

Now we will work on an interesting style of back-up for fiddle tunes called “Sock” rhythm or “Texas Style” rhythm. Instead of the old Sally Gooden chords where we used a G primarily and then a quick D at the turn around points, we will now use a chord new pattern. It is one that creates a walking bass line and also brilliant chord voices to augment the melody of Sally Gooden.

Let me go over some of the chords. I have marked the fingerings on the chords that you may not be familiar with. The strings that are not held have an “x” on them indicating that the string is to be muted or deadened. The Eb9 and D9 chord are the same just one fret different. Use the 3rd finger to lay across the 1st three strings. Then the 2nd finger crosses over the 5th to the 6th string and the 1st finger covers the 4th string. The note you are muting out on the 5th string is actually the root of the chord. You can play it though I don’t and you wont need to.

You don’t really need to read all the notes in the lead sheet because the pattern is a Bass—Strum pattern. Hold the chord in the sequence written and hit the lowest bass note held then strum. Doing this will create the walking bass line.

Have fun with this classic back-up part and learn it well.

Bye for now and see you at my Kamp in Tennessee in June!

Steve Kaufman

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