

**Arthur**  
**The Kinks**

**A**  
Arthur was born just a plain simple man  
**E** **A**  
in a plain simple working class position  
  
Though the world was hard and its ways were set  
**E** **A**  
he was young and he had so much ambition  
  
All the week he was overtaken  
**E** **A**  
by people who make the big decisions  
  
But he tried and he tried for a better life  
**E** **A**  
and a way to improve his own condition  
**D** **A-G-D-A**  
If only life were easy it would be such fu-u-un  
**D** **A-G-D-A**  
Things would be more equal and be plenty for everyone  
**D**  
Arthur the world s gone and passed you by  
**A** **D**  
Don t you know it, don t you know it  
  
You can cry, cry all night but it won t make it right  
**A** **D**  
Don t you know it, don t you know it  
  
Arthur we know and we sympathize  
**A** **D**  
Don t you know it, don t you know it  
  
Arthur we like you and want to help you  
**A** **D**  
Somebody loves you, don t you know it

It shifts keys back to the A-E section for the guitar solo and the How s your wife verse, then goes back to **D-A** after repeating the middle eight ( If only life were easy ). At the end there s this part:

**A** **D**  
Don t you know it, don t you know it  
**A** **D**  
Somebody loves you, don t you know it  
**A** **D** **A-D**  
Don t you know it, don t you know it

And then it s back to Arthur, the world s gone... with its **D-A** chords, which are continued for the long fade-out.

On those late verses where there s no singing on the don t you know it parts, you can play an **A7** instead of an **A**.

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Arthur lead guitar bits.

During the A & E chords ( verses ), the following is played:

G|--2--2--0--2--0--0--2--2--0--2--0--0--1----1----1----1--1--0--2--

The prechorus I just play the chords noted. Over the D & A chords ( chorus ), I play:

B|--3--3--1--3--1--1--3--3--1--3--1--1--5----5----5----5--5--1--3--

and during the solo, this line is moved up an octave to:

B|-10-10--8-10--8--8-10-10--8-10--8--8-12---12---12---12-12--8-10----

with liberal bends on the E s at the 12th fret.