

You'll Never Walk Alone

By Ted Greene, from his *California Vintage Guitar* seminar on May 18, 2003
Transcription by Robert Smith

Ted left us quite a bit of materials on this beautiful tune written by Rogers and Hammerstein in the 1940s. On the TedGreene.com site, interested students can find Ted's original lead sheet in key of E, as well as Paul Vachon's great write-up with grids & notation, as well as Ted's harmonic analysis of this tune in the key of C:

[TedGreene.com – You'll Never Walk Alone, Ted Greene Arrangement, 1994-08-14.pdf](#)

The video of "Ted playing at Joey Backenstoe's Wedding, Part 1" shows Ted playing this tune in 1989 in the key of B flat on a low-tuned guitar:

[YouTube – Ted Greene – Joey B's Wedding](#)

"You'll Never Walk Alone" begins at 1:44

Also, Ted plays this in the key of D on the 1997 "Messin' Around at Home -I" recording:

[TedGreene.com - Messin' Around at Home - I](#)

"You'll Never Walk Alone" in on part 1, and begins at 18:03

Finally, the 2003-05-18 video of Ted's *California Vintage Guitar* Seminar captures him playing this tune in the key of C# on a standard tuned Tele, in a very different arrangement from the "Joey B's Wedding" version:

[YouTube – Ted Greene – CVG Seminar Part 5](#)

"You'll Never Walk Alone" begins at 8:42

This transcription is intended to capture in chord grid form Ted's voicing choices and overall arrangement for those who are interested to dive into this 2003 CVG version of the tune. The fingering is fairly straightforward and can be readily seen on the video. Compared to many other of Ted's arrangements, the main chords used here are not too difficult, but I've personally found the piece challenging nonetheless, and in particular it provides a great basis to work on chord sustain, tone, and feeling.

Ted's version here is a great testimony to his unique sustain or "ringing" tone, or as Ted says in the video "electronic guitar" sound. This rendition is just filled with expression and depth which really brings out the spirit of hope of this song's lyrics. In the CVG video it is interesting to observe Ted shake his left hand wrist at the end of his performance, which seems to confirm the tight grip and finger pressure he must have used. Also note the "neck wobble" he uses to achieve this overall "ringing" sound.

This arrangement also incorporates an unusual (and improvised?) musical interlude between the two main verse/chorus sections in which Ted modulates from the initial C# key to the key of D. I'll leave it to the experts of the Forums to possibly explain what he is doing here harmonically to get from C# to D.

Finally, this arrangement has one of those legendary and oh-so-musical Ted Greene endings filled with movement and harmonic interest.

Watch/listen the videos/audio and work through the lesson sheets as you work on this transcription and you'll more fully appreciate this beautiful song and Ted's approach to it.

I hope you all get something useful and enjoyable out of this transcription.

~ Robert Smith

YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE - Arr. TED GREENE

Transcribed by Robert Smith

From California Vintage Guitar seminar, 2003-05-18
video part 5, starting @ 9:10 mark

Standard tuning
Starts in key of C#

(Sub for G# = D)

interlude and modulation to key of D---

C# C#7/6 F#9 G#13 C#9

Verse in key of D

play 2 times

D A7

A7 G D E → Em Amin Em C

x=held

G Em C Bmin Amin G F# F#

D7 G G A7b9 D Gm6

D Bmin F#min F#mi7 G7 A7 D D+

G E D D+ G7 D7b5 F#m A7 slide in

D F#m G/9 A13 D/9 F#7 Cm Gm6

D A9 D

10 9 8 7 5 5 3

slide in

emphasize

emphasize these x's

Hold this chord

all harmonics

P.S. also, great progression @ 7min 51 sec mark of same Part 5 video:

D → C[#]/5 G[#]7/1 C[#]/3 D[#]min/3 C[#]/5 F[#]min