

Handle With Care

Traveling Wilburys, 1988. Ukulele arrangement Bob Guz, 2024

INTRO: *4 beats per box. Play twice. See page 4 for details on the Intro/Interlude Tab*

[G]	[F]	[C]	[G]	[F]	[C]
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VERSE 1

[G] ♪ Been beat [F] up and [C] battered 'round
[G] ♪ Been sent [F] up and I've [C] been shot down
[F] ♪ You're the best thing that [C] I've ever [Am] found
[F] ♪ Handle [G] me with [C] care [**hold: C*]

↑ See Note 3 on page 4
for details on this strum

VERSE 2

[G] ♪ Repu- [F]tation's [C] changeable
[G] ♪ Situ- [F]ation's [C] tolerable
[F] ♪ But, baby, you're a- [C]dorable [Am]
[F] ♪ Handle me with [G] care

BRIDGE 1

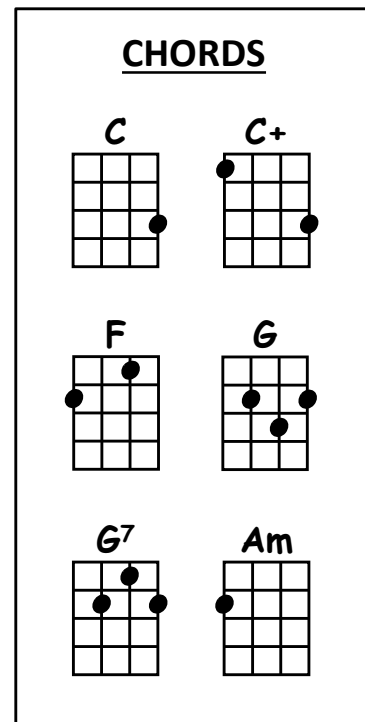
[C] I'm so [C+] tired of [F] bein' [G7] lonely
[C] I still [C+] have some [F] love to [G7] give
[C] Won't you [C+] show me [F] that you [G7] really [C] care? [C]

BRIDGE 2: *See page 5 for details on the Bridge Vocal options*

Ev'ry- [F]body's got some- [F]body to [C] lean [C] on
Put your [F] body next to [F] mine, and [G] dream [G] on

VERSE 3

I've [G] been fobbed [F] off and [C] I've been fooled
[G] ♪ I've been [F] robbed and [C] ridiculed
[F] ♪ In daycare centers and [C] night [Am] schools
[F] ♪ Handle [G] me with [C] care [**hold: C*] ← See Note 3 on page 4
for details on this strum



INTERLUDE: *4 beats per box. See page 4 for details on the Intro/Interlude Tab*

[G] [F]	[C]	[G] [F]	[C]
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VERSE 4

[G] ♪ Been stuck in [F] airports, [C] terrorized
 [G] ♪ Sent to [F] meetings, [C] hypnotized
 [F] ♪ Overexposed, com- [C]mercialized [Am]
 [F] ♪ Handle me with [G] care

BRIDGE 3

[C] I'm so [C+] tired of [F] bein' [G7] lonely
 [C] I still [C+] have some [F] love to [G7] give
 [C] Won't you [C+] show me [F] that you [G7] really [C] care? [C]

BRIDGE 4: *See page 5 for details on the Bridge Vocal options*

Ev'ry- [F]body's got some- [F]body to [C] lean [C] on
 Put your [F] body next to [F] mine, and [G] dream [G] on

VERSE 5

I've [G] been up- [F]tight and [C] made a mess
 But [G] I'll clean it [F] up my- [C]self, I guess
 [F] ♪ Oh, the sweet [C] smell of suc- [Am]cess!
 [F] ♪ Handle [G] me with [C] care [**hold: C*]

See Note 3 on page 4 for details on this strum

ENDING: *4 beats per box. See page 4 for details on the Intro/Interlude Tab*

[G] [F]	[C]	[G] [F]	[C]
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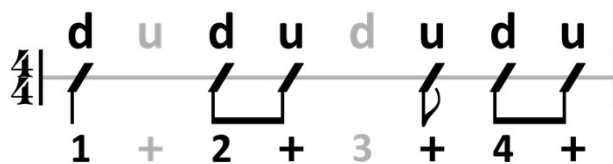
[F] ♪ Oh, the sweet [C] smell of suc- [Am]cess!
 [F] ♪ Handle [G] me with [C] care [**hold: C*]

END

Notes & Tips

1. Main Strum Pattern

This 4-beat "island" strum pattern is used throughout the song when a chord is played for a full 4 beats. (See Note 2 below for instances where a 4-beat strum pattern is shared by two chords.)



For those who prefer, playing a single strum on each chord change can be used as a simplified strum throughout the entire song.

In addition to the strum patterns, the following rhythm notation is also used in the song sheet to show a change in the pattern:

[*hold*: x] = Strum this chord (x) once and let it ring out

☞ = Pause singing for a beat or take a breath.

2. Two-Chord Strum

There are several places where a 4-beat strum pattern is shared by two chords, each having two beats. For example, in the first two lines of each Verse, G and F are played for two beats each, followed by four beats on C. In these cases, the strum pattern is simply restarted with each chord change, as shown in this example using the first line of Verse 1.

2 beats 2 beats 4 beats

G F C

4/4 | / 1 + / 2 + / 3 + / 4 + | / 1 + / 2 + / 3 + / 4 + |

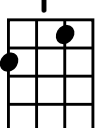
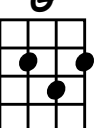
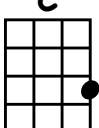
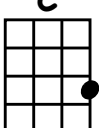
☞ *Been beat up and battered around*

☞ *Been sent up and I've been shot down*

Notes & Tips

3. Verse End Strum

The last measure of Verses 1, 3 and 5, as well as the song's ending, have a special 4-beat strum pattern that has a short 1-beat *[hold]* at the end. In the chart, these are indicated as *[*hold: C]*. This example shows the ending of Verses 1, 3 and 5.

4/4 | d u d u d u d u | d u d u d u d u |

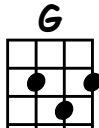
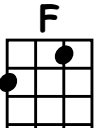
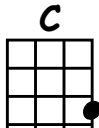
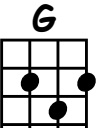
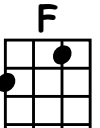
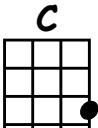
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + | 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + |

Handle me with care

Main strum *Verse end strum*

4. Intro/Interlude Tab

During the **Intro**, and the instrumental **Interludes** that follow **Verses 3 and 5**, the following tab can be played while other players strum the indicated chords.

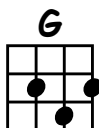
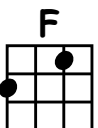
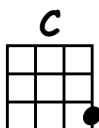
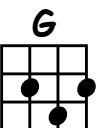
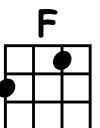
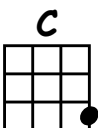
A 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 |

E 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 |

C 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 |

G 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 2 0 1 |

The same pattern can be played an octave higher:

A 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 | 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 |

E 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 | 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 |

C 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 | 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 |

G 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 | 10 10 8 8 | 7 8 10 7 8 |

Notes & Tips

6. Bridge Vocals

In Bridges 2 and 4, there is a **Melody** part (A below) and an optional vocal **Harmony** part (B). Singing these harmonies an octave higher or lower than shown works equally well.

A. Melody

F **F** **C**

Ev-ry-bod y's got some-bod y to lean on

A
E
C
G

3 2 0 | 0 2 | 3 2 0 | 0 2 | 0 3 | 3 3 | 3 3-1

C **F** **F** **G** **G**

Put your bod y next to mine, and dream on

A
E
C
G

0 2 2 | 0 0 2 | 2 2 0 | 0 2 | 0 3 | 3 3 3 | 3 3 0

B. Harmony

F **F** **C**

Ev-ry-bod y's got some-bod y to lean on

A
E
C
G

1-1-1 | 1-1 | 1-1-1 | 1-1 | 1 3 | 3 3 | 3 3-0

C **F** **F** **G** **G**

Put your bod y next to mine, and dream on

A
E
C
G

3 1-1-1 | 1-1 | 1-1-1 | 1-1 | 1 2 | 2 2 2 | 2 2 3