How to Play Funk 9 chord theory and WahWah



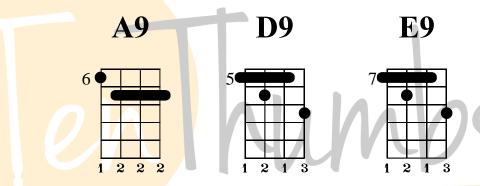
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Key: A
Tempo: 105

Chords needed: A9, D9, E9

Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMxkGAbbjc8

Chord Shapes

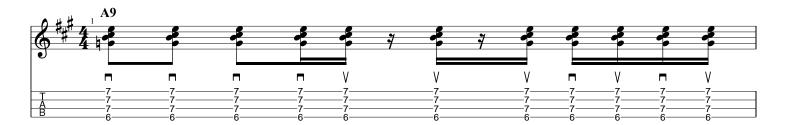


Chord Construction: Today we are introducing you to the amazingly rich sonic world of funk music on the Ukulele. This music is characterized harmonically by the use of the 9 chord, whether major or minor. The chord is a little different than the add9 chord that we have used in songs like "Message in a Bottle" because it is actually a dominant chord.

A dominant chord is like a 7 chord. So if you take the A major chord, also known as A, which is composed of the notes A, the root, C#, the major 3rd and E, the 5th and add a b7th interval, in this case the G note, you get the A7 chord. If you add the 9th interval this chord, the B note you get the A9 chord. Because we only have 4 strings on the Ukulele we have to remove one note, that note will either be the 5th or the root, because these notes do the least to define the harmony, for example the root and the 5th are in A, Am, A7, A9, Am7, Am7, Asus2, Asus4, Add9 for example so removing those notes is the safest because they do the least to define the characteristic of the chord.

You'll notice that both of these chords do not contain the root note, it sounds funny but this note is actually less important to defining the chord. A lot of times as well this note will be covered by the bass player.

Let's take a look at the strum pattern. When strumming 16th notes the 1 2 3 4 and the &s are down strums and the e and a, between will be up strums.



Adding a WahWah pedal. The way a way works is when all the way down it les all the frequencies pass, as you rock it open it starts to cut off high frequencies, so the sound you hear is a variens in the frequencies that are being allowed to pass through your amplifier, audio interface, etc. I have got the best sound from mine by recording directly into a computer, but they also sound great with an ukulele when played through an acoustic amplifier. The easiest way to get started, and one of the most effective ways to use the wahwah, is simply by opening a closing at on the 4 tones, or every 1 2 3 and 4, basically just like you were tapping your foot to the song!

Putting it all together. We are going to play a blues song with this information, using our 16th note strum and rocking the wahwah on the quarter beats, here are the tabs enjoy! Of course if you don't have a wahwah sitting around these chords and this strum will still sound super funky, have fun!

