## Darlin' Do Not Fear

## Words and music by Brett Dennen, from the album So Much More



As he was developing the intro guitar riff for "Darlin' Do Not Fear," Dennen had been listening a lot to King Sunny Ade and thinking about different ways to phrase the melody. "I had the melody in my head, but the guitar hook didn't come in on the downbeat, it came in on the upbeat," he says. "I was thinking, 'How cool would it be to shift the whole phrase over and put it on the downbeat?"

I thought that whole guitar line was going to be the song. I wrote the lyrics with that

phrase in mind, but that was way too difficult for me." Dennen plays this song in C position with a capo on the eighth fret. "The hard part is to keep your thumb going on the low strings like a Delta blues tune," Dennen says. "When I play the verses, I am trying to sound like a drummer. I'm hitting the downbeat with my thumb and then syncopating and backbeating with my index and middle fingers."

-DREW PEARCE





