

Mercy, Mercy Me  
As sung by Marvin Gaye

Written by Marvin Gaye  
This version released 1971  
Transcribed by [Mark W. Black](#)

Intro | **C<sup>m7</sup>/B<sup>b</sup>** | | | **C<sup>#m7</sup>/B** | | |

Chorus 1  
**E<sup>ma7</sup>** | | **C<sup>#m7</sup>** | |  
 Whoa oh, mercy, mercy me Oh, things ain't what they used to be, no  
**F<sup>#m7</sup>** | |  
 no where did all the blue sky go?  
**A<sup>ma7</sup>/B** | |  
 Poison is the wind that blows From the north, east, south, and sea

Chorus 2  
**E<sup>ma7</sup>** | | **C<sup>#m7</sup>** | |  
 Whoa , mercy, mercy me Oh, things ain't what they used to be, naw  
 Ooooo..... (Ah..... Aw, mercy mercy me) Oooooooo (Aw, mercy mercy me)  
**F<sup>#m7</sup>** | | **A<sup>ma7</sup>/B** | |  
 no oil wasted on the oceans And upon our seas fish full of mercury, Ahhh

Chorus 3  
**E<sup>ma7</sup>** | | **C<sup>#m7</sup>** | |  
 oh, mercy, mercy me Aww, things ain't what they used to be, naw  
 Ooooo..... (Ah..... Aw, mercy mercy me) Oooooooo (Aw, mercy mercy me)  
**F<sup>#m7</sup>** | | **A<sup>ma7</sup>/B** | |  
 Naw radiation underground and in the sky Animals and birds who live nearby are dying.

Chorus 4  
**E<sup>ma7</sup>** | | **C<sup>#m7</sup>** | |  
 Oh, mercy, mercy me Oh, things ain't what they used to be  
 Ooooo..... (Ah..... Aw, mercy mercy me) Oooooooo (Aw, mercy mercy me)  
**F<sup>#m7</sup>** | | **A<sup>ma7</sup>/B** | |  
 Wha - t about this overcrowded land How much more abuse from man can she stand?

**Chorus 5**

	<b>E<sup>ma7</sup></b>		Aw, Na - - na, na, na - - - na, na, na		<b>C<sup>#m7</sup></b>		Na,	
Ooo Ooo (my sweet Lord)								
	<b>F<sup>#m7</sup></b>		na, na na, na		my, my		<b>A<sup>ma7</sup>/B</b>	
(my sweet Lord) My, my, lord, my sweet Lord please....								

**Outro**

	<b>F<sup>ma7</sup></b>		<b>d<sup>m7</sup></b>		-
	<b>G<sup>m7</sup></b>		<b>B<sup>bma7</sup>/C</b>		
	<b>B<sup>b</sup>m<sup>9</sup></b>				
	<b>B<sup>bma7</sup>/C</b>		<b>F<sup>ma7</sup></b>		<b>(and hold)</b>

(Rufus in parens)  
 Maria and John in the long fills

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Key: E  
 Meter: 4/4  
 Tempo: quarter = 96  
 Strum = SKIP Piano Rhythm Pattern: B-RL

Legend: reading a chord chart

Unless otherwise indicated, chords start at the beginning of the measure.

| - indicates a new measure with the previous chord continuing.

| - just like with written music, the bar at the end of a line is the same bar as the beginning of the next line.

These are not 2 measures but the end of one measure and the beginning of the next.

/ - indicates individual beats of a measure when needed. So if a chord lasts for less than a full measure, the slash mark (/) will indicate the different beats of the measure and the written chord name will also take up one of those beats. Thus |A / / E | would mean to play an A for 3 beats and an E for the 4<sup>th</sup> beat.

<- indicates the chord comes in 1/2 beat earlier than written. Thus |A / / <E | would mean to play an A for 2 and a half beats and E would start on the 'and' of beat 3.

>- indicates the chord comes in 1/2 beat later than written. Thus |A / / >E | would mean to play an A for 3 and a half beats and E would start on the 'and' of beat 4.

/X - indicates a specific bass note, rather than a chord type, usually while the previous chord is playing; i.e., E /F# /G# A - would mean play the E chord, then F# and G# as single bass notes during the E chord (in the right hand of a piano or bass strings of the guitar or on the bass, for example).

Chords and measures bars are almost exactly over the words where they occur, so you should be able to follow the words and thus know where the chords change.

**Single notes**

Harmony

BGV

Attention

*Lyric changed*