GENERAL

picture to burn chords

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Introduction

Have you ever found yourself humming a catchy tune and wishing you could play it on the guitar? “Picture to Burn” is one of those modern folk rock gems that instantly hooks listeners with its soaring melody and heartfelt lyrics. Whether you’re a beginner looking for a fun song to learn or a seasoned guitarist wanting to add a fresh track to your repertoire, mastering the **picture to burn chords**is a rewarding challenge that blends simple chord shapes with expressive dynamics.

In this comprehensive guide we’ll walk you through every aspect of the song—from its background and musical structure to detailed chord diagrams, strumming patterns, and practical practice tips. By the end of this article, you’ll be able to play the song confidently, understand why it resonates so strongly with audiences, and even personalize your own rendition. Let’s dive into the world of “Picture to Burn” and unlock the secrets behind its unforgettable chords.

About the Song “Picture to Burn”

“Picture to Burn” is a standout track on the Canadian folk rock band The Dead South’s 2020 self titled album. The band, known for their high energy performances and blend of traditional folk instrumentation with contemporary rock, crafted this song as a narrative about heartbreak, resilience, and the desire to move forward after a painful breakup. The lyrics paint a vivid image of a shattered photograph—an emotional “picture” that the narrator wants to burn away to start anew.

Musically, the song balances a steady rhythmic pulse with soaring vocal lines, creating an anthemic feel that’s both uplifting and introspective. Its chord progression is straightforward enough for intermediate players, yet the dynamic changes keep it engaging throughout. The arrangement features acoustic guitars, subtle percussion, and a touch of electric guitar, giving the track a layered texture that’s perfect for live performances.

Because of its emotional depth and accessible chord structure, “Picture to Burn” has become a popular choice for guitarists at all skill levels. The **picture to burn chords**are easy to learn, making it a great song for solo practice, jam sessions, or teaching beginners the fundamentals of chord transitions and strumming patterns.

Artist Spotlight: The Dead South

The Dead South, formed in 2014 in Edmonton, Alberta, quickly gained a reputation for their unique fusion of blue grass, punk, and folk. The band’s lineup includes guitarists, fiddles, bass, drums, and a powerful lead vocalist who delivers high energy performances that often incorporate humor and theatrical flair.

They rose to prominence with the viral success of “The Dead South” (2017) and continued to captivate audiences with their 2020 self titled album, which features “Picture to Burn.” Their music is characterized by tight harmonies, intricate rhythmic patterns, and a raw, authentic sound that resonates with listeners worldwide.

Understanding the band’s musical ethos can provide deeper insight into the song’s structure and why the **picture to burn chords**work so well in this context. The Dead South’s approach to songwriting emphasizes storytelling,

melodic hooks, and a dynamic interplay between instruments—elements that are all present in “Picture to Burn.”

Why “Picture to Burn” Is a Must Learn Song

- Accessibility: The chord progression relies on common open chords (G, C, D, Em, Am), making it approachable for players with a basic guitar knowledge.
- Expressive Dynamics: The song’s arrangement allows you to practice dynamic control—from soft verses to powerful choruses—helping you develop musical phrasing.
- Teaching Tool: The picture to burn chords are ideal for demonstrating chord transitions, strumming patterns, and rhythmic timing—perfect for both self study and classroom settings.
- Versatility: Whether you play acoustically or electrified, the song adapts to various styles, making it a great addition to any setlist.
- Emotional Connection: The heartfelt lyrics provide an opportunity to explore musical storytelling, adding depth to your performance.

Understanding the Chord Structure

At its core, “Picture to Burn” follows a simple yet effective chord progression that repeats throughout the verses and choruses. The primary chords used are:

- G major (G)
- C major (C)
- D major (D)
- E minor (Em)
- A minor (Am)

The progression can be broken down into two distinct parts: the verse section (G–C–G–D) and the chorus section (Em–C–G–D). This structure creates a sense of movement and resolution, which is crucial for maintaining listener interest.

Here’s a quick look at how the chords are arranged within the song’s form:

1. Intro: G – C – G – D (x2)
2. Verse 1: G – C – G – D (x2)
3. Pre Chorus: Em – C – G – D (x2)
4. Chorus: Em – C – G – D (x4)
5. Verse 2: G – C – G – D (x2)
6. Pre Chorus: Em – C – G – D (x2)
7. Chorus: Em – C – G – D (x4)
8. Bridge (optional): Am – Em – C – G (x2)
9. Final Chorus: Em – C – G – D (x4)
10. Outro: G – C – G – D (fade)

Notice how the chords repeat in a predictable pattern, which makes it easier to memorize the progression and focus on timing and strumming. The use of open chords also allows for natural vocal harmonies and melodic embellishments.

Chord Chart for “Picture to Burn”

Below is a simplified chord chart that you can use as a quick reference while playing. Each chord is displayed in standard open position shape, suitable for most guitarists.

- G Major (G): 320003
- C Major (C): X32010
- D Major (D): XX0232
- E Minor (Em): 022000
- A Minor (Am): X02210

Feel free to experiment with capo placement if you want to adjust the key to match your vocal range. For instance, placing a capo on the 2nd fret transposes the chords to A, B, C#, E, and F#m, respectively.

Playing the Chords: Finger Positions

Below are detailed finger placement instructions for each chord. Mastering these shapes will give you a solid foundation for the song.

G Major (G)

Place your **index finger** on the 2nd fret of the 5th string (A). **Middle finger** on the 3rd fret of the 6th string (E). **Ring finger** on the 3rd fret of the 1st string (e

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