

# Start Me Up

Words and Music by Mick Jagger and Keith Richards  
from The Rolling Stones - *Tattoo You*

Transcribed by Jim Schusted

Gtr. 1: Open G tuning:  
(low to high) D-G-D-G-B-D

Gtr. 3: Tune down 1 step:  
(low to high) D-G-C-F-A-D

## Intro

Moderately ♩ = 124

C Fadd9/C C Fadd9/C C F/C B♭5 B♭6 B♭5 B♭6B♭5 B♭6 B♭5 B♭ C

\*Gtr. 1 (clean)

\*Telecaster with the 6th string removed.

Gtr. 2 (slight dist.)

F/C Fadd9/C C Fadd9/C C Fadd9/C B♭ Eb/B♭ B♭5 B♭ Eb/B♭ B♭ C

1. If you

\*\*T-----4

\*\*T = Thumb on 6th string

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Verse

C F C F C F Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb C

start me up, if you start me up, I'll nev - er stop. If you

Rhy. Fig. 1

End Rhy. Fig. 1

Rhy. Fig. 1A

End Rhy. Fig. 1A

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1 (2 times)

F C F C F Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb C

start me up, if you start me up, I'll nev - er stop. I've been

F C F C F Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb C

nin' hot, uh. You got me tick - in', gon - na blow my top. If you

F C Fadd9 C Fadd9 Bb5 Eb/Bb Bb Eb/Bb Bb C

start me up, uh, if you start me up, I'll nev-er stop, nev-er stop, nev-er stop, I'll nev-er stop.

Gr. 1

Gr. 2

let ring - 4

Chorus

D5 F5 F#us2 Eb5 D5 C5 D5 F5 F#us2 Eb5 D5 C5

You make a grown man cry. You make a grown man cry.

Rhy. Fig. 2

Rhy. Fig. 2A

D5 F5 F#m2 Eb5 D5 C5 F/C C T F/C C Eb5 C

You make a grown - man cry. \_\_\_\_\_ Spread out the oil, \_\_\_\_\_ the gas - o - line. \_\_\_\_\_  
You make a grown - man cry.)

End Rhy. Fig. 2  
let ring - 1

End Rhy. Fig. 2A  
T - - 1 T

Eb5 D5 G5 Eb5 D5 C F C  
I walk smooth, ride in a mean, mean ma - chine.

let ring - -

let ring - -

F C F B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /B $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /B $\flat$  B $\flat$  B $\flat$ 5 B $\flat$ 5 C

Start it up. 2. If you  
let ring----- let ring-----

Verse

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1 (3 times)

C F C F C F B $\flat$ 5 B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /B $\flat$  B $\flat$  C

start me up. Kick on the start-er, give it all you got, you got, you got. 1  
(Start me up.)

Gr. 2

F C F C F B $\flat$ 5 B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /B $\flat$  B $\flat$  C

\* (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (C5) (C) (F/C) (C) (D)

can com-pete with the rid-ers in the oth-er heats. If you

Gr. 3 (clean)

*mf*  
w/ chorus & reverb  
let ring-----

Gr. 2

\*Symbols in parentheses reflect chord names relevant to detuned Gr. 3.



F (G) C (D) F (G) C (D) F (G) Bb5 (C5) Bb (C) Eb/Bb (F/C) Bb (C) C (D)

rough it up, 'n' if you like it, you can slide it up, slide it up, slide it up, slide it up.

let ring - - - - -

let ring - - - - -

**Chorus**

Gr. 1 & 2: w/ Rhy. Figs. 2 & 2A  
Gr. 3: tacet

D5 F5 Fsus2 Eb5 D5 C5 D5 F5 Fsus2 Eb5 D5 C5 F/C C F/C C Eb5 C

Don't make a grown man cry. Don't make a grown man cry. Don't make a grown man cry. My eyes di-late, my lips go green.

Don't make a grown man cry. Don't make a grown man cry.) My eyes di-late, my lips go green.

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1

Eb5 D5 Eb5 D5 C F C F

If you My hands are greas-y, she's a mean, mean ma-chine.

Verse

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1 (1 1/2 times)

Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb C C F C F C F

Start it up. 3. Mm. start me up. Now, give it

Gr. 2

Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb C F C F C F

all you got, you got to nev - er, nev - er, nev - er stop. Slide it up. Whooh! Oh, ba - by, why don't ya

Chorus

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 2 (1st 4 meas.)  
Gr. 2: w/ Rhy. Fig. 2A

Bb6 Bb5 Bb C5 D5 F5

start it up? (Start it up. Start it up.) Nev - er, nev - er, nev - er. You make a grown - man  
(You make a grown - man

Gr. 1

Gr. 2

Fsus2 Eb5 D5 C5 D5 F5 Fsus2 Eb5 D5 C5

cry. You make a grown - man cry.  
cry. You make a grown - man cry.

G5 F5 Eb5 D5 G C F/C C F/C C

You make a grown - man cry. Ride like the wind at dou - ble speed.  
 You make a grown - man cry.)

Gr. 1

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1

Eb5 D5 C5 C F C F C F

I'll take you plac - es that you nev - er, nev - er seen. (...een.)

Gr. 1

Gr. 2

Verse

Gr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1 (2 times)

Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb5 C C F C F C F

4. Once you start it up, let me tell you, we will

Gr. 2

Gr. 2: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1A

Bb5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb C F C F

nev - er stop, we'll nev - er stop, we'll nev - er, nev - er, nev - er stop. Start me up.



**Outro**

Gtrs. 1 & 2: w/ Rhy. Figs. 1 & 1A (till fade)

F (G) C (D) F (G) Bb5 (C5) Bb (C) Eb/Bb (F/C) Bb (C) C (D) C (D) F (G) C (D)

We'll nev - er stop, nev - er stop. You, you, —

*mp* *mf* *grad. bend* *1/2 hold bend* *1/4*

F (G) C (D) F (G) Bb5 (C5) Bb (C) Eb/Bb (F/C) Bb (C) C (D) F (G) C (D)

you make a grown man cry. — You,

*grad. bend* *1/2* *1* \*V---4

\*Upstroke w/ pick

F (G) C (D) F (G) Bb5 (C5) Bb (C) Eb/Bb (F/C) Bb (C) C (D) F (G) C (D)

you made a dead man come. — You, you, —

*hold bend* *1/2* *1* *let ring* *---4 let ring* *---4*

F (G) C (D) F (G) Bb5 (C5) Bb (C) Eb/Bb (F/C) Bb (C) C (D) F (G) C (D)

you made a dead man come. — Yeah. And you, you... —

*1/2* *1* *1/2*

*Fade out*