

One

Lyrics by Bono and The Edge, music by U2



U2 reinvented its sound on 1991's *Achtung Baby*, and "One" is the standout anthem that holds this record together. At this point, U2's lyrics had moved from the political to the personal, but "One" encompasses both.

Follow the strumming pattern below, making sure to palm mute the roots of each chord on beats one and three, while letting the higher strums on beats two and four ring out. In the first verse, try playing

partial chords, leaving out the top string or two (and the thumb-fretted bass note F), as in the recording, and try a Dsus2 (instead of D) on occasion. To sound more like U2 guitarist The Edge, embellish the chorus chords by briefly removing your middle finger from the C and Fmaj7 chords and your ring finger from the Am chord. You may also want to try walking down from C to Am to F on the chorus, another move The Edge worked into the record. Be sure to try the electric riff over the first verse—it will sound great on an acoustic guitar, too.

—ANDREW DUBROCK

Chords

Am: x02310
D: xx0132
Fmaj7: 1x3210
G: 210034
C: x32010

Strum Pattern

Am Am D

Electric Riff

1. Am D Fmaj7 G
Is it getting better, or do you feel the same?
Am D Fmaj7 G
Will it make it easier on you, now you got someone to blame?

Chorus

C Am Fmaj7 C
You say one love, one life, when it's one need in the night
Am Fmaj7
One love, we get to share it, it leaves you, baby
C
if you don't care for it

2. Am D Fmaj7 G
Did I disappoint you or leave a bad taste in your mouth?
Am D Fmaj7 G
You act like you never had love and you want me to go without

Chorus

C Am Fmaj7 C
Well, it's too late tonight to drag the past out into the light
Am
We're one, but we're not the same, we get to
Fmaj7 C
carry each other, carry each other

3. Am D Fmaj7 G
Have you come here for forgiveness, have you come to raise the dead?
Am D Fmaj7 G
Have you come here to play Jesus to the lepers in your head?

Chorus

C Am Fmaj7
Did I ask too much, more than a lot, you gave me nothing,
C
now it's all I got
Am Fmaj7
We're one, but we're not the same, well, we hurt each other,
C
then we do it again

Bridge

C Am
You say love is a temple, love a higher law
C Am
Love is a temple, love the higher law
C G
You ask me to enter, but then you make me crawl
Fmaj7
And I can't be holding on to what you got, when all you got is hurt

Chorus

C Am Fmaj7 C
One love, one blood, one life, you got to do what you should
Am Fmaj7 C
One life with each other: sisters, brothers
Am
One life, but we're not the same, we get to
Fmaj7 C
carry each other, carry each other
Am Fmaj7 C
One, one