

Chord Practice

First of all let's assume a formula for the strings on the uke
Playing an open string arpeggio, low to high we will number them 0000
Using this as a kickoff point for a chord you already know.. Dmajor
The formula would give us 2220
Dminor would give us 2210
D7 would give us 2020 or 2223 barre at fret 2 so it's a two finger chord
So play all three chords in any order you choose to hear their different
tonalities

As this is totally boring and not very musical let's combine with another
exercise which is more pleasing to the ear

Assuming that most popular songs contain one, maybe two chord
progressions, the most common being 1.6minor.4.5 (7th) or 2minor. 5. 1

This would give you, in the key of Dmajor the chords D Bminor G and A7
for the first progression and Bminor A and D for the second

The first progression is in many of the tunes we play already and you will
be able to put it to lots of songs i.e. All I Have to do is Dream, the second is
the first 3 chords of I get no kick from Champagne(among many others)
If you combine the two progressions they are both in All My Loving

This is only a jumping off point, but it's more fun than just learning sheets of
chords, cos after a while you lose the will to live, and it immediately sounds
more like music.

I only chose the chord of Dmajor as an example; you can apply this
principle and the formula to any chord you choose.

The main keys we play in, so far, are C G F D A, so try it in those, we will
not be playing in any sharp or flat keys unless we rope in a horn section.

Just a tip, in the 2 5 1 progression it sounds much nicer if you play the 1
chord (A) as a MAJOR 7th i.e. A maj7 if you're humming I get no Kick from
Champagne.

The above assumes C tuning i.e. G C E A