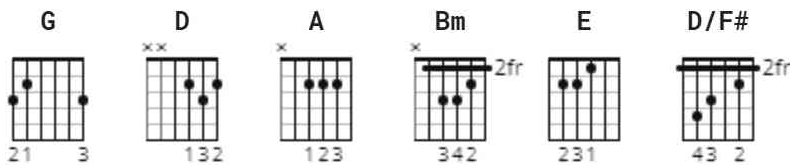


Hard Times Come Again No More Chords by The Chieftains

Difficulty: intermediate

Tuning: E A D G B E

CHORDS



Hard Times Come Again No More

Original by Stephen Foster, arrangement by the Chieftains.

Charted by Richard J.M. Fry for Peter Mills

Notes and Notation Looks there for fun things! Things to assist in the interpretation of the song.

Chords used in order:

G: 3X0003

D: XX0232

A: X02220

Bbdim: X12320

Bm: X24432

E: 022100

D/F#: 2X0232

Standard Tuning

Key: D major

Tempo: 67-72

Piacere

Intro:

G

D A-Bbdim-Bm G

D Bm E A D

Break

Andante Moderato:

D

A

Bm

Let us pause in life's pleasures and count its many tears,

G D A D

While we all sup sorrow with the poor.

G D A Bbdim Bm
There's a song that will linger forever in our ears:
G D Bm E A D
Oh hard times come again no more.

Chorus:

D D/F# G D/F#
Tis the song, the sigh of the weary:
D G Bm E A
Hard Times, hard times, come again no more.
D A Bbdim Bm
Many days you have lingered around my cabin door;
G D Bm E A D
Oh hard times come again no more.

D A Bm
While we seek mirth and beauty and music light and gay,
G D A D
There are frail forms fainting at the door.
G D A Bbdim Bm
Though their voices are silent, their pleading looks will say:
G D Bm E A D
Oh hard times come again no more.

Chorus

Instrumental:

D D/F# G D/F#
D G Bm E A
G-D A-Bbdim-Bm G
D Bm E A
D

D A Bm
There's a pale drooping maiden who toils her life away,
G D A D
With a worn heart whose better days are o'er.
G D A Bbdim Bm
Though her voice would be merry, 'tis sighing all the day:
G D Bm E A D
Oh hard times come again no more.

D A Bm
Tis a sigh that is wafted across the troubled wave,

G D A D
 Tis a wail that is heard upon the shore.
G D A Bbdim Bm
 Tis a dirge that is murmured around the lowly grave:
G D Bm E A D
 Oh hard times, come again no more.

Final Chorus:

D D/F# G D/F#
 Tis the song, the sigh of the weary:
D G Bm E A
 Hard Times, hard times, come again no more.
D A Bbdim Bm
 Many days you have lingered around my cabin door;
G D Bm E A D D/F#
 Oh hard times, come again no more.

A tempo: piacere

Outro:

G D/F# Bm E A D
 Oh hard times, come again no more

Notes and Notations

1. Piacere: freely or no tempo. Just play the chords as you want, without tempo.
2. Andante Moderato: slowly, but not too slowly. Seriously, this is a somber tune. Playing it anything faster makes it sound like a happy song about hard times, which is somewhat contradictory to the tone, don't-cha-know?
3. A tempo: return to previous tempo, which, as listed, is piacere.
4. This is one of those cross-style songs. What I mean by that phrase is that this can be flat picked or finger picked. Strumming all the way through this song makes it seem kind of boring, so add some dynamic arpeggiations just to spice things up.
5. The history behind this song is rooted deeply in Appalachia; a culture of music and dance that originates from a mountain ranges on the east coast appropriately named the Appalachian Mountains. The history of this song in particular is more or less a popularization of the Appalachian style. Written by Stephen Foster, the song shares a strong

cultural bond with Appalachia, as well as its sister songs "Oh, Susanna" and "Camptown Races", which were also written by Foster. Most of this music appeared in what's known as the "minstrel show", which was more or less a vaudeville style performance during the late 1700 and 1800s. You could find all sorts of fun things at the minstrel show: dancers, actors, jugglers, contortionists, etc...But what you really went there for was the music. There weren't public venues or theaters back then; the minstrel show was literally a variety show on wheels. This format, more or less, is how the cultural music of Appalachia was spread throughout the country. That being said, Appalachia draws its heritage from none other than the green island of Éire, which is why I decided to chord out this song.

6. Well, that, and I'm a huge fan of the Chieftains. Paddy Moloney, the player of the uilleann pipes for the Chieftains, actually shares the same clan as my family. (The clan Moloney)

7. As such, since this arrangement is by and Irish band, the song is in D. Go figure that an Irish song would be in D.

8. As always, if you have requests for acoustic music, please send them my way.

9. Adh mor! (Good luck)