

Hound Dog

Words & Music by Jerry Leiber & Mike Stoller

Capo
Fret

3

Chorus 1

N.C. A A A A
You ain't nothing but a hound dog, crying all the time.
D D A A
You ain't nothing but a hound dog, crying all the time.
E
Well, you ain't never caught a rabbit
D A A
And you ain't no friend of mine.

Verse 1

Well they said you was high class, well that was just a lie,
Yeah they said you was high class, well that was just a lie.
Yeah, you ain't never caught a rabbit
And you ain't no friend of mine.

Chorus 2

As Chorus 1

Solo

A	A	A	A
D	D	A	A
E	D	A	A

NB: The chords for the solo are a classic 12-Bar Blues sequence (see opposite).

Verse 2

As Verse 1

Solo

12-bar blues form (as Solo 1)

Verse 3

As Verse 1

Chorus 3

As Chorus 1



Introduction

This song is usually associated with Elvis Presley, but it's well worth checking out the original version by Big Mama Thornton (1952).



The 12-Bar Blues

The sequence of chords used in this song is very common and is known as a 12-Bar Blues. It has 12 bars (naturally) and the pattern of chords is basically always the same, though there are some variations you may come across later. After you have completed Stage 5 you might like to come back to this and use the chords A7, D7 and E7 instead of A, D and E—they will sound cool too!



Silent or Ring?

In the breaks in this song you could either let one strum ring out or mute the strings (with the outer palm of your strumming hand). Both will sound cool; give them a try and see which you prefer. There are many strumming patterns that will work for this song. Start with the basic four-strums-per-bar, and when we've looked at up-strums (Stage 3), come back and try this strumming pattern:

