

Ukulele Sizes & Parts

There are four different sizes of ukuleles: soprano, concert, tenor, and baritone.

A soprano ukulele is the smallest size and the baritone is the biggest size.



A common misconception about ukulele sizes is that a soprano ukulele is for people who sing in a *soprano* range and a tenor ukulele is for people who sing *tenor* range and so on. This is not true. Any size ukulele can be used with any singing voice!

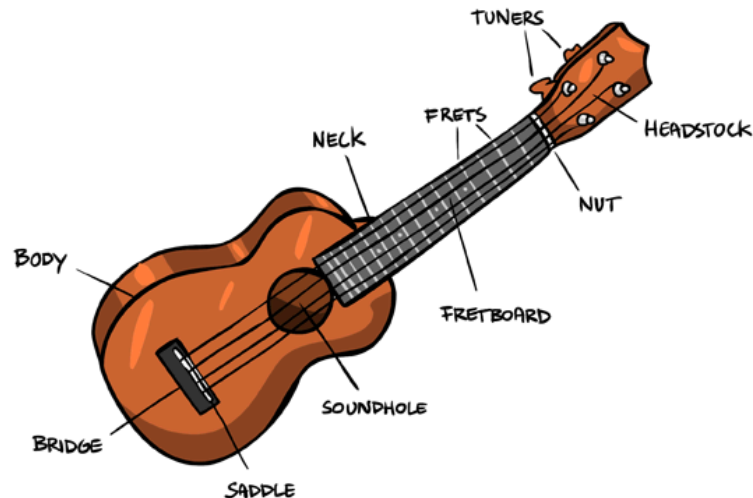
Soprano ukuleles are the smallest kind of ukuleles and tend to be the most common as they can be had for a pretty low price (great for beginners). They are known for their bright, “jangly” sound.

A concert ukulele is slightly bigger in size compared to a soprano and a tenor ukulele is even bigger than a concert. As the size of ukulele gets bigger, this makes the tone of the ukulele sound warmer and richer in tone (not as bright). Those with big hands and fingers are recommended to get a tenor ukulele.

The biggest ukulele is the baritone ukulele. It sounds even deeper in pitch and tone than the other sizes of ukuleles because it is most commonly tuned like the bottom four strings of a guitar.

If you have a baritone ukulele and wish to follow along with the lessons, then, the best solution is to get a tenor set of ukulele strings and tune up to standard ukulele tuning (g-C-E-A). Many baritone students do this to learn to play.

In addition, it's a good idea to familiarize yourself with the basic terms used to describe the parts of the ukulele.



Sound is created whenever you pluck or strum a string. The string vibrates the saddle, which is the white piece of plastic or bone supported by the bridge on the top of the ukulele. The energy produced vibrates the top of the ukulele which resonates in the body of the instrument and is projected out of the soundhole.

The most important thing you need to know for the purpose of our lessons is how to identify the neck, fretboard and frets. Frets are the pieces of metal that lay perpendicular across the fretboard. You press your fingers between the frets and pluck a string to produce a pitch. The higher you go up the fretboard (closer to the soundhole) the higher the pitch.