

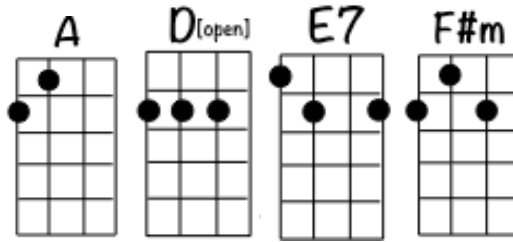


# DIRTY OLD TOWN

[Ewan & McColl, 1985]

Key: A | 4/4 | 115BPM

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +  
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑



v1. *I met my* [A] love, by the gas works wall  
Dreamed a [D] dream, by the old ca-[A]-nal  
I kissed my girl, by the factory wall  
Dirty old [E7] town, dirty old [F#m] town [F#m]↓

v2. *Clouds are* [A] drifting across the moon  
Cats are [D] prowling on their [A] beats  
Spring's a girl from the streets at night  
Dirty old [E7] town, dirty old [F#m] town [F#m]↓

v3. *I heard a* [A] siren from the docks  
Saw a [D] train set the night on [A] fire  
I smelled the Spring on the smokey wind  
Dirty old [E7] town, dirty old [F#m] town [F#m]↓

v4. *I'm going to* [A] make me a big sharp axe  
shining [D] steel tempered in the [A] fire  
I'll chop you down like an old dead tree  
Dirty old [E7] town, dirty old [F#m] town [F#m]↓

OUT. *I met my* [A] love, by the gas works wall  
Dreamed a [D] dream, by the old ca-[A]-nal  
I kissed my girl, by the factory wall  
Dirty old [E7] town, dirty old [F#m] town [F#m]  
Dirty old [E7] town, dirty old [F#m] town [F#m]↓



# DIRTY OLD TOWN – SONG STRUCTURE

This song structure is in **STROPHIC FORM**, also called **verse-repeating**. It is the term applied to songs in which all verses are sung to the same pattern of music. So once you learn the 16-bar phrase below you can repeat it for the duration of the song.

The song is in 4/4-time signature which mean there are 4 beats to each bar. The strumming pattern is called **Calypso strum** and each verse starts with an **Anacrusis** (aka: a pickup is a note or sequence of notes). The anacrusis in this case starts with the lyrics which precede the first downbeat of song as follows:

"I met my" ..... (the down beat come in on the word 'love)

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 2<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 3<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 4<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  |
| 5<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 6<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 7<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 8<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  |
| 9<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑  | 10<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ | 11<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ | 12<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ |
| 13<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ | 14<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ | 15<br><br>1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +<br>↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ | 16<br><br>↓                                |

The outro section simply repeats the last line of the verse so the first time through you can play calypso strum through the two bars of **F#m** and end with a single strum for the final bar.