Quick Notes: "Mary Jane's Last Dance" by Tom Petty Tempo: 88 bpm

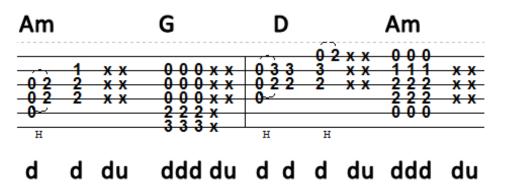
This one is a fun one to play and I there's enough in it for every level of guitarist. MOST people really want like the feel of the chord progression, but the riff in it is pretty basic in terms of what to play as well.

First, let's take a look at the overall way you might want to strum the song, because the progression is VERY consistent throughout.

Intro/Verse = Am - G - D - Am | Am - G - D - AmChorus = Em - Asus2 (and/or A) | Em - Asus2 (and/or A) - Asus2/G (or just G)

Now, the "and/or" part of the chorus. You can alternate between Asus2 – A – Asus2 – A etc. if you want, or just pick one or the other. I recommend alternating. The Asus2/G is just an Asus2 chord with a low "G" root on the 3rd fret low E string. If you aren't down for all that, you can just play a G Major chord to summarize the main chorus part and get back to the intro/verse/jam/solo theme, which is the same throughout.

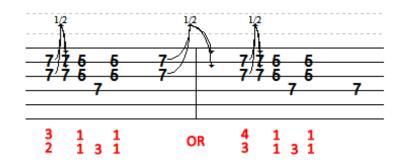
If you want a basic strumming approach, it's easy enough just playing DDD, DU over and over. If you want to be a LITTLE more particular, you can change that up to D, D, DU over each chord.



If you want to make use of some muting, you can take those patterns and do this:

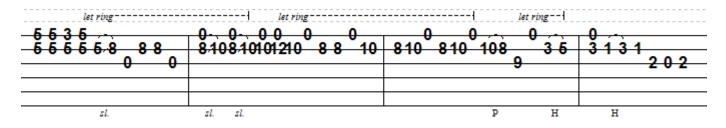
The other aspect of this song is the lead riff, which, in all honesty, can be played at any time throughout the entire backing track. Don't play it during the chorus, but anywhere else is fine.

Here's that, with some finger suggestions on how you might want to play it. Usually I say fingerings are relative to yourself, but I think the 3rd finger concept works better here:

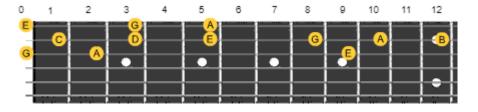


The more traditional manner would be the second option (these are "OR" options!) but eh.

The last part is what is considered the (rather short) solo part. Fingerings aren't included here because I just made use of some basic improv using JUST these notes, but I see no reason to play this solo part just like it is below. If you want to do so, feel free.



As a little bonus, I've plotted out the notes used in the lead solo/lick series:



This is almost every note from the C Major/Am scale, excluding the F note

(C = C, D, E, F, G, A, B || Am = A, B, C, D, E, F, G)

(C Pentatonic Major = C, D, E, G, A || A Pentatonic Minor = A, C, D, E, G)

Based on the notion that there are a ton of Am chords referenced in the song, we'd likely consider this in Am. However, they are both the same thing.

NOTE: In the actual studio recording, the song used an old trick that slightly changed the official tone of it, which resulted in speeding up <u>and</u> slowing down the audio heard in the mixed track. You won't be able to play right along (perfectly) with Petty's studio song for that reason. If you have ever tried and wondered what was up – that's why. *The More You Know* (ha ha)