

Hello pianists & teachers,

Blackbird has long been one of my favorite songs. The Beatles recorded it back in 1968 for the White Album.

More recently, Beyonce covered Blackbird for her new album. It's worth noting that Paul McCartney has said that "blackbird" refers to black girls that were active in the civil rights movement so it seems fitting for Beyonce to bring it to a new generation of listeners.

Happy playing!

*Rhonda*

P.S. I'd love to hear from you!  
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# Blackbird

G Am G

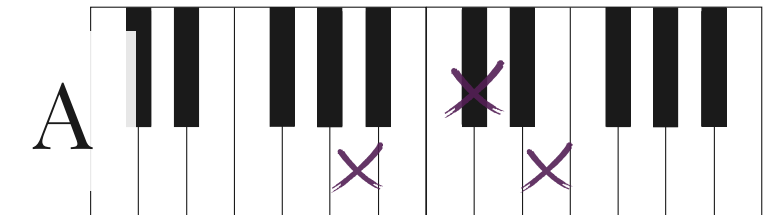
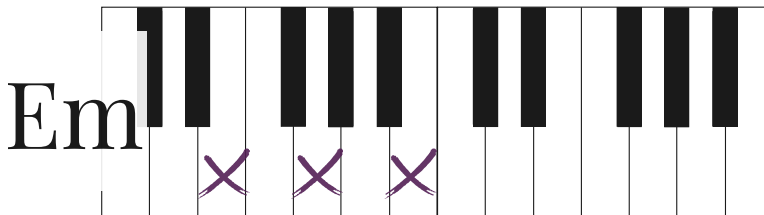
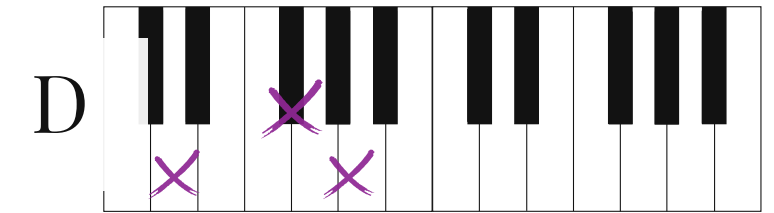
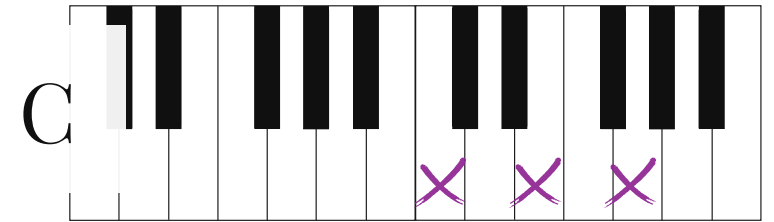
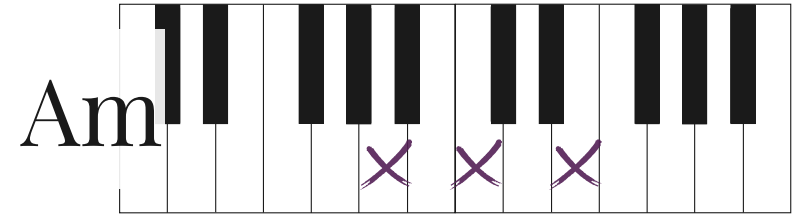
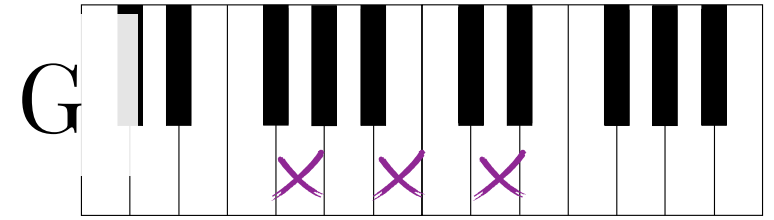
Blackbird singing in the dead of night

C D Em

Take these broken wings and learn to fly


D C  
All your life

G A D G  
You were only waiting for this moment to arise.





A

# Notes for teaching "Blackbird"

 Spend some time listening to Paul McCartney's recording and comparing/contrasting it with Beyonce's cover. This is a great active listening assignment!

 The guitar accompaniment was inspired by Bach's Bourree in E minor

 Some have falsely stated that you can hear a metronome clicking on the original recording but the Beatles always insisted that what you hear is Paul's foot tapping. Can your students hear it?

 Paul McCartney. said about Beyonce's cover "I think she does a magnificent version of it and it reinforces the civil rights message that inspired me to write the song in the first place. I think Beyoncé has done a fab version and would urge anyone who has not heard it yet to check it out. You are going to love it!"

Try playing the roots of each chord in the left hand and chords in the right hand.