

# Earth Song Michael Jackson Chords

## Earth Song

Words & Music by Michael Jackson

$\text{♩} = 70$  Slowly

*mf*

1. What a - bout sun - rise, what a - bout rain,  
2. What have we done to the world, look what we've done,

what a - bout all the things... that you said we were... to gain? ...  
what a - bout all the peace... that you pledge your on - ly son? ...

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**Earth Song Michael Jackson chords** are a vital component for musicians and fans looking to recreate the magic of one of the King of Pop's most powerful anthems. Released in 1991 as part of the album "HIStory: Past, Present and Future, Book I," "Earth Song" is not just a song; it is a profound statement about environmental issues, war, and humanity's impact on the planet. For those interested in playing this emotionally charged piece, understanding the chords and their progression is essential. This article will delve into the chords used in "Earth Song," provide a detailed guide for guitarists and pianists, and explore the song's thematic elements that resonate with listeners.

# Understanding the Chords of "Earth Song"

Before diving into the chords, it's essential to understand the song's structure and feel. "Earth Song" features a rich orchestral arrangement, which can be simplified for solo instruments like the guitar or piano. The chords contribute significantly to the song's emotional depth, enhancing Michael Jackson's powerful vocals.

## Basic Chord Progression

The basic chord progression for "Earth Song" can be broken down into two main sections: the verses and the chorus. Here are the chords used throughout the song:

- Verse Chords: Bm, Fm, G, D
- Chorus Chords: A, Bm, G, D

This pattern repeats throughout the song, creating a hauntingly beautiful atmosphere.

## Detailed Chord Breakdown

### 1. Verse Chords:

- Bm: (x24432)
- Fm: (244222)
- G: (320003)
- D: (xx0232)

### 2. Chorus Chords:

- A: (x02220)
- Bm: (x24432)
- G: (320003)
- D: (xx0232)

These chords can be played in a standard tuning on the guitar or using a basic piano layout.

## Playing Techniques for Guitarists

When playing "Earth Song," the technique you use can greatly affect the overall sound. Here are some tips to make your rendition more impactful:

## Strumming Patterns

An effective strumming pattern for "Earth Song" can be:

- Down, down-up, up-down, down-up

This pattern helps create a flowing rhythm that mirrors the emotional highs and lows of the song.

## Capo Use

If you find the original key challenging, consider using a capo. Placing the capo on the second fret allows you to play in a more comfortable position while still capturing the essence of the song.

## Piano Arrangement Tips

For pianists, "Earth Song" can be played using simple chords or more complex arrangements. Here are some tips to enhance your performance:

## Chord Voicings

Experiment with different chord voicings to add richness to your playing. For instance, you can play:

- Bm as Bm7 (x20232)
- Fm as Fm7 (242222)
- G as Gmaj7 (3x0002)
- D as Dsus4 (xx0233)

These variations can provide a fuller sound and enhance the emotional weight of the song.

## Arpeggios and Broken Chords

Using arpeggios can create a more delicate and expressive rendition of "Earth Song." Try breaking the chords into individual notes, playing them sequentially rather than all at once. This technique can add a beautiful texture to your performance.

## Exploring the Themes of "Earth Song"

While the chords are essential for playing "Earth Song," the song's message is equally significant. Understanding its themes can enhance your connection to the music.

## Environmental Awareness

"Earth Song" addresses critical environmental issues, urging listeners to reflect on their impact on the

planet. The lyrics speak to deforestation, pollution, and the loss of wildlife, making it a poignant reminder of our responsibility toward Earth.

## Humanitarian Concerns

The song also emphasizes humanitarian issues, including war and suffering. Jackson's heartfelt delivery of these themes resonates with listeners, encouraging them to advocate for peace and compassion.

## Tips for Learning "Earth Song"

If you're planning to learn "Earth Song," here are some strategies to make the process smoother:

- **Listen Actively:** Before playing, listen to the song multiple times. Pay attention to the chord changes and dynamics.
- **Break It Down:** Instead of trying to learn the entire song at once, break it into sections and master each part individually.
- **Practice with a Metronome:** This can help you maintain a consistent tempo, especially during transitions between chords.
- **Record Yourself:** Listening to a recording of your practice can provide insights into areas for improvement.

## Conclusion

In summary, **Earth Song Michael Jackson chords** serve as a gateway to exploring one of the most iconic songs in music history. By understanding the chord progression, utilizing effective playing techniques, and connecting with the song's powerful themes, musicians can create a performance that honors Michael Jackson's legacy. Whether you are a guitarist or pianist, mastering "Earth Song" will not only enhance your skills but also deepen your appreciation for music that speaks to the heart of humanity. So pick up your instrument, immerse yourself in the chords, and let the message of "Earth Song" resonate through your music.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## **What are the basic chords for 'Earth Song' by Michael Jackson?**

The basic chords for 'Earth Song' are Am, G, F, and C.

## **Where can I find the guitar tabs for 'Earth Song'?**

You can find guitar tabs for 'Earth Song' on websites like Ultimate Guitar or Songsterr.

## **Is 'Earth Song' played in a specific key?**

'Earth Song' is originally in the key of A minor.

## **What is the strumming pattern for 'Earth Song'?**

A common strumming pattern for 'Earth Song' is D-DU-UDU (D=down, U=up).

## **Are there any online tutorials for playing 'Earth Song'?**

Yes, there are many online tutorials available on YouTube that can help you learn 'Earth Song'.

## **Can I play 'Earth Song' on piano, and what are the chords?**

Yes, you can play 'Earth Song' on piano using the same chords: Am, G, F, and C.

## **What is the time signature of 'Earth Song'?**

'Earth Song' is in 4/4 time signature.

## **Are there any variations of the chords for 'Earth Song'?**

Yes, you can use variations like Am7 instead of Am, or add a capo on the 2nd fret to play in G major shape for easier chords.

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