Quick Notes: "Fortunate Son" by CCR Tempo: 130 bpm Tuning: D - G - C - F - A - D (low to high)

This song has 4 basic parts, which are:

The Intro The Verse The Chorus The Interlude

The intro can be found below. You are free to finger this as you see fit.



As far as logical arrangement, the legato slides can be played with either your 2nd or 3rd finger. I find my 2nd finger to the best digit for this, mainly because my 1st finger can easily grab the high E strings (tuned down to D). When it comes to the 3rd and 4th measures, you can use your 2nd finger for the hammer-ons. The 3rd measure features a second fret note on the high E (tuned down to D) so you can use your 3rd finger there if you wish. I think this run is probably a matter of logical reasoning on your end as you play through it.

The verse is rather simple in terms of the progression. But, there are a few walks that you CAN play if you want:



I've placed an asterisk on the walks. Those can be avoided if you want. The PDF will show you an additional guitar that plays almost all whole notes as the backing guitar. The fingerings here are all based on power chord formations, so in every instance your 1st finger will cover the roots of each chord. You can then use your 3rd and 4th fingers to back up the rest of the power chord, or you can stick to your 4th finger covering two strings at a time. Just remember that your 1st finger should take care of any walks that are applied, which all take place on the low E (tuned down to D) in the progression.

If you don't want to practice the walk movement, you can quite literally just strum a basic progression of A5 - G5 - D5 - A5 over and over. The one thing I'd like to mention here is how the D5 is shown. This isn't a typo. It's considered "double stacking" - but you CAN just avoid the low E (tuned down to D) entirely if you want.

The chorus is arguably easier than the verse, but it also depends on whether or not you want to strum the walk in the verse. Here's the chorus:



The chorus is just A5 - E5 - D5 - A5, so once again you're working with power chords. The PDF will give you options for this as well in a lower position. Truth is, the real riffy aspect of this song is in the intro and interlude. The interlude is next:



This IS a bit challenging, but I cover a few methods on approaching this in the video. Long story short – you can avoid the open A string (tuned down to G) entirely if you want. There are two guitars playing here, where one just plays the fretted material and one plays what you see above. The interlude is repeated twice, and with the open notes on the A string (tuned down to G) you can see how it follows the backing track.

You can play everything in this repeated interlude using your 1st finger for the B string (tuned down to A) and your 2nd finger for the G string (tuned down to F) if you want. It's pretty easy when you just focus on the fretted notes.

If you use a guitar pic (I cover this in the video) I would recommend resting it on the A string (tuned down to G, sorry ha ha – just gotta make sure we remember this!) and using your 2nd and 3rd fingers on your picking hand to get those fretted notes in at the same time. Again, it's not at all required, and you would be free to not play with a guitar pic at ALL in this song. You could also just drop your pic during this part or hold it in your palm if you want.