicians. The song's simplicity allows for a range of interpretations while its emotional depth makes it resonate deeply with listeners. Whether you are playing for yourself, friends, or an audience, understanding the chords and their emotional context can help you deliver a powerful rendition.

As you practice, remember to focus on the nuances of your playing, the dynamics, and the feelings behind the lyrics. With dedication and passion, you can master "The Only Exception" and touch the hearts of those who listen.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the basic chords used in 'The Only Exception' by Paramore?

The basic chords used in the song include C, G, Am, and F.

What is the key of 'The Only Exception'?

'The Only Exception' is in the key of C major.

Are there any barre chords in 'The Only Exception'?

Yes, the song features barre chords, particularly in the F chord.

Is 'The Only Exception' suitable for beginner guitar players?

Yes, the song is suitable for beginner guitar players as it uses simple chord progressions.

What is the chord progression for the verses in 'The Only Exception'?

The chord progression for the verses typically follows C - G - Am - F.

How does the bridge of 'The Only Exception' differ in chords?

The bridge features a different progression that emphasizes emotional intensity, often using variations like Am - G - F - C.

What strumming pattern is commonly used in 'The Only Exception'?

A common strumming pattern is D-DU-UDU (Down, Down-Up, Up-Down-Up).

Can 'The Only Exception' be played on piano?

Yes, 'The Only Exception' can be arranged for piano using the same chords: C, G, Am, and F.

What emotional themes are conveyed through the chords in 'The Only Exception'?

The chords convey themes of nostalgia, heartbreak, and vulnerability, reflecting the song's lyrics.

Are there any notable covers of 'The Only Exception' that alter the chord structure?

Yes, many covers reinterpret the song with different arrangements, sometimes changing the key or adding additional chords.

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