Stand By Me Tuturial

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Stand By Me is an iconic hit by Ben E. King Released in 1964 on Atlantic Records, this is one of those songs that will get everyone - young and old - singing along. This song is simple to play, since it only has five chords!

In this tutorial, we follow the usual four step protocol for learning to sing and play songs.

Step #1: Learn the chordsStep #2: Learn the grooveStep #3: Learn the hookStep #4: Put it all together.

Let's go!

Step #1: Learn the chords (see lyrics and chords on the next two pages)

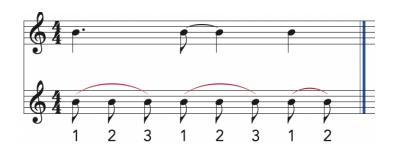
For our first step, you can simply learn the chords in root position. Watch the video and I'll take you through it.

Stand By Me - Ben E. King

[Verse 1] F#m F#m Α and the land is dark When the night has come D Ε Α Α And the moon is the only light we'll see F#m Α F#m Α No, I won't be afraid, no, I won't be afraid Ε long as you stand, stand by me. So darlin', darlin' Just as [Chorus 1] F#m F#m stand by me, oh now stand by me, D Ε Α stand by me, stand by me. [Verse 2] Α Α F#m F#m If the sky that we look up-on should tumble and fall D Ε And the mount- ain should crumble to the sea F#m F#m I won't cry, no, I won't shed a tear I won't cry, D as you stand, stand by me. And darling, darling Just as long [Chorus 2] [Solo] Α Α F#m F#m D Ε Α Α F#m F#m Ε D Α [Chorus 3]

Steps #2: Learn The groove

The groove of this song is linked to the bass line. The underlying rhythmic pattern for Stand By Me is the Tresillo, which is the 3+3+2 pattern. Try clapping this rhythm while you sing the song.



Step #3: Learn the hook

This song's hook is the iconic bass line, which makes you feel like you could just groove on forever.



Step #4: Put it all together.

Remember that you can (and should!) customize this to fit your skill level. If the chord inversions are too challenging for you, then play them all root positiong. If you want to level it up, try altering the groove or adding some solo fills.

Try to avoid getting stuck in the little details! The goal is for you to learn to sing and play more songs - not drown in a pool of perfectionism. Have fun - it's only music!