

Autumn Leaves

This lovely, mood-inspiring song began as a French poem, "Les Feuilles Mortes," by Jacques Prévert. It was set to music by Hungarian-born Joseph Kosma and became a favorite among the better French café singers after World War II. Mercer, America's most prolific lyricist, was also, at that time, a busy recording executive and singer, but he loved the song and agreed to write the English lyrics. Then he became preoccupied with other matters. Reminded of his commitment, he hurriedly scribbled the lyrics in a cab on his way to a plane, stopping off enroute to slip them under the publisher's door. The song really hit its stride, however, in 1955 when a young pianist, Roger Williams, made a recording of a piano version which went on to sell 2½ million copies.



Words and music by:

Joseph Kosma, Jacques Prévert and Johnny Mercer

Freely throughout

mp throughout

Am⁷ D7 G maj 7 C maj 7

The fall - ing leaves____ drift by the win - dow____ The au-tumn

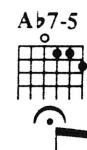
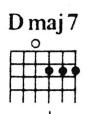
F#m7-5 B7 Em Am⁷ D7

leaves____ of red and gold I see your lips____ the sum-mer

Sheet music for "Autumn Leaves" featuring three staves of musical notation and lyrics. The first staff shows a melody line with dynamic markings. The second staff begins with a piano introduction and includes guitar chord diagrams above the lyrics. The third staff continues the piano part with more lyrics and guitar chords.



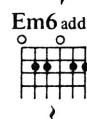
kiss - es The sun-burned hands I used to hold. Since you



went a - way the days grow long And soon I'll hear old win-ter's



song But I miss you most of all my dar - ling When



Au - tumn Leaves start to

fall.

