

# Big Yellow Taxi

Words & Music by:  
Joni Mitchell

*This was originally played in open E tuning [E B E G# B E], allowing for a straight barre for most of the chords. A full transcription of the open tuning version is in the November 2006 issue of Acoustic Guitar. To approximate it in standard tuning, you can play around with adding the 6 to the chords or alternate I & IV in rhythm.*

A A6 A A6 A | B B6 B B6 B  
Aadd9/E E7 Aadd9/E E [3x]

A E  
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.  
A B E  
With a pink hotel, a boutique and a swinging hot spot.

CHORUS:

E5 EM7 Aadd9/E  
Don't it always seem to go that you don't know

E  
What you've got 'til it's gone?

A B E  
They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.

They took all the trees and put them in a tree museum.  
And they charged all the people a dollar and a half just to see them

CHORUS:

Hey, Farmer, Farmer, put away that D.D.T., now.  
Give me spots on my apples but leave me the birds and the bees, please!

CHORUS:

Late last night, I heard the screen door slam.  
And a big yellow taxi took away my old man.

CHORUS: [2x]