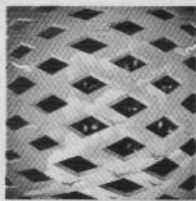


Pinball Wizard

Words and music by Pete Townshend, from *Tommy*



"Pinball Wizard" was the most popular song from the Who's 1969 rock opera, *Tommy*. Don't let the number of chords intimidate you; most of them are just the same sus4 and major chord shapes moved up and down the fretboard. To play these shapes, you'll need to fret the bass note with your thumb, but if you find this too difficult, just leave out the bass note. Pete Townshend occasionally embellishes these chord shapes by leaving the B and/or E

strings open—for example, he takes his index finger off the barre before the F#7 chord, briefly forming an F#7sus4 chord. The distinctive 16th-note verse strum pattern is shown below, but be sure to slow down to an eighth-note strum pattern of your choosing for the chorus and bridge sections.

Chords

Strum Pattern

Bridge

D Cadd9 G(2) D Cadd9 G(2)
How do you think he does it? (I don't know)

Dsus2 Cadd9 G(2) D
What makes him so good?

1. Ever since I was a young boy, I played the silver ball
From SoHo down to Brighton, I must have played them all
But I ain't seen nothing like him in any amusement hall
That deaf, dumb, and blind kid sure plays a mean pinball
B5 A5 D E

2. He stands like a statue, becomes part of the machine
Feeling all the bumpers, always playing clean
Plays by intuition, the digit counters fall
That deaf, dumb, and blind kid sure plays a mean pinball
B5 A5 D E

Chorus

E F# B(2) E F# B(2)
He's a pinball wizard, there has to be a twist
E F# B(2) G(2) D Dsus4 D
A pinball wizard's got such a supple wrist

3. Ain't got no distractions, can't hear no buzzers and bells
Don't see no lights a-flashing, plays by sense of smell
Always gets to replay, never seen him fall
That deaf, dumb, and blind kid sure plays a mean pinball
B5 A5 D E

Chorus

E F# B(2) E F# B(2)
I thought I was the Bally table king
E F# B(2) G(2) D Dsus4(2) D(2)
But I just handed my pinball crown to him

4. Even on my favorite table, he can beat my best
His disciples lead him in and he just does the rest
He's got crazy flipper fingers, never seen him fall
That deaf, dumb, and blind kid sure plays a mean pinball