How to Change Chords Smoothly and Easily

TenThumbs

Chords needed: G, C, D
Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nD0IZutR4o

The key to this is to slow it down

Let's you have a song that has a chord progression and strum pattern that looks like this.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 C                 G                 D
D   D U   U D U |D   D U   U D U |D   D U   U D U |D   D U   U D U
```

Now, at this point in the hypothetical you can make these chords but you can't strum through it. So the first step is to break into smaller pieces, let's do that by starting with just the first two chords.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 C
D                 D
```

The first thing you should do is just down strums while counting outloud to 4. You strum down on the C chord and you say 1, 2, 3, 4 and than down on Am, 1, 2, 3, 4. In this example we have completely removed the strum pattern and our goal is to keep it as even and as clean as possible. If you can't play this in time with clean chords, than you shouldn't move forward until you can.

The next step is adding in all down strums on the beats.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 C
D   D   D   D     D   D   D   D
```

Find a safe place alone where you can say "1, 2, 3, 4" out loud, it will be much easier. Don't move on until you can go back and forwards between this.

Once you feel good you will add the strum pattern.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 C
D    D U   U D U  D    D U   U D U
```

Now your okay with the strum pattern we are going to keep stacking things up with G chord, in the song the G changes to the C so we are going to start the process over.

Step 1

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 D
D                 D
```

Step 2

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 D
D   D   D   D     D   D   D   D
```

Step 3

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 D
D    D U   U D U  D    D U   U D U
```

Now we are going to put it all together, this approach works with all different chords, strum patterns, etc. Enjoy!

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G                 C                 G                 D
D    D U   U D U |D    D U   U D U |D    D U   U D U |D    D U   U D U
```