

'Ukulele At School published by Daniel Ho Creations
www.DanielHo.com

For audio examples, the latest news, and to contact us, please visit:
[**www.UkuleleAtSchool.com**](http://www.UkuleleAtSchool.com)

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Photos of Daniel Ho, TaiWu Children's Ancient Ballads Troupe (page 5),
and instructional images by Lydia Miyashiro-Ho

Photo of Steve Sano (page 38) by Linda Cicero, Stanford News Service

Photo of Compass Rose 'Ukulele with strap (page 8) by Steve Sano
www.rickturnerguitars.com

Jumping flea illustration by Doug Katsumoto

'Ukuleles in cover photo (left to right):

Baby Naturel 'Ukulele by Yoshihiro Naoki
<http://homepage2.nifty.com/naokky/>

Tiny Tenor 'Ukulele
Designed by Pepe Romero & Daniel Ho
www.RomeroCreations.com

Custom KoAloha Tenor
Polani (Pure), the first solo 'ukulele CD to receive a
GRAMMY nomination was recorded on this instrument.
www.KoAloha.com

Cover artwork from Daniel Ho's GRAMMY-nominated CD,
On A Gentle Island Breeze, courtesy of Wind Music.
www.WindMusic.com.tw

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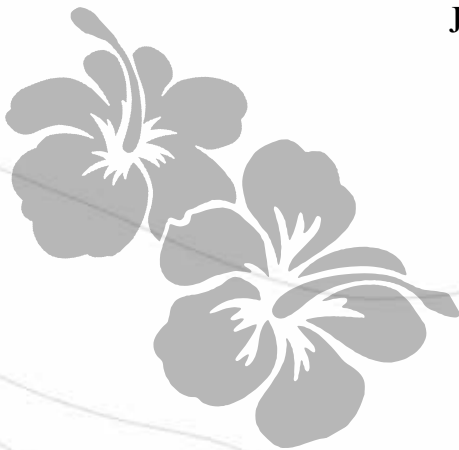


Table of Contents

Aloha Students	6
UNIT 1	
Chapter 1	
Meet the ‘Ukulele	6
‘Ukulele ‘Ohana	7
Chapter 2	
Tuning	8
Holding the ‘Ukulele	8
Your Left Hand	9
Playing a C Chord	10
Strumming	11
Chapter 3	
<i>Are You Sleeping?</i>	12
UNIT 2	
Chapter 4	
Playing an F Chord	15
<i>Hush, Little Baby</i>	16
Chapter 5	
Swinging & Strumming	17
<i>Clementine</i>	17
UNIT 3	
Chapter 6	
Playing a G Chord	18
<i>When the Saints Go Marching In</i>	19
Chapter 7	
Playing a B ^b Chord	20
<i>Home on the Range</i>	21
UNIT 4	
Chapter 8	
Playing a Dm Chord	22
<i>When Johnny Comes Marching Home</i>	23
Chapter 9	
Playing Am & Em Chords	24
<i>Michael Row the Boat Ashore</i>	25

UNIT 5

Chapter 10

Accents 26

This Land is Your Land 27

Chapter 11

The Ash Grove 28

UNIT 6

Chapter 12

Silent Night 30

Chapter 13

Jingle Bells 33

Chapter 14

Amazing Grace 35

UNIT 7

Chapter 15

The Pop-Strum 36

Chord Chart 38

Words of Encouragement 38



Aloha Students

Welcome to the beginning of your adventure in learning how to play the 'ukulele! We're excited to share with you some secrets of how to play this wonderful instrument.

Music can be one of life's most special experiences, and we hope that when you pick up your 'ukulele, you'll feel the same happiness that we do. Remember to listen carefully to your teacher, and don't be afraid to ask questions if you need something explained again.

And do you know what's most important? To have fun!

Aloha,

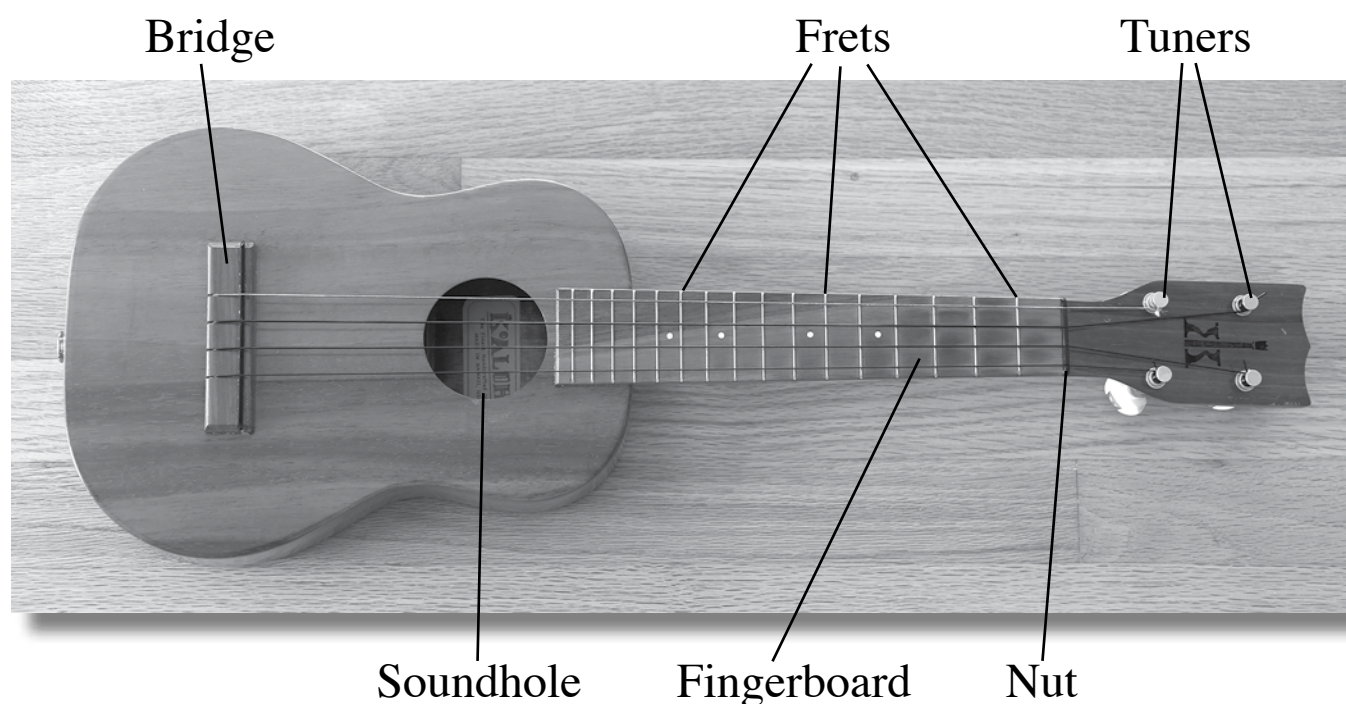


Mahalo,



Unit 1, Chapter 1 Meet the 'Ukulele

Here are the important parts of the 'ukulele you should know.



‘Ukulele ‘Ohana

‘Ohana means family

Here are the most often seen sizes of ‘ukuleles.



Soprano

Concert

Tenor

Some believe the word ‘ukulele comes from two words in the Hawaiian language: *‘uku* meaning a small bug, like a flea, and *lele* meaning to jump. So, ‘ukulele can mean “jumping flea.”

Instruments similar to the ‘ukulele were brought to Hawai‘i from Portugal in 1879. People who lived in Hawai‘i at that time started making their own versions that became the ‘ukulele.



Unit 1, Chapter 2

Tuning



Your teacher will help you tune your 'ukulele. Listen carefully to the pitch of the string your teacher plays, then turn the correct tuner on your 'ukulele until the pitch matches your teacher's. If you are playing your 'ukulele at home, you can tune it to the audio example *track 1* at www.UkuleleAtSchool.com.

Holding the 'Ukulele



It's best to use a strap to help hold your 'ukulele in the correct position.

Here's an 'ukulele with a simple leather strap.



Your Left Hand

Here are five helpful hints for your left hand:

1. The fingernails on your left hand should be as short as possible.



2. Keep your fingers parallel to the frets.



3. Make sure your fingers are curved.



4. Fingers close to the fretboard.



5. Thumb is always behind the neck.