

The Ballad of John Henry (Bruce Springsteen version)

Strumming Pattern: DD, DUDU

Tempo: NA

Chords Used:

D

A D A D F#

OR

D

A D A D F#

G

G B D G B G

G7

G B D G B F

A7

E A E G C# E

D
When John Henry was a little baby
Sittin' on his daddy's knee
He picked up a hammer and a little piece of steel
Said "Hammer's gonna be the death of me
Hammer's gonna be the death of me."

(D)
Well the Captain said to John Henry
"Gonna bring me a steam drill 'round
Gonna bring me a steam drill out on the job
Gonna whip that steel on down
Oh Lord gonna whip that steel on down."

(D)

John Henry said to his captain

"A man ain't nothin' but a man

And before I let that steam drill beat me down

I'll die with a hammer in my hand

Oh Lord I'll die with a hammer in my hand!"

(D)

John Henry he drove fifteen feet

The steam drill only made nine

But he hammered so hard he broke his heart

And he laid down his hammer and died

Oh Lord he laid down his hammer and died

(D)

They took John Henry to the graveyard

And they buried him in the sand

And every locomotive comes a roaring by

Says "There lies a steel driving man

Oh Lord there lies a steel driving man!"