Lyrics w/ chords

E A G
My girl, my girl, don't lie to me
B E
Tell me where did you sleep last night
E
In the pines, in the pines
A G

Where the sun don't ever shine

B E

I would shiver the whole night through

(use these same chords for the entire each verse)

Other verse lyrics

My girl, my girl, where will you go?
I'm going where the cold wind blows
In the pines, in the pines
Where the sun don't ever shine
I would shiver the whole night through

Her husband was a hard working man Just about a mile from here His head was found in a driving wheel But his body never was found

My girl, my girl, don't lie to me
Tell me where did you sleep last night
In the pines, in the pines
Where the sun don't ever shine
I would shiver the whole night through

My girl, my girl, where will you go? I'm going where the cold wind blows In the pines, in the pines Where the sun don't ever shine I would shiver the whole night through

My girl, my girl, don't lie to me
Tell me where did you sleep last night
In the pines, in the pines
Where the sun don't ever shine
I would shiver the whole night through

My girl, my girl, where will you go? I'm going where the cold wind blows In the pines, the pines The sun don't shine I'd shiver... the whole night through

Tune down 1/2 step to play along with Nirvana

If you want to play along with Nirvana, tune all strings down one half-step (E becomes Eb, A becomes Ab, etc).

Strumming pattern

Use the following strumming pattern. It's important to note that his song is in 6/8 time, which means 6 counts per measure (most songs have 4 counts per measure). This allows you to use the following strum pattern, w/ accents on the 1 & 4 beats.

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + D = down strum D = down strumD = down strum

Chord progression used for entire song

Fortunately, the entire song uses this one progression, over and over again:

| E | A . . G . . | B | E |

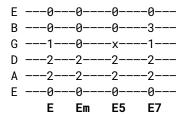
How to play the chords

This song only uses these 4 chords. There are different voicings you could use for each chord below (I'll get to that), but let's use these as a starting point. For the A-major, I'll typically use my index finger to barre the 2nd fret of the D/G/B strings (and not worry about playing the high E-string).

For the E, you have some options. It sounds like Nirvana is playing an E5 or E "power chord" where the G string isn't ringing... this results in a sound that is neither major nor minor. To do this, I recommend letting one of your ringers rest gently upon the G string so that it muffles the sound (mutes the string). You also could get away with playing an E-minor if you like. Or, if you want to be like the famous blues guitarist Lead Belly who first made this song famous, you can use an E7. It's up to you.

If the B gives you issues, you can do a B power-chord (B5) or do an open shape to play B7.

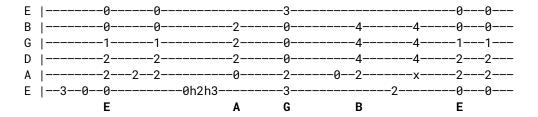






Bass transitions (licks and riffs)

If you want my video lesson, you can hear some bass note transitions I do to spice things up. A general tab for these can be heard here. It's important to listen along for context so you can hear the timing, etc. Also, while strumming the full chords – personally I stress the thickest 3-4 strings – which keeps the entire progression more bass-heavy in its sound.



As a practice exercise to be able to play these bass note riffs and licks, I recommend using this as a starting point. It only worries about the bass notes (no full chords yet), and helps you get a handle on the timing of things first.

