

Little Maggie *key of B, capo 4*

The key of B is a little unusual in just about every style of music except bluegrass. The B major scale has five sharps! It's no big deal for guitarists and banjo players. We usually play out of G and capo at fret 4. That's what we'll do here.

"Little Maggie" has that unusual flat seven chord, just like "Old Joe Clark," in the third full measure. (Don't count the two beat pickup measure.) If you're playing uncapoed in the key of B, that flat seven chord is an A. If you're capoed at the fourth fret, it's an F chord. The flat seven chord gives the chord progression and the song its unique feel.

The solo is a bit more challenging than others we've had so far. Play through it a few times before you try playing along with the slow track. Be sure to follow the suggested fretting finger numbers, at least at first. They're shown below the standard notation.

For the first half of the solo your fretting hand will stay quite close to the held chord positions. You'll move out of position in measures 8 and 9, and then back to the chord positions for the remainder of the solo.

Once you're comfortable playing the rhythm to "Little Maggie" out of G position capoed at fret 4, try capoing at fret 2 and playing it out of the key of A. To do that you'll need to substitute A chords for the Gs, Gs for the Fs, and Es for the Ds. It feels different and sounds different too. If you're really ambitious, try transposing the solo from G to A. It's doable, with some effort, and will give you a slightly different sounding solo.

Bill Evans on vocals.

Chords shown should be capoed at fret 4.

G F
1. Over yonder stands Little Maggie,
G D G
With a dram glass in her hand.
G F
She's drinkin' away her troubles,
G D G
She's courtin' some other man.

2. Oh, how can I ever stand it,
Just to see those two blue eyes?
A' shinin' like two diamonds,
Like two diamonds in the sky.

3. Last time I saw little Maggie,
She was sittin' on the banks of the sea.
With a forty-four around her,
And a banjo on her knee.

4. Lay down your last gold dollar,
Lay down your gold watch and chain.
Little Maggie's gonna dance for daddy,
Listen to that old banjo ring.

5. Pretty flowers were made for blooming,
Pretty stars were made to shine.
Pretty girls were made for a boy's love,
Surely, Maggie was made for mine.

6. March me down to the station,
With my suitcase in my hand.
I'm going away for to leave you,
I'm going to some far distant land.

7. I'd rather be in some dark hollow,
Where the sun don't ever shine.
Than to know you're another man's darling,
And no longer a darling of mine.

8. Sometime I have a nickel,
And sometimes I have a dime.
Sometime I have ten dollars,
Just to pay little Maggie's fine.

9. Go away, go away little Maggie,
Go and do the best that you can.
I'll get me another woman,
You can get you another man.