

Chicago

“Chicago” has been a jazz standard since it was introduced in the early 1920s. It was written by the great Fred Fisher, who also wrote “Peg o’ My Heart,” “Dardanella,” “Daddy, You’ve Been a Mother to Me,” and “Your Feet’s Too Big.” “Chicago” has a slightly unusual form where only the first four measures are repeated. The melody is built around a repetitive syncopated rhythmic riff. You’ll hear it again and again with the lyrics “Chi-ca-go, Chi-ca-go.” As you work through the melody, try to get that same swing and bounce. Play it like you’d sing it. You’ll notice that I pretty significantly “swingify” the fast version of the melody. The rhythm just seemed to demand it!

Lots and lots of chords in the accompaniment department! They’re all great forms that you’ll use again and again in this style of music. In some cases I gave you more than one form to choose from

We added a break in the rhythm after the first chorus. Jason plays a rhythm click during the break to keep the band honest, rhythm-wise. In a real life band situation, probably only the soloist would be playing here. You need to keep the rhythm in your head and come in at the right time at the top of the next chorus.

The image displays 21 guitar chord diagrams arranged in three rows of seven. Each diagram shows a six-string guitar fretboard with fingerings (1-4) and fret numbers (7, 8, 3, 4, 5). Some diagrams have circled numbers or 'x' marks on strings.

- Row 1: F (7), F#dim7 (7), Gm7 (8), C7 (8), C7 (8), F (8), F#dim7 (4)
- Row 2: Dm7 (7), G7 (7), Am7 (3), D7 (3), Gm7 (3), C7 (3), A7 (4)
- Row 3: A7 (5), Dm (3), D7 (3), Gm (7), Bbm (3), F6 (4), G#dim7 (4)

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Key of F, CD tracks 21-23

F. Fisher, 1923

F F#dim Gm7 C7 Gm7 C7

Chi - ca - go, Chi - ca - go, that tod - dl - in' town, — that tod - dl - in' town, — Chi-

4 3 2 3 4 3 2 1

T 8 7 5 5 8 7 5 5 7 8 7 5 3 3 7 8 7 5 3 3 8

A B

5 Gm7 C7 Gm7 C7 F Dm7 Gm7 C7

ca - go, — Chi - ca - go, — I'll show you a - round, — I love it,

3 2 4 1 2 1 4 1 3 2

7 5 5 8 7 5 5 2 3 2 7 3 3 7 7 5

9 F G7

Bet your bot - tom dol - lar you lose the blues — in Chi - ca - go, — Chi - ca - go, — the

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 1 2 3 3 2

3 5 7 8 3 5 3 7 3 5 5 3 7 7 5 5 7 7 5 5 7

13 Gm7 C7 Gm7 C7 Am7 D7 Gm7 C7

town that Bil - ly Sun - day could not shut down. — On

4 1 3 2 4 1 4 3 2 1

8 3 7 5 8 8 3 8 7 5 3 3 8