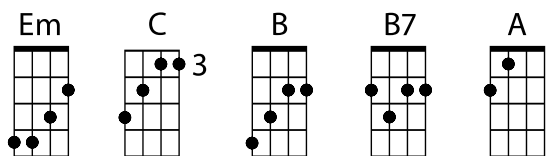


It Don't Mean a Thing if it ain't got that Swing: Duke Ellington

This song is rarely sung with the verse which is such a shame as the verse really works well with the chorus. This song was not the start of 'swing' music (that didn't happen till the mid 1930's it did however bring the word swing into musical vernacular.

It is possible to play simpler chord versions of C/D and B but its good to practice these chords in the second position



Verse

Em	C / B7	Em	C / B7
What good is melody? What good is music?			
Em	C / B7	Em	C / B7
If it ain't possessing something sweet			
Em	C / B7	Em	C / B7
It ain't the melody It ain't the music			
A	A7	D7	D7 / B7
There's something else that makes this song complete			

Riff

Em / D C / B7 x 2 Try playing this riff with second position C shape chords sliding up to the D

Chorus

Em	Em	C / B7	Em
It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing			
A	D7	G	B7
Doo wah doo wah, Doo wah doo wah, Doo wah doo wah whey			
Em	Em	C / B7	Em
Well it don't mean a thing all you got to do is sing			
A	D7	G	G
Doo wah doo wah, Doo wah doo wah, Doo wah doo wah			
G7	G7	C-----	
It makes no difference if it's sweet or hot			
----- A	A7	D7 B7	
Just give that rhythm every little thing you got YES			
Em	Em	C / B7	Em
It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing			
A	D7	G	B7
Doo wah doo wah, Doo wah doo wah, Doo wah doo wah whey			

In the chorus where the **Em** is in bold it is possible to play a Descending phrase within the Em chord. Change the chord Every 2 beats going from left to right with the chords opposite. Also in the grey marked section descend the C chord second position down to the A chord changing chord on every beat.

