

Krauss Country

SONG TITLE: KRAUSS COUNTRY

GENRE: COUNTRY

TEMPO: 88 BPM

KEY: C MAJOR

TECH FEATURES: OPEN CHORDS
DOUBLE-STOPS
LEAD MELODY PLAYING

COMPOSER: DEIRDRE CARTWRIGHT

PERSONNEL: STUART RYAN (GTR)
HENRY THOMAS (BASS)
NOAM LEDERMAN (DRUMS)

A $\text{♩} = 88$ Country

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B

0 3 0

OVERVIEW

'Krauss Country' is a composition written in the style of American bluegrass/country singer Alison Krauss. The guitar plays a melody line on single strings, which is then harmonised with double-stops. This is a common technique in country guitar.

STYLE FOCUS

Bluegrass music, a close cousin of country, is the folk music of America and can be fast and furious or soft and lyrical, as is the case with 'Krauss Country'. Bluegrass and country tunes are often played instrumentally, with one instrument taking the melody. In this case the guitar plays a simple melodic figure, which is then developed with double-stops where you play two notes simultaneously to create harmony. Major and minor thirds are particularly common harmonies in bluegrass and country. Make sure you listen to the backing track to hear the complementary guitar parts.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Country music is popular in the United States and has a long, rich heritage. Today there are several

branches of the style from modern country rock of Garth Brooks and Keith Urban to the more traditional bluegrass artists such as singer and violinist Alison Krauss. Bluegrass musicians are often virtuoso players who are comfortable playing at high speeds. A typical bluegrass band may use a combination of guitar, mandolin, fiddle (violin), dobro (slide guitar), double bass, mandolin, banjo and vocals. It is unusual to find drums in bluegrass, but they are usually found in the majority of country music groups. Alison Krauss and her band Union Station are regarded as the leaders in this field of country, thanks to their exciting readings of traditional bluegrass along with modern country. Bluegrass guitarists use acoustic instruments and either flatpick (use a plectrum) or fingerpick with the picking hand.

RECOMMENDED LISTENING

Alison Krauss and Union Station's *Live* (2002) is where you will hear a tight bluegrass band at their best. They are also masters of slower ballads, which serve to create a contrasting dynamic. Bluegrass guitar player Tony Rice is also highly regarded within the bluegrass genre, and his album *58597 The Bluegrass Guitar Collection* (2003) represents this modern master perfectly. Finally, listen to the grandfather of bluegrass, mandolinist Bill Monroe.

Krauss Country

Deirdre Cartwright

A ♩=88 Country

0 3 0 1 0 | 2 2 2 2 1 | 0 3 0 1 0

2 0 0 3 | 0 3 0 1 0 | 2 2 0 2 0

[4]

2 1 0 2 0 | 2 | 0 0 0 1 0 | 0 0 0 2 0

[7]

1 1 1 3 1 | 3 3 3 5 3 | 3 1 1 0 0 | 2 2 2 4 2 | 4 4 4 4 4 | 3 1 1 0 0 | 2

[10]

C

0 3 0 1 0 2 0 0 2 1 0 3 0 1 0 0

[13]

2 0 0 3 0 1 0 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0

[16]

2 1 1 0 2 0 2 1 0 1 2 1 0 2 0

[19]

2 2 0 2 0 1 0 3 0 1 0 2

Let ring -----|

[22]