

# Thinking Out Loud

Words & Music by Ed Sheeran & Amy Wadge



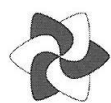
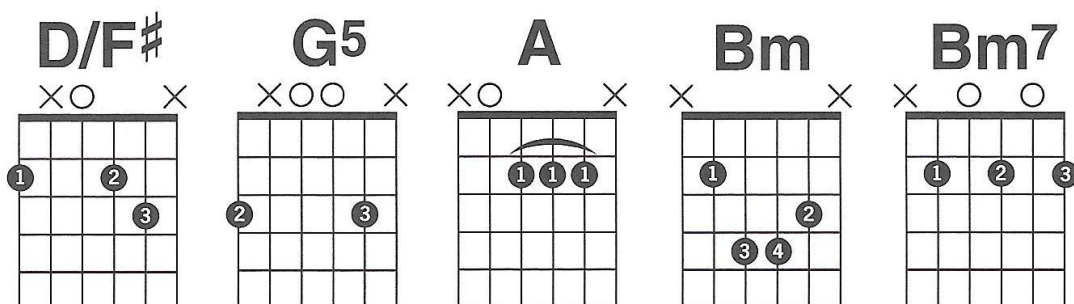
## Introduction

What a great songwriter Ed Sheeran is—and his performance on this recording is superb. I have a full run-through of this song on my website, but it works really well in this simplified version too.



## Chords

The first thing to tackle is the D/F<sup>#</sup>, which Ed plays by re-fretting, leaving finger 3 down from the D chord and moving fingers 1 and 2. The G is played using only fingers 2 and 3 and the A is played as a mini barre. The other tricky chord is the Bm. This is played as kind of 'half-barre' chord, which I've displayed for you. Have a go at playing it, and if you find it really hard I've written out an alternative chord (Bm7) that will work until you're ready for the proper Bm.



## Fingerstyle

While it's possible to strum this song, it's much better suited to fingerstyle playing. There are also some nice percussive hits, which will bring another dimension to your playing. Turn over for a few examples of fingerstyle playing for this song.

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♩=80

## Verse 1

D D/F# | G A |  
When your legs don't work like they used to before  
D D/F# | G A |  
And I can't sweep you off of your feet.  
D D/F# | G A |  
Will your mouth still remember the taste of my love?  
D D/F# | G A |  
Will your eyes still smile from your cheeks?

## Pre-chorus 1

(A) | D D/F# | G A | D D/F# | G A |  
And, darling, I will be loving you till we're seventy.  
| D D/F# | G A | D D/F# |  
And, baby, my heart could still fall as hard at twenty three.  
| G A | Em | A D |  
And I'm thinking 'bout how people fall in love in my - sterious ways,  
Em A  
Maybe just the touch of a hand.

## Chorus 1

Em | A Bm  
Well, me, I fall in love with you eve - ry single day  
| Em A |  
And I just wanna tell you,  
N.C. | D D/F# | G |  
So honey now,  
A | D D/F# | G |  
Take me into your loving arms,  
A | D D/F# | G |  
Kiss me under the light of a thousand stars,  
A | D D/F# | G A |  
Place your head on my beating heart. I'm thinking out loud  
| Bm A G D/F# | Em A D | D |  
That maybe we found love right where we are.

## Verse 2

When my hair's all but gone and my memory fades  
And the crowds don't remember my name.  
When my hands don't play the strings the same way,  
Mmm, I know you will still love me the same.

## Pre-chorus 2

'Cause honey your soul could never grow old, it's evergreen,  
And, baby, your smile's forever in my mind and memory.  
I'm thinking 'bout how people fall in love in mysterious ways,  
Maybe it's all part of a plan.  
Well, I'll just keep on making the same mistakes,  
Hoping that you'll understand.

## Chorus 2

But, baby, now...



**Instrumental** ||: D D/F# | G A | D D/F# | G A :||

**Chorus 3** So, baby, now...

**Outro** Oh, baby, we found love right where we are.  
And we found love right where we are.



## Fingerstyle

Start with the pattern below—this is the main groove and you should get really comfortable with it before adding any embellishments:

Diagram showing the main groove for Fingerstyle guitar, consisting of four measures: D, D/F#, G, and A. The notation includes TAB (Treble, Alto, Bass) and a rhythm count below.

**D**      **D/F#**      **G**      **A**

TAB: Treble (3, 2, 0), Alto (2, 0), Bass (2, 0) for D; Treble (3, 2, 0), Alto (2, 0), Bass (2, 0) for D/F#; Treble (3, 0, 0), Alto (0, 0), Bass (3, 0) for G; Treble (2, 0, 0), Alto (2, 0), Bass (2, 0) for A.

Rhythm count: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Use your fingers to pick the strings and hit all your fingers into the strings to get the percussive hit. There are a couple of optional embellishments to the guitar part, including 'hammer-ons', where you hammer down a finger without picking the note again—see the TAB below.

Diagram showing the main groove with optional embellishments (hammer-ons) for the D, D/F#, G, and A measures. The notation includes TAB and a rhythm count below.

**D**      **D/F#**      **G**      **A**

TAB: Treble (3, 2, 0), Alto (2, 0), Bass (2, 0) for D; Treble (3, 2, 0), Alto (2, 0), Bass (2, 0) for D/F#; Treble (3, 0, 0), Alto (0, 0), Bass (3, 0) for G; Treble (2, 0, 0), Alto (2, 0), Bass (2, 0) for A.

Rhythm count: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

The only other slightly sticky bit is where the chords change quickly at the end of the chorus—I've written them out below with the rhythm count, as usual. Start by practising this slowly and really get comfortable with it before working up to full speed.

Diagram showing the end of the chorus with the rhythm count and chord changes: Bm, A, G, D/F#, Em, A, D. The notation includes TAB and a rhythm count below.

**Bm**      **A**      **G**      **D/F#**      **Em**      **A**      **D**

TAB: Treble (3, 4, 4, 2), Alto (2, 2, 2, 0), Bass (2, 0, 0, 3) for Bm; Treble (2, 2, 2, 0), Alto (2, 2, 2, 0), Bass (0, 0, 0, 2) for A; Treble (0, 0, 0, 3), Alto (0, 0, 0, 2), Bass (X, X, X, 0) for G; Treble (3, 2, 2, 0), Alto (2, 2, 2, 0), Bass (2, 0, 0, 2) for D/F#; Treble (0, 0, 0, 2), Alto (0, 0, 0, 2), Bass (0, 2, 2, 0) for Em; Treble (2, 2, 2, 0), Alto (2, 2, 2, 0), Bass (0, 0, 0, 2) for A; Treble (3, 2, 2, 0), Alto (2, 2, 2, 0), Bass (2, 0, 0, 2) for D.

Rhythm count: 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +