Darktown Strutters' Ball

Written by Shelton Brooks (1917)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3smLrKegcw

EASY VERSION

INTRO Vamp: [C] [Am] [Dm] [G7] (2 times)

[C]I've got some [G7]good news, Honey
An [C]invitation to the [G7]Darktown Ball
It's a very [Gdim]swell af[G7]fair
All the [C] "high-brows" will be [G7]there

I'll wear my [C]high silk hat and [G7]frock tail coat
You wear your [C]Paris gown and your [G7]new silk shawl
There ain't no [Gdim]doubt a[G7]bout it, Babe
We'll be the [C]best dressed in the [G7]hall

I'll be [C]down to get you in a taxi, [A7]Honey
[D7]You better be ready 'bout half past eight
[G7]Now Dearie, don't be late
I want to [C]be there when the [G7]band starts playing

Re[C]member when we get there, [A7]Honey
[D7]The two-steps I'm goin' to have 'em all
Goin' to [F]dance out both my [B7]shoes
When they [C]play the "Jelly Roll [A7]Blues"
[D7]Tomorrow night, at the [G7]Darktown Strutter's [C]Ball [G7]

Vamp: [C] [Am] [Dm] [G7] (2 times)

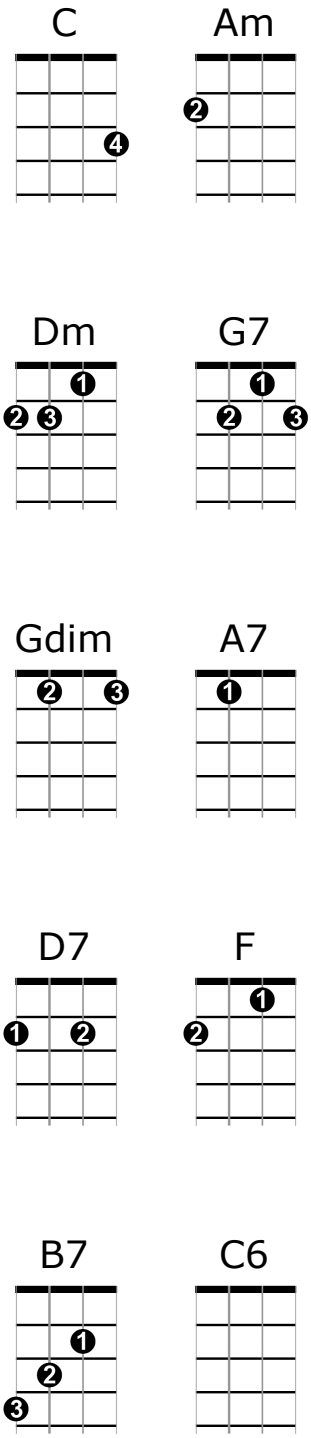
[C]We'll meet our [G7]high-toned neighbors
An [C]exhibition of the [G7] "Baby Dolls"
And each one [Gdim]will do their [G7]best
Just to [C]outclass all the [G7]rest

And there'll be [C]dancers from ev'ry [G7]foreign land
The [C]Classic, Buck and Wing, and the [G7]Wooden Clog
We'll win that [Gdim]fifty [G7]dollar prize
When we [C]step out and "Walk The [G7]Dog"

I'll be [C]down to get you in a taxi, [A7]Honey
[D7]You better be ready 'bout half past eight
[G7]Now Dearie, don't be late
I want to [C]be there when the [G7]band starts playing

(Ella Fitzgerald Alternative Verse)
Re[C]member when you get there, [A7]Honey
[D7]Shim sham wins them all
[F]Dance all over my [B7]shoes
When the [C]band plays the "Jelly Roll [A7]Blues"
[D7]Set 'em all alight, at the [G7]Darktown Strutters' [C]Ball

OUTRO: [C]-[F] [C]-[G7]-[C] [C6]



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CHORD MELODY VERSION

INTRO Vamp: [C] [Cdim] [Cdim(2)] [Dm7] [Dm] [G7] (2 times)

[C]I've got [C6]some [G7]good news, [G7sus2]Ho[G]ney
An [C]in[C6]vi[C]tation to [C6]the [G7]Dark[G7sus2]town [G]Ball
It's a very [Gdim]swell af[G7]fair
All the [C]"high-brows" [Cdim]will [Cdim(2)]be [G7]there

I'll wear my [C]high [C6]silk [C]hat and [G7]frock [G7sus2]tail [G]coat
You wear your [C]Par[C6]is [C]gown and your [G7]new [G7sus2]silk [G]shawl
There ain't no [Gdim]doubt a[G7]bout it, Babe
We'll be the [C]best dressed [Cdim]in [Cdim(2)]the [G7]hall

I'll be [C]down to get [C6]you [C]in [C6]a [C]taxi, [A7]Honey
You [D7-D7(2)]better be ready 'bout half past eight
[G7-G7sus2]Now Dearie, don't be late
I want to [C]be there [Cdim]when [Cdim(2)]the [Dm7]band [Dm]starts [G7]playing

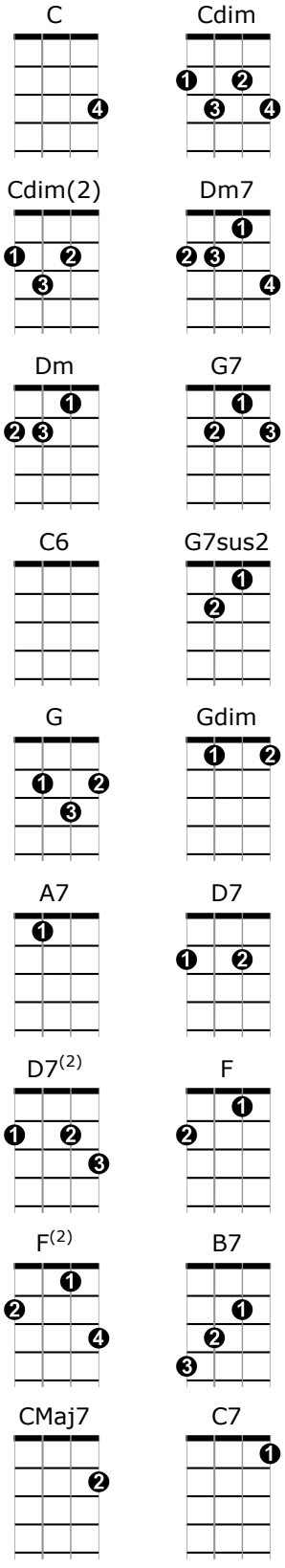
Re[C-C6]member when we get there, [A7]Honey
The [D7-D7(2)]two-steps I'm goin' to have 'em all
Goin' to [F-F(2)]dance out both my [B7]shoes
When they [C]play the [C]"Jel [CMaj7] ly [C7]Roll [A7]Blues"
[Dm-Dm7]Tomorrow night, at the [G7]Darktown [G7sus2]Strut[G7]ter's [C]Ball [G7]

Vamp: [C] [Cdim] [Cdim(2)] [Dm7] [Dm] [G7] (2 times)

[C-C6]We'll meet our [G7]high-toned [G7sus2]neigh[G]bors
An [C-C6]exhibition of the [G7]"Ba[G7sus2]by [G]Dolls"
And each one [Gdim]will do their [G7]best
Just to [C]outclass [Cdim]all [Cdim(2)]the [G7]rest

And there'll be [C-C6]dancers from ev'ry [G7]for[G7sus2]eign [G]land
The [C-C6]Classic, Buck and Wing, and the [G7]Wood[G7sus2]en [G]Clog
We'll win that [Gdim]fifty [G7]dollar prize
When we [C]step out and [Cdim] "Walk [Cdim(2)]The [G7]Dog"

I'll be [C-C6]down to get you in a taxi, [A7]Honey
You [D7-D7(2)]better be ready 'bout half past eight
[G7-G7sus2]Now Dearie, don't be late
I want to [C]be there [Cdim]when [Cdim(2)]the [Dm7]band [Dm]starts [G7]playing

(Ella Fitzgerald Alternative Verse)
Re[C-C6]member when you get there, [A7]Honey
[D7-D7(2)]Shim sham wins them all
[F-F(2)]Dance all over my [B7]shoes
When the [C]band plays the [C]"Jel [CMaj7] ly [C7]Roll [A7]Blues"
[Dm-Dm7]Set 'em all alight, at the [G7]Darktown [G7sus2]Strut[G7]ter's [C]Ball

OUTRO: [C] [Cdim] [Cdim(2)] [Dm7] [Dm] [C] [C6]