

takin care of business chords

takin care of business chords are essential for any musician looking to master one of the most iconic rock songs by Bachman-Turner Overdrive. This powerful anthem, often abbreviated as TCB, features a compelling mix of straightforward chord progressions and catchy melodies that have resonated with audiences since its release. In this article, we will explore the various aspects of playing "Takin' Care of Business," including the basic chords, their arrangement, tips for strumming, and how to play it in different keys. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced guitarist, this guide will provide you with the knowledge and resources you need to play this classic hit confidently. We will also discuss the song's history and its impact on music culture, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of its significance.

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Introduction to Takin' Care of Business Chords

The chords for "Takin' Care of Business" are relatively simple, making it a great choice for guitarists of all skill levels. The song predominantly uses major chords and features a straightforward structure that is easy to follow. The main chords are A, D, and E, and these form the backbone of the song. Understanding these chords and their transitions is crucial for delivering an energetic performance.

As we delve deeper into the song, we will take a look at the various chord shapes, their finger placements, and how they interact within the song's context. Additionally, we will cover techniques that can enhance your playing, helping you bring your rendition of this classic rock anthem to life.

Basic Chords Used in the Song

The foundational chords of "Takin' Care of Business" include A, D, and E. Here's a breakdown of each chord:

- **A Major:** This chord is formed by placing your index finger on the second fret of the D string, your middle finger on the second fret of the G string, and your ring finger on the second fret of the B string. Strum from the A string down.
- **D Major:** For this chord, place your index finger on the second fret of the G string, your middle finger on the second fret of the high E string, and your ring finger on the third fret of the B string. Strum from the D string down.
- **E Major:** The E major chord requires your index finger on the first fret of the G string, your middle finger on the second fret of the A string, and your ring finger on the second fret of the D string. Strum all six strings.

Familiarizing yourself with these chord shapes is the first step in mastering the song. Practice switching between them smoothly to build your proficiency.

Chord Progressions and Structure

The song's chord progression is fundamental to its catchy nature. The main progression follows a typical rock structure that repeats throughout the verses and chorus. The primary progression is as follows:

- Verse: A - D - E - A
- Chorus: A - D - E - A

This repetitive structure makes it easy to learn and remember. Additionally, the song features a distinct introduction and interludes where the chords are played in a rhythmic manner, enhancing the overall musical experience. Listening to the original recording can help you grasp the timing and feel of each section.

Tips for Playing Takin' Care of Business

To effectively play "Takin' Care of Business," consider the following tips:

- **Strumming Pattern:** The strumming pattern is crucial in rock music. A common pattern for this song is down, down-up, up, down-up. Practice this pattern slowly and gradually increase your speed.
- **Use a Capo:** If you find the song's key challenging, you can use a capo to shift the song to a more comfortable key. Placing the capo on the second fret allows you to play the same chord shapes while raising the pitch.
- **Practice Dynamics:** Pay attention to the dynamics of your playing. The song has an energetic feel, so emphasize the strums during the chorus while keeping verses slightly quieter.
- **Listen and Play Along:** One of the best ways to learn is to play along with the original track.

This will help you understand the timing and energy needed for a great performance.

Different Keys and Transposition

While the original song is in the key of A, you may want to transpose it to suit your vocal range or preference. Transposing involves shifting all the chords up or down by a consistent interval. For instance, moving the song to the key of G would involve changing the chords to G, C, and D.

Here's a quick reference for transposing Takin' Care of Business:

- Key of A: A - D - E
- Key of G: G - C - D
- Key of C: C - F - G

To transpose, simply adjust your finger placements according to the new key while maintaining the same chord shapes. This flexibility allows you to adapt the song to your needs easily.

The Song's Historical Context

"Takin' Care of Business" was released in 1973 and has since become a staple of classic rock radio. Written by Randy Bachman, the song reflects themes of hard work and determination, resonating with a wide audience. The catchy riff and powerful vocals contributed to its commercial success, making it one of Bachman-Turner Overdrive's most recognizable tracks.

The song's popularity has persisted over the decades, often appearing in films, commercials, and television shows. Its upbeat message and infectious energy continue to inspire listeners, solidifying its place in rock history.

Conclusion

Mastering the takin care of business chords offers not only the ability to play a classic rock anthem but also a deeper appreciation for the musical techniques involved. By understanding the basic chords, practicing the chord progressions, and applying useful tips, you can deliver a captivating performance. Remember to explore different keys to suit your style, and embrace the song's rich historical context as part of your musical journey. With dedication and practice, you will surely impress your audience with this timeless tune.

Q: What are the main chords used in Takin' Care of Business?

A: The main chords used in "Takin' Care of Business" are A, D, and E. These chords form the basis of the song's structure and are relatively easy to play, making it accessible for musicians of all skill levels.

Q: Can I use a capo to play Takin' Care of Business?

A: Yes, using a capo is a great way to adjust the song's key to suit your vocal range. Placing the capo on the second fret allows you to play the same chord shapes while raising the pitch of the song.

Q: What is the strumming pattern for Takin' Care of Business?

A: A common strumming pattern for "Takin' Care of Business" is down, down-up, up, down-up. Practicing this pattern will help you achieve the energetic feel characteristic of the song.

Q: Is Takin' Care of Business suitable for beginners?

A: Yes, "Takin' Care of Business" is suitable for beginners due to its simple chord progression and structure. With practice, even novice guitarists can learn to play it confidently.

Q: How can I improve my playing of this song?

A: To improve your playing, practice the chord transitions regularly, listen to the original track for timing, and experiment with dynamics to match the song's energy.

Q: What key is Takin' Care of Business originally in?

A: "Takin' Care of Business" is originally in the key of A. However, it can be transposed to other keys, such as G or C, depending on your preference.

Q: What is the historical significance of Takin' Care of Business?

A: Released in 1973, "Takin' Care of Business" has become a classic rock anthem, reflecting themes of hard work and determination. Its catchy melody and enduring popularity have made it a staple in rock music history.

Q: How does the chord progression work in Takin' Care of Business?

A: The primary chord progression in "Takin' Care of Business" is A - D - E for both the verses and the chorus, creating a simple yet effective structure that is easy to follow.

Q: Can I play Takin' Care of Business on other instruments?

A: Yes, "Takin' Care of Business" can be played on various instruments, including piano and ukulele, using the same chord structures adapted for those instruments.

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