

Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

Words and music by Suzanne Niles

Easy chords for
guitar or keyboard
(Key of D)



Song as recorded: Tempo 142, key of D-flat

This inconvenient key was chosen to fit my voice. To play in D-flat and match the video, tune your guitar or keyboard down a half-step and play these chords. Otherwise, just play it in D and sing a little higher!

D **G**
Over in Hawaii there's a fish in the sea

A7 **D**
A crazy quilt of colors with a big lazy "V"

G **A7** **D** **G**
White and black and gold put together so fine

E7 **A7**
When you see it you'll agree it's simply divine!

Verse 1



D **G**
But 'though you might be dazzled by the way that he's dressed

A7 **D**
There's something more amazing that you wouldn't have guessed

G **A7** **D** **G**
A fancy-dancy name that doesn't know when to stop

A7 **D**
Your tongue will do the hula and your brain will go POP!

Verse 2



A7
When you say

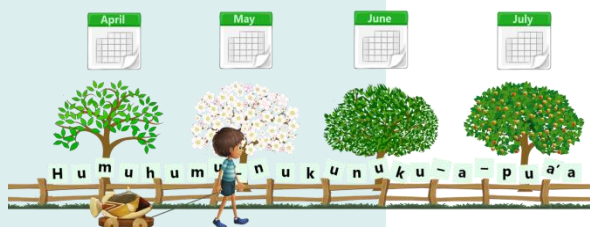
D **G**
Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

A7 **D**
Sing-a-ling the longest name you ever saw.

D **[D7]** **G** **E7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku give it a try

A7 **D**
If you start in April you'll be done in July.

Chorus 1

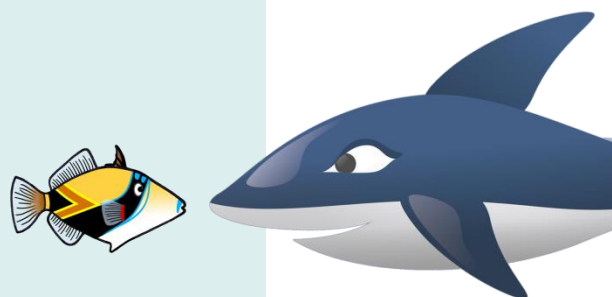


D **G**
He keeps his little trigger fin layin' down flat

A7 **D**
When trouble comes along he pops it open like that

G **A7** **D** **G**
It holds him in a hole so you can't pull him out

A7 **D**
And all that you can see is the tip of his snout.



Verse 3

A7
He's a ...

D **G**
Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

A7 **D**
Painted like a picture from his tail to his jaw

D **[D7]** **G** **E7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku, how do you do?

A7 **D**
Tricky little triggerfish lookin' at you!



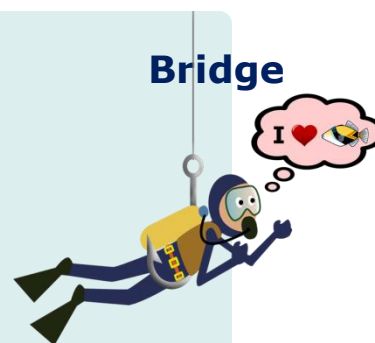
Chorus 2

G **A7** **D**
A classy little masterpiece under the waves

A7 **D**
Hangin' in the halls of the coral and caves

G **A7** **D** **G**
A dashing flash of color, then he's gone in a wink

E7 **A7**
But just one look and then you're hooked, and YOU'LL be tickled pink!



Bridge

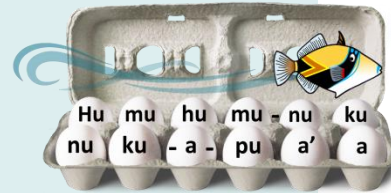
A7
And you'll say ...

D Humuhumu-nukunuku — **G** look at him go!

A7 A dozen little syllables all in a row **D**

D Humuhumu-nukunuku **[D7]** **G** clickety-clack **E7**

A7 A name like a train rollin' by on the track! **D**



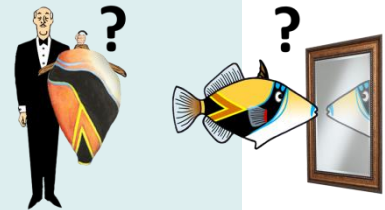
Chorus 3

D Now try to guess the meaning — **G** what could it be?

A7 Something like “The Painted Fish” or “King of the Sea”? **D**

G A name to fit the fashion, the glamorous grace **A7** **D** **G**

E7 That fine designer suit or the fabulous face **A7**



Verse 4

A7 BUT NO! You see ...

D Humu has a front kinda rounded and blunt **G**

A7 And when he's out of water makes a sound like a grunt **D**

G So someone thought this gorgeous little fish-a-ma-jig **A7** **D** **G**

A7 Oughtta have a name that means ... **D** “A nose like a pig” !



Verse 5

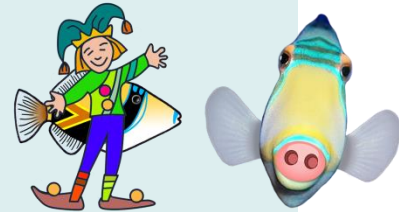
D **G**
Humuhumu-nukunuku-a-pua'a

Chorus 4

A7 **D**
Sing-a-ling the longest name you ever saw

D **[D7]** **G** **E7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku jiggety-jig

A7 **D**
Clothes like a jester and a nose like a pig!



D **G**
Humuhumu-nukunuku down by the beach

Chorus 5

A7 **D**
A body like art and a name like a speech

D **[D7]** **G** **E7**
Humuhumu-nukunuku — give it a try

A7 **D**
If you start in April you'll be done in July!



D
Humuhumu

Outro

G
Nukunuku

A7 **D**
A-pua'a — here we go

D (G)
Humuhumu

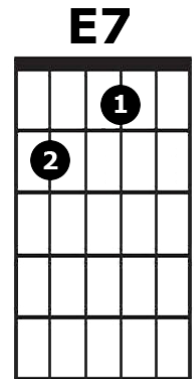
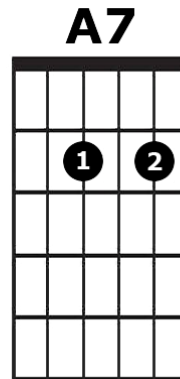
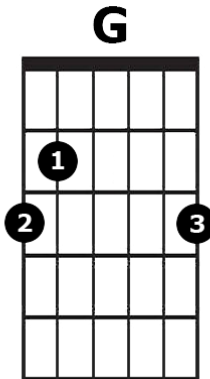
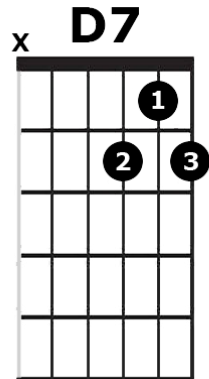
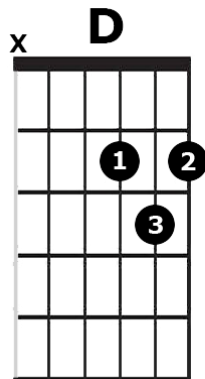
(Try the red chords for a different, richer harmony)

G (E7)
Nukunuku

A7 **D**
A-pua'a — now you know!



Chord Reminders



Optional
*Won't sound bad if you
leave it out, but adds a nice
flavor before a switch to G*

