

Thick As A Brick (edit #1)

Words & Music:
Ian Anderson (Jethro Tull)

David Nason has done a mighty fine tab of this with the following guitar tuning: G C F Bb D G You will find it below. Else, the "strum it" version above will do in a pinch.

[original key is capo 3] D DM7 G6 [2x]

D Am G6 D DM7 G6 D DM7 G6

Really don't mind if you sit this one out.

My words but a whisper, your deafness a shout.

I may make you feel, but I can't make you think.

Your sperm's in the gutter, your love's in the sink.

G6 Asus2 D Dsus2 D Dsus2 D Dsus4 D

So, you ride yourselves over the fields.

And you make all your animal deals.

And your wise men don't know how it feels

A Asus2 A Asus2 A Asus4 A Asus2 A

A D DM7 G6 D DM7 G6 D DM7 G6

To be thick as a brick.

And the sandcastle virtues are all swept away

In the tidal destruction, the moral melee.

The elastic retreat rings the close of play

As the last wave uncovers the newfangled way.

But your new shoes are worn at the heels and your suntan does rapidly peel.

And your wise men don't know how it feels to be thick as a brick.

Dm7 Dm9 Dm11 Dm7 Dm9 Csus2 D

D Am C Em G Bm D

F# G

And the love that I feel is so far away. I'm a bad dream that I just had today-----.

G A Asus2 A D DM7 G6 D DM7 G

And you shake your head----- and say it's a shame.

Dm7 Dm9 Dm11 Dm7 Dm9 Dm11

Dm7 Dm9 Dm11 Dm7 Dm9 Dm11 [etc.]

Spin me back down the years----- and the days of my youth.

Draw the lace and black curtains and shut out the whole truth.

Spin me down the long ages, let them sing the song.

Dm7 Dm9 Dm11 Dm7 Dm9 Dm11 Dm7 D Dsus2 D

"Thick As A Brick (edit #1)" Tab by David Nason

Notes from David Nason: "Here's how I learned Tull's Thick as a Brick Edit #1. I notice the archive contains something I posted on netnews many moons ago with only about half of it - here's the whole thing. There's a couple of parts where the guitar is pretty low in the mix and I'm not real sure I got it right, but it sounds pretty dang close to me.

Couple of notes - there's a capo at the 3rd fret, which is why the strings at the left of the tab are noted the way they are. So, what I designated as an open string is actually fretted at the 3rd fret by the capo. Secondly, one should use liberal interpretation of the tab - I wasn't too careful in some of the chordal sections about specifying exactly which notes of the chord are hit and which aren't. Nor did I attempt to tab the exact strumming patterns. As always, use tab as a guide, listen to it yourself, and make it sound right!

The lyrics are here for reference only. I placed them close to where they occur but I certainly didn't try to get all the nuances and rhythm for the vocals in there, nor did I make a great attempt to make sure I got all the words right.

I should also note this is only the Ian Anderson acoustic part. There's a few small Martin Barre parts which I will leave as an exercise for the reader.

Now that I got all the disclaimers out of the way, go for it. david nason"

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INTRO:

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g: |-----|-----|
D: |-----|-----|
Bb:|----2----2-----0-0-0---|----5----5-----0---|
F: |---0-----0-----0-0-0---|---7-----7-----0---0---|
C: |-0-----4-----0-(2)-2-2-2---|-0-----7-----0-(5)---3---|
G: |-----3-3-3---|-----|

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g: |-----|-----|
D: |-----|-----|
Bb:|----2----2-----0-0-0---|----5----5-----0---0---|
F: |---0-----0-----0-0-0---|---7-----7-----0---0---|
C: |-0-----4-----0-(2)-2-2-2---|-0-----7-----5-----3---|
G: |-----3-3-3---|-----|

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VERSE:

Really don't mind if you sit this one
 My word's but a whisper, your deafness a
 I may make you feel, but I can't make you
 Your sperm's in the gutter, your love's in the

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g: |-2-----0-----|-----|
D: |-3-----1-----|-----|
Bb:|-2-----2-----|----0-0-0---|
F: |-0-----2-----|----0-0-0---|
C: |-----0-----|-0-(2)-2-2-2---|
G: |-----|-----|-3-3-3---|

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 ----- Just Dmaj and Amin chords - listen to the song for strum pattern

out ...
 shout ...
 think ...
 sink ... So you

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g: |-----|-----|
D: |-----|-----|
Bb:|----2----2-----0-0-0---|----2----2-----0-0-0---|
F: |---0-----0-----0-0-0---|---0-----0-----0-0-0---|
C: |-0-----4-----0-(2)-2-2-2---|-0-----4-----0-(2)-2-2-2---|
G: |-----3-3-3---|-----3-3-3---|

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BRIDGE 2:

And the love that I feel

g:	-2-----	-0-----0-0-0-----
D:	-3-----	-1-----0-1-0-----
Bb:	-2-----	-2-----2-2-2-----
F:	-0-----	-2-----2-2-2-----
C:	-----	-0-----0-0-0-----
G:	-----	-----

----- Just Dmaj and Amin chords with a little spice
 thrown in - listen to the song for the strumming
 pattern.

is so far away

g:	-0-----0-----	-0-----
D:	-1-----1-----	-0-----
Bb:	-0-----0-----	-0-----
F:	-2-----0-(2)-----	-2-----0-(2)-----
C:	-3-----3-----	-2-----0-(2)-----
G:	-----	-0-----0-(3)-

----- Just Cmaj and Emin chords with a little spice
 thrown in - listen to the song for the strumming
 pattern.

I'm a bad dream that I just ha-a-a-a-a-d to-

g:	-3-----	-2-0-2-0-2-0-2-0-----
D:	-3-----	-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-----
Bb:	-0-----	-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-----
F:	-0-----	-4-----
C:	-2-----	-4-----
G:	-3-----	-----

----- Just Gmaj and F#maj chords with a little spice
 thrown in - listen to the song for the strumming
 pattern.

da-a-a-a-a-y

g:	-2-0-2-0-2-0-2-0-----	-2-0-2-0-2-----
D:	-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-----	-2-2-2-2-2-----
Bb:	-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-----	-3-3-3-3-3-----
F:	-0-----	-4-----
C:	-----	-4-----
G:	-----	-2-----

----- Just Dmaj and F#maj chords with a little spice
 thrown in - listen to the song for the strumming
 pattern.

and you shake your head you say it's a

g:	-3-----	-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-----
D:	-3-----	-2-2-2-0-0-0-0-(2)-----
Bb:	-0-----	-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-----
F:	-0-----	-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-----
C:	-2-----	-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-----
G:	-3-----	-----

----- Just Gmaj and Amaj chords with a little spice
 thrown in - listen to the song for the strumming
 pattern.

shame

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g: |-----|-----|
D: |-----|-----|
Bb: |--2-----2-----0-0-0--|--2-----2-----0-0-0--|
F: |--0-----0-----0-0-0--|--0-----0-----0-0-0--|
C: |--0-----4-----0-(2)-2-2-2--|--0-----4-----0-(2)-2-2-2--|
G: |-----3-3-3--|-----3-3-3--|

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g: |-----|-----|-----|
D: |-----6-6-6--|-----6-6-6--|-----|
Bb: |--5-----5-----7-7-7--|--5-----5-----7-7-7--|-----|
F: |--7-----7-----7-7-7--|--7-----7-----7-7-7--|-----|
C: |--0-----7-----0-(5)-5-5-5--|--0-----7-----0-(5)-5-5-5--|-----|
G: |-----|-----|-----|

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VERSE:

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Spin me back down the years          and the
days of my youth
Draw the lace and black curtain          and shut
out the whole truth
Spin me down the long ages let them sing the song

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g: |-----|-----|
D: |-----6-6-6--|-----6-6-6--|
Bb: |--5-----5-----7-7-7--|--5-----5-----7-7-7--|
F: |--7-----7-----7-7-7--|--7-----7-----7-7-7--|
C: |--0-----7-----0-(5)-5-5-5--|--0-----7-----0-(5)-5-5-5--|
G: |-----|-----|

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*Note that there's a subtle, but important change
in the rhythm used for the Dmin at this point
(as opposed to the previous two measures).*

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g: |--5-----|-----2-----0-(2)-----|
D: |--6-----|-----3-----3-----3-----|
Bb: |--5-----|-----2-----0-(2)-----|
F: |--0-----|-----0-----0-----0-----|
C: |-----|-----|-----|
G: |-----|-----|-----|

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*Just Fmaj and Dmaj chords with a little spice
thrown in - listen to the song for the strumming
pattern.*