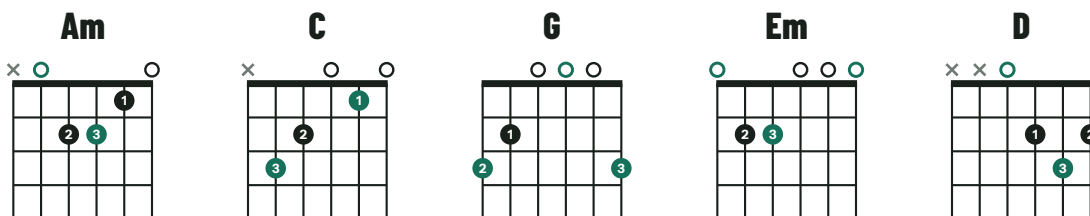


Scarborough Fair Guitar Chords

A modal English ballad that sounds far more advanced than it is. Four open chords and a rolling 3/4 picking pattern.

KEY **A minor (Dorian)** TIME **3/4** LEVEL **Improver** TEMPO **96 BPM** CHORDS **Am, C, G, Em, D**



VERSE

Am 1	C 2	Am 3	Am 4
Am 5	C G 6	Am 7	Am 8
Am 9	Em 10	G Em 11	Am 12

PICKING PATTERN (one bar of each chord)



How to learn it

- Learn Am, C, G and Em. All four are open chords and three of them share fingers.
- Play the six-note pattern on Am until it is automatic. Thumb on the root, then up through the top strings and back.
- Practise Am to C, which is the change that appears most.
- Play bars one to four, which are Am, C, Am, Am. Three of the four bars are the same chord.
- Add the Em section in bars ten to twelve, then play the whole twelve-bar sequence with the play-along.

Tips

Thumb on the bass, fingers on the top. Use your thumb for the root note and your index, middle and ring fingers for the three thin strings. Stay relaxed. The pattern is a roll, not a series of separate plucks. Let it flow across the three beats. The D is optional. Some versions use it as a passing chord. Leave it out while you learn the shape of the song.

Traditional English ballad, collected in the 19th century. Public domain.