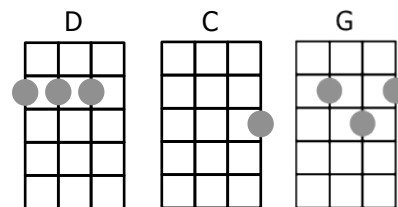


89D. Sweet Home Alabama

Lynyrd Skynyrd



1 &	2 &	3 &	4 &	1 &	2 &	3 &	4 &	1 &	2 &	3 &	4 &	1 &	2 &	3 &	4 &
v	v	^	v ^	v	v	^	v ^	v	v	^	v ^	v	v	^	v ^
D				C				G				G			

Intro: [D] [C] [G] [G]

[D] Big [C] wheels keep on [G] turning,
 [D] Carry me [C] home to see my [G] kin.
 [D] Singin' [C] songs about the [G] Southland.
 [D] I miss [C] Alabamy once a[G]gain and I think it's a sin.

[D] [C] [G] [G], [D] [C] [G] [G]

[D] Well, I heard Mr [C] Young sing a[G]bout her.
 [D] Well, I heard ol' [C] Neil put her [G] down.
 [D] Well I hope Neil [C] Young will re[G]member,
 [D] The Southern [C] Man don't need him a[G]round anyhow.

Chorus

[D] Sweet [C] home Ala[G]bama.
 [D] Where the [C] skies are so [G] blue.
 [D] Sweet [C] home Ala[G]bama.
 [D] Lord, I'm [C] comin' home to [G] you.

[D] In Birming[C]ham they love the [G] Governor. Boo, hoo, hoo!
 [D] Now we all [C] did what we could do [G] do.
 [D] Now, Water[C]gate does not [G] bother me.
 [D] Does you [C] conscience bother [G] you? Now tell the truth.

Chorus

[D] Now Muscle [C] Shoals has got the [G] Swappers.
 [D] And they've [C] known to pick a [G] song or two.
 [D] Lord, they [C] get me off [G] sooo much.
 [D] They pick me [C] up when I'm feelin' [G] blue. Now how about you?

Chorus

[D] Sweet [C] home Ala[G]bama. (Oh, sweet home. Baby.)
 [D] Where the [C] skies are so [G] blue. (And the Governor's true.)
 [D] Sweet [C] home Ala[G]bama. (Lordy!)
 [D] Lord, I'm [C] comin' home to [G] you. [D]

SWA was seen as a *response record* following Neil Young's singles **Southern Man** and **Alabama**, which were anti-racist and anti-cross burning.
 SWA is saying "Thanks, Neil. Now leave us alone!"

But the irony of "Sweet Home Alabama" is that for so many, the song implied a put down of Neil Young, it was actually NOT meant as criticism but as support of Young's anti-racism.

The song is often interpreted as being racist because of the lyrics reference "In Birmingham *[where a black church was bombed killing 4 young girls]* they love the governor *[George Wallace]*" who was a segregationist. This interpretation and analysis has been intelligently reasoned and scrupulously dissected.
 After singing this line, Skynyrd sing "Boo, boo, boo!" as if to disapprove of Wallace and his policies of racism, although it could be a mocking allusion to the anti-Wallace protestors.
 Make your own mind up.

<http://thrasherswheat.org/jammin/lynrd.htm>