

# The Shins Phantom Limb Chords

**Phantom Limb**  
Words & Music by James Mercer

Chords: A, D, Bm, G, E, F#m, F#

**Intro**  
A A

**Verse 1**  
Foals in winter coats, white girls of the North,  
File past one, five and one.  
They are the fabled lambs of Sunday ham, the EHS norm.  
And they could float above the grass in circles if they tried,  
A latent power I know they hide.  
To keep some hope alive that a girl like I could ever try,  
Could ever try.

**Chorus 1**  
So we just skirt the hallway sides,  
A phantom and a fly.  
Follow the lines and wonder why  
There's no connection.

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**The Shins Phantom Limb Chords** are an essential part of the indie rock band The Shins' musical repertoire, especially for guitarists and fans who wish to cover their songs. "Phantom Limb" is a track from their critically acclaimed album "Wincing the Night Away," released in 2007. This song showcases the band's signature blend of melodic hooks, lyrical depth, and intricate chord progressions. In this article, we will explore the chords used in "Phantom Limb," their structure, and tips for playing the song effectively.

## Understanding the Song Structure

"Phantom Limb" is characterized by its upbeat tempo and catchy melody, making it a favorite among listeners. The song follows a typical verse-chorus structure that is common in pop and rock music. Understanding this structure is crucial for anyone looking to play the song.

## Song Sections

1. Intro
2. Verse
3. Chorus
4. Bridge
5. Outro

Each section of the song has distinct chord progressions that contribute to its overall feel.

## Chords Used in Phantom Limb

The chords in "Phantom Limb" are relatively simple, making the song accessible for guitar players of various skill levels. The primary chords used throughout the song are:

- C
- G
- Am
- F

These chords provide a harmonious foundation while allowing for variations and transitions that keep the song engaging.

## Chord Diagrams

Here are the chord diagrams for each of the primary chords:

- C Major

```

e|-0-

B|-1-

G|-0-

D|-2-

A|-3-

E|-x-

```

- G Major

```

e|-3-

B|-3-

G|-0-

D|-0-

A|-2-

E|-3-

```

- A minor  
` ``

e|-0-  
B|-1-  
G|-2-  
D|-2-  
A|-0-  
E|-x-  
` ``

- F Major  
` ``

e|-1-  
B|-1-  
G|-2-  
D|-3-  
A|-3-  
E|-1-  
` ``

## Playing the Chords in Context

To effectively play "Phantom Limb," it's essential to understand how these chords fit into the song's structure. Below is a breakdown of the chord progressions used in different sections.

### Verse Progression

The verses of "Phantom Limb" primarily use the following chord progression:

- C - G - Am - F

This progression captures the song's introspective mood and sets the stage for the contrasting chorus.

### Chorus Progression

The chorus shifts to a more uplifting feel with a slightly altered progression:

- C - Am - G - F

This change in the chord sequence elevates the energy, making the chorus stand out.

## Bridge Progression

The bridge introduces a new dynamic with a different progression that can help build tension and anticipation:

- Am - F - C - G

This progression offers a transition that leads back into the final chorus, enhancing the emotional impact of the song.

## Strumming Pattern

In addition to mastering the chords, the strumming pattern is crucial for capturing the essence of "Phantom Limb." A common strumming pattern for this song is:

- Down, Down-Up, Up-Down-Up

This pattern creates a rhythmic flow that complements the song's upbeat tempo. Practicing this pattern slowly at first can help you build confidence before playing along with the track.

## Tips for Playing Phantom Limb

To get the most out of your performance of "Phantom Limb," consider the following tips:

- **Practice Slowly:** Start by playing the chords at a slower tempo. This will help you get comfortable with the transitions before speeding up.
- **Focus on Timing:** Pay attention to the rhythm and timing of the strumming pattern. Playing along with the recording can help you lock in the groove.
- **Use a Metronome:** Practicing with a metronome can improve your timing and ensure that you're playing in sync with the song's tempo.
- **Experiment with Dynamics:** Vary your strumming intensity to add emotion to the song. Softer strumming during the verses and more vigorous strumming in the chorus can create a dynamic contrast.
- **Work on Smooth Transitions:** Practice switching between the chords smoothly to maintain the song's flow. This will enhance the overall sound of your performance.

# Conclusion

Mastering the **The Shins Phantom Limb chords** can be a rewarding experience for guitarists and fans of the band alike. By understanding the song structure, practicing the chord progressions, and honing your strumming technique, you can successfully capture the essence of this beloved track. Whether you're playing for yourself, jamming with friends, or performing for an audience, "Phantom Limb" is sure to leave a lasting impression. With dedication and practice, you can bring this indie rock classic to life.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are the basic chords used in 'Phantom Limb' by The Shins?

The basic chords used in 'Phantom Limb' are C, G, Am, and F.

### Are there any variations of the chords for 'Phantom Limb'?

Yes, many guitarists use variations like Cmaj7 or G7 to add some flavor to the chords.

### What is the capo position recommended for playing 'Phantom Limb'?

It's recommended to place the capo on the 4th fret for the original key of the song.

### Can I play 'Phantom Limb' on piano, and if so, what are the chords?

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

### Is there a specific strumming pattern for 'Phantom Limb'?

A common strumming pattern for 'Phantom Limb' is down, down-up, up-down, down-up.

### What are some tips for playing 'Phantom Limb' smoothly?

Practice transitioning between chords slowly, focus on maintaining a steady rhythm, and use a metronome.

### Are there any online resources for learning 'Phantom Limb' chords?

Yes, websites like Ultimate Guitar and YouTube have tutorials and chord charts for 'Phantom Limb'.

# Is 'Phantom Limb' suitable for beginner guitar players?

Yes, 'Phantom Limb' is suitable for beginners as it uses simple chords and has a moderate tempo.

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## The Shins Phantom Limb Chords

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A forma correta de escrita do numeral 3 por extenso é três, com acento circunflexo e s final. As restantes formas - trêz, treis, tres e trez - estão erradas. O numeral cardinal três corresponde à ...

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