

# Tico Tico

Words & Music:  
Aloysio de Oliveira

*I'm not sure if I have lined up the chords correctly on the English version. Please, correct, if need be! I've also included the original Portuguese lyrics and a really nice solo guitar version by Dugz. The version on top is the English version (not a translation) made famous by The Andrews Sisters.*

Oh, tico-tico, tick! Oh, tico-tico, tock!  
This tico-tico, he's the cuckoo in my clock.  
And when he says: "Cuckoo!" he means it's time to woo;  
It's "tico-time" for all the lovers on the block.  
I've got a heavy date, a tête-à-tête at eight.  
So, speak, oh, tico, tell me is it getting late?  
If I'm on time, "Cuckoo!" but if I'm late, "Woo-woo!"  
The one my heart has gone to may not want to wait!

## BRIDGE:

For just a birdie, and a birdie who goes nowhere,  
He knows of ev'ry Lovers' Lane and how to go there.  
For in affairs of the heart, my Tico's terribly smart,  
He tells me: "Gently, sentiment'ly at the start!"  
Oh! Oh! I hear my little tico-tico calling,  
Because the time is right and shades of night are falling.  
I love that not-so-cuckoo cuckoo in my clock:  
Tico-tico, tico-tico, tico-tock!

## **The complete version of Aloysio de Oliveira's original Portuguese lyrics:**

O tico tico tá, tá outra vez aqui,  
o tico tico tá comendo o meu fubá.  
Se o tico tico tem, tem que se alimentar,  
Que vá comer umas minhocas no pomar.  
O tico tico tá, tá outra vez aqui,  
o tico tico tá comendo o meu fubá.  
Eu sei que ele vem viver no meu quintal,  
e vem com ares de canário e de pardal.

Mas por favor tira esse bicho do celeiro,  
porque ele acaba comendo o fubá inteiro.  
Tira esse tico de lá, de cima do meu fubá.  
Tem tanta fruta que ele pode pinicar.

Eu já fiz tudo para ver se conseguia.  
Botei alpiste para ver se ele comia.  
Botei um gato um espantalho e um alçapão,  
mas ele acha que o fubá é que é boa alimentação.

### **Loose translation of the original lyrics:**

The tico tico is here, it is here again,  
the tico tico is eating my cornmeal.  
If that tico tico has to feed itself,  
it better eat a few earthworms at the orchard.  
The tico tico is here, it is here again,  
the tico tico is eating my cornmeal.  
I know that it comes to live in my yard,  
and that it puts on airs like a sparrow and a canary.

But please take this animal off my granary,  
because it will end up eating all the cornmeal  
Throw that tico out of here, from the top of the cornmeal (heap),  
it has so much fruit to eat from.

I have done everything to see if he's gone,  
Threw him canary feed to see if it ate it.  
Let a cat loose to scare it off, and (even) set up a trap,  
but it has found out that cornmeal is a good feed.



C	Dm7	G7	Dm7	G7	C
21	22	23	24		
-----0-----	-----	-----	-----	-----0-----	-----
-1-3-3-3-	-1-----0-	-----	-----	-----0-----	-----
-2/4-----4-	-2-2-----2/4-	-4-0-2-4-2-0-2-	-----	-0-2-0-----3-2-	-----
-----	-----3-----	-----3-----	-----	-----2-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

C	Dm7	G7	C
25	26	27	28
-----	-----0-----	-----	-----1-0-----
-0-----0-----0-1-	-2-----3-2-	-0-----	-0-----3-
-2-----2-----	-3-----	-0-3--0-3-4-	-2-----
-3-----3-----	-----	-2-----2-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

Dm7	D#dim	C6	A7	Dm7	G7	C
29		30		31		32
-----	-----	-0-----3-2-1-0-	-----	-----	-----	-----0--0-----
-0-3-1-0-1-	-1--1-----	-3-1-0-----	-----	-1-1-1-1-1--2-	-----	-----
-2-1-2-----	-0-----	-2-0-----	-----	-0-0-0-0-0-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----3-2-0-	-----	-2-2-2-2-2-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-3-3-3-3-3-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Part C

A6			E7
33	34	35	36
-5-0--5-4-0--4-	-2-0--2-0--0-1-	-2-0--2-0--0-1-	-2-0--2-0--0-4-
-2-----2-----	-2-----3-----	-3-----3-----	-3-----2-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

			A6
37	38	39	40
-5-0--5-4-0--4-	-2-0--2-0--0-1-	-2-0--2-0--0-1-	-2-0--2-0--0-4-
-2-----2-----	-2-----3-----	-3-----3-----	-3-----2-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

			E7
41	42	43	44
-5-0--5-4-0--4-	-2-0--2-0--0-1-	-2-1-2-3-2-0-----	-----
-2-----2-----	-2-----3-----	-----3-2-	-0--0-2-3-----
-----	-----	-----	-2-----2-1-0-
-----	-----	-----	-----

Dm7	A6	E7	A6
45	46	47	48
-----	-0-5-9-5-0-----	-----	-----0--0-----
-----0-----	-2-----3-2-	-0-----	-----4-----
-1-2-1-2-----	-----	-2-1-----	-----
-4-3-4-----	-----	-4-2-0-----	-----
-----	-----	-----4-2-	-0-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

Part A Variation

Am6	E7	Am6
49	50	51
-0-5-0-0-	-0-4-0-0-	-0-10-7-0-
-6-----4-	-6-----4-	-6-----9-
-----	-----	-----7-6-
-----	-----	-----5-
-----	-----	-----

Dm7	Am6	B7	E7
53	54	55	56
-----10-8-5-	-5-8-8-7-6-	-7-----5-8-7-6-	-7-----0-0-
-10-----6-	-5-----	-0-4-7-	-----4-
-10-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

Am6	E7	Am6
57	58	59
-0-5-0-0-	-0-4-0-0-	-0-10-7-0-
-6-----4-	-6-----4-	-6-----9-
-----	-----	-----7-6-
-----	-----	-----5-
-----	-----	-----

Dm7	Am6	E7	Am6
61	62	63	64
-----10-8-5-	-5-8-8-7-6-	-7-0-4-7/12 10-	-----0-1-2-
-10-----6-	-5-----	-----1312	10--10\\-
-10-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

Part B Variation

C	Dm7	G7	C
65	66	67	68
-3-0-3-0-3-4-	-5-----7-6-5-	-----1-2-	-3-0-----12-12
-1-----1-	-----6-	-8-0-3-6-0-3-	-----13-13
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

C	Dm7	G7	Dm7	G7	C
69	70	71	72		
12--101010--8-8-	-8 -5-5-5-6/7-7-	-7-----7-5-----5-	-5-----0-1-2-		
13--121212--1010-	10--6-6-6-	-8-8-----6-6-	-8--8-5-		
-----	-----	-----	-----		
-----	-----	-----	-----		
-----	-----	-----	-----		

C	Dm7	G7	C
73	74	75	76
-3-0-3-0-3-4-	-5-----7-6-5-	-----1-2-	-3-0-----8-7-6-
-1-----1-	-----6-	-8-0-3-6-0-3-	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----

Dm7	D#dim	C6	A7	Dm7	G7	C
77		78		79		80
-5-5-7-10-8-7-8-		12-8-8-15-14-13-12-		10-13-12-10-		
-9-		-8-		-12-10-9-		
				-12-	10-	

Here are the voicings I use for each chord. I use CMAJ7 for C and G9 for G7:

Am6	E7	Dm7	B7	CMAJ7	G9	A6
-5-5-	-5-	-6-7-		-5-4-		-5-
-5-7-		-5-8-		-4-3-		-6-
-4-6-		-7-7-		-5-4-		-4-
-7-		-5-		-3-3-		
-5-		-7-				-5-

Here are the voicings for the turnaround at the end of part B:

Dm7	D#dim	C6	A7	Dm7	G7	C
				-3-4-		-5-
-5-5-		-9-6-		-5-3-		-4-
-3-4-		-7-5-		-3-4-		-5-
				-5-3-		-3-
-5-5-		-8-5-				