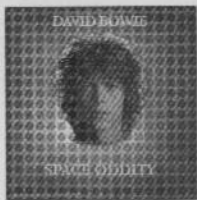


# Space Oddity

Words and music by David Bowie, from *Space Oddity*



Though many people remember "Space Oddity" from the 1972 album of the same name, Bowie first released the album in 1969 as *Man of Words/Man of Wisdom*. "Space Oddity" was written for a 30-minute promotional clip highlighting Bowie as a songwriter, and the BBC used the track as a theme song in its coverage of the US moon landing in 1969.

Try the strum pattern below, and find variations that work well for you as you progress through the song. Bowie occasionally adds chord embellishments, and sometimes adds a low E bass note underneath his chords (especially the C) to thicken the sound. Fret the Fmaj7 chord with your thumb on the sixth string, leaving your index, middle, and ring fingers free to fret the remaining notes while the open first string rings through.

## Chords

### Strum Pattern

♩ = 184

\* = down; v = up

1. C Em C Em  
Ground control to Major Tom, ground control to Major Tom

Am Am/G D  
Take your protein pills and put your helmet on

C Em C Em  
Ground control to Major Tom: commencing countdown, engines on

Am Am/G D  
Check ignition and may God's love be with you

### Chorus

C E7  
This is ground control to Major Tom

F  
You've really made the grade

Fm C F  
And the papers want to know whose shirts you wear

Fm C F  
Now it's time to leave the capsule if you dare

C E7  
This is Major Tom to ground control

F  
I'm stepping through the door

Fm C F  
And I'm floating in the most peculiar way

Fm C F  
And the stars look very different today

### Bridge

Fmaj7 Em7 Fmaj7 Em7  
For here am I sitting in a tin can, far above the world

Bb Am G F  
Planet Earth is blue and there's nothing I can do

C<sup>2</sup> F G<sup>2</sup> A<sup>2</sup> C<sup>2</sup> F G<sup>2</sup> A<sup>2</sup> Fmaj7 Em7 A C D/E E

### Chorus

C E7  
Though I'm past one hundred thousand miles

F  
I'm feeling very still

Fm C F  
And I think my spaceship knows which way to go

Fm C F  
Tell my wife I love her very much, she knows

G<sup>2</sup> G#dim  
Ground control to Major Tom

Am Am/G  
Your circuit's dead, there's something wrong

D C  
Can you hear me Major Tom, can you hear me Major Tom?

G  
Can you hear me Major Tom?

### Bridge

Fmaj7 Em7 Fmaj7 Em7  
Can you... here am I floating round my tin can, far above the world

Bb Am G F  
Planet Earth is blue and there's nothing I can do

C<sup>2</sup> F G<sup>2</sup> A<sup>2</sup> C<sup>2</sup> F G<sup>2</sup> A<sup>2</sup> Fmaj7 Em7 A C D/E E