Song of The Month Club

I’m A Believer

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- Paul Bright –

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Hi Paul Bright, Founder of the Beginner Guitarist Academy here, and welcome to your monthly song lesson.

In this lesson we’ll be learning how to play I’m A Believer by The Monkees.

I’ll be teaching you in detail, how to play all the components of this song including:
- The main intro. riff,
- Verse,
- Chorus ,and
- Solo.

I’ve included in this workbook, written step by step instructions on how to play each of the chords. However, if you are finding these chords challenging, I recommend going through my Guitar KickStarter Online Course prior to going through this course.

Follow along with the videos in the lesson and remember to have fun!

Happy Strumming!
The G Chord

Step 1: Press your 2nd finger on the 6th string in the 3rd fret.
Step 2: Press your 1st finger on the 5th string in the 2nd fret.
Step 3: Press your 3rd finger, on the 1st string in the 3rd fret.
Step 4: Strum the guitar starting from the 6th string. Ensure you include every string along the way.

How did you go with the G Chord? Can you play it?

When I first learnt the G Chord, I remember having a few issues with getting my 3rd finger all the way down to the 1st (High-E) string, while keeping my other 2 fingers pressed down on the first 2 strings. If you’re having issues with this too, don’t stress, because with some repetition and practice, this chord will become a walk in the park.

The Cadd9 Chord

Step 1: Press your 2nd finger on the 5th string in the 3rd fret.
Step 2: Press your 1st finger on the 4th string in the 2nd fret.
Step 3: Press your 3rd finger on the 2nd string in the 3rd fret.
Step 4: Press your 4th finger on the 1st string in the 3rd fret.

All strings are strummed in this chord except for the 6th (low e) string.

The C Chord

Step 1: Press your 3rd finger on the 5th string in the 3rd fret.
Step 2: Press your 2nd finger on the 4th string in the 2nd fret.
Step 3: Press your 1st finger on the 2nd string in the 1st fret.
Step 4: To strum the C chord, simply strum staring at the 5th string.

The 4th and 1st strings are played open. However the 6th (low-E) string is not played in this chord.

Side Note: A common complaint I see and hear from people learning this chord is that their 1st finger (index finger) slips and ends up touching the 1st (high-E) string which is meant to be played open. If this happens to you a suggestion I have is to do some finger stretching exercises. At first it can seem impossible to stretch your finger all the way down to the 1st string, but with some practice, and stretching it shouldn’t take long until you can play a C chord easily.
**D Major Chord**

**Step 1:** Press your 1\textsuperscript{st} finger on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} string in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} fret.

**Step 2:** Press your 2\textsuperscript{nd} finger on the 1\textsuperscript{st} string in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} fret.

**Step 3:** Press your 3\textsuperscript{rd} finger on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} string in the 3\textsuperscript{rd} fret.

**Step 4:** To strum the D Chord, you begin playing the chord at the 4\textsuperscript{th} string. This means the 4\textsuperscript{th} string is played open.

With this chord, you’ll need to pay special attention to ensuring you don’t strum the top 2 strings (ie. 6\textsuperscript{th} & 5\textsuperscript{th} Strings).

When I got started playing this chord I remember I would accidentally strum the top 2 strings without meaning it. This will happen from time to time, and all you can do is take it slow and be careful. With the guitar practice makes perfect, and practice is something you’ll need to do, even if it’s 5 minutes per day.

**F Major Chord**

**Step 1:** Press your 3\textsuperscript{rd} finger on the 4\textsuperscript{th} string in the 3\textsuperscript{rd} fret.

**Step 2:** Press your 2\textsuperscript{nd} finger on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} string in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} fret.

**Step 3:** Press your 1\textsuperscript{st} finger down flat on the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} strings in the 1\textsuperscript{st} fret.

Shortcut: You can make it easier to play this chord by just pressing down on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} string like you would with a C major chord, and avoid playing the high-e string.

**Step 4:** To strum the F chord, simply strum staring at the 5\textsuperscript{th} string. The 5\textsuperscript{th} string is played open, with the 6\textsuperscript{th} (low-E) string not played.
Strumming Pattern

Verse

D        D    U        U    D    U

Chorus

D        D    U    x 4
I'm A Believer By The Monkees

Link to youtube video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LV9VhplCimQ

Intro Riff:

Verse 1:

G                       D       G
I thought love was only true in fairy tales
G                 D                G
Meant for someone else but not for me.
C               G
Love was out to get me
C                G
That's the way it seemed.
C               G       D      Stop.
Disappointment haunted all my dreams.

Chorus:

G   C  G
Then I saw her face,
C       G     C  G
now I'm a believer
C     G     C   G
Not a trace
C           G    C  G
of doubt in my mind.
C     G(one stroke then mute) C(one stroke)
Im in love,         ooh
G(one stroke)     F(one stroke) (Riff below)
Im a believer! I couldn't leave her if I tried.

Intro Riff (See Above)

Verse 2:

G                       D       G
I thought love was more or less a given thing,
G                 D                G
Seems the more I gave the less I got.
C                G
What's the use in tryin?
All you get is pain.

When I needed sunshine I got rain.

Chorus:

Then I saw her face,

now I'm a believer

Not a trace

of doubt in my mind.

G one stroke then mute C one stroke

I'm in love, ooh

G one stroke F one stroke (Intro Riff)

I'm a believer! I couldn't leave her if I tried.

Solo Section 1:

Solo Section 2:

Solo Section 3:
Verse 3

C   G
Love was out to get me

C   G
That's the way it seemed.

C   G   D
Disappointment haunted all my dreams.

Chorus:

G   C   G
Then I saw her face,

C   G   C   G
now I'm a believer

C   G   C   G
Not a trace

C   G   C   G
of doubt in my mind.

C   G(one stroke then mute)   C(one stroke)
Im in love,         ooh

G(one stroke)   F(one stroke) (Intro Riff)
Im a believer! I couldn't leave her if I tried.

Ending:

G   C   G
Yes I saw her face,

C   G   C   G
now I'm a believer

C   G   C   G
Not a trace

C   G   C   G
of doubt in my mind.

C   G   C   G
Said I'm a believer

C   G   C   G
I'm a believer

C   G   C   G
Said I'm a believer (I'm a believer)

C   G   C   G
Said I'm a believer (I'm a believer)