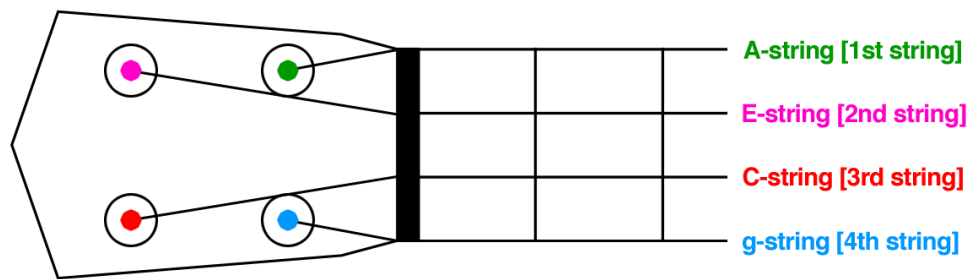


Ukulele Tuning

Soprano, concert, and tenor ukuleles are commonly tuned to standard reentrant tuning. The following figure shows a right-handed ukulele tuned to standard reentrant tuning.



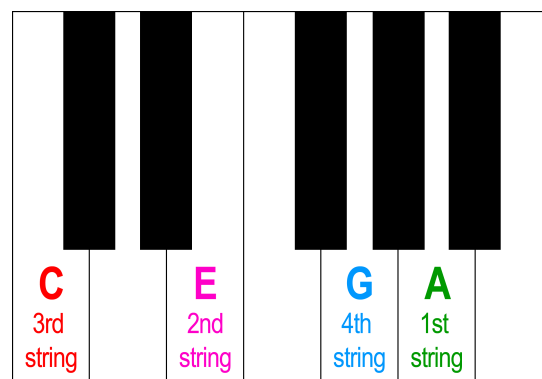
As you can see, the bottom string or first string is tuned to an A. The second string is tuned to an E. The third string is tuned to a C, and the fourth string or top string of the ukulele is tuned to a G.

Please note the above figure is a “top down” perspective of the ukulele, as if you were supporting it in your lap, ready to play. In this way, the bottom line of the figure represents the top string of the ukulele; likewise, the top line represents the bottom string of the ukulele.

From the top to bottom string, see how a ukulele is tuned on the music staff:



And see how a ukulele is tuned on the piano keys:



Notice that the top g-string (4th string) is tuned higher than the middle two strings – the top g-string is tuned to a G-note above middle C on a piano. This is why it is called reentrant tuning. The lowercase “g” is used to indicate that the G-note is above middle C.

“What If I’m Left-Handed?”

As a fellow lefty myself, I recommend you tune your strings as shown above, using your left hand to fret chords and right hand to strum. This will allow you to follow along with me.

Equal use of your dominant and non-dominant hand is required to play ukulele, which is why I don’t recommend playing “left-handed”.

The only exception I’d make to the above suggestion is if you’re missing a finger or have a physical impairment that restricts the movement of one of your hands. If that is the case, then, you will need to re-string your strings in the opposite order and tune accordingly.

Easiest Way to Tune Your Ukulele

The easiest and most accurate way to tune your ukulele is to use a chromatic tuner.

As you pluck each individual string on your ukulele, this little device detects the pitch and displays it back to you. It will indicate if you are sharp or flat (above or below the pitch), so you can get an accurate tuning.

[See my chromatic tuner recommendations here.](#)

Every ukulele player should have a chromatic tuner!