Song Readiness Card

Is this song too hard for me yet? Tick what the song needs, then be honest about each skill today.

Song: _____ **Artist:** _____ **Date checked:** _____

Clean means at the song's speed, without stopping, three times in a row. Skills are listed in the order we usually build them.

Skill	Song needs it	Clean already	Getting there	Not yet	Simpler version meanwhile
Open chords	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Easier shapes, or a capo so the chords become ones you know
Chord changes on time	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	One strum on beat 1 of each bar, then two, then the full pattern
The strumming pattern	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Steady down strums on each beat
Barre chords	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Capo with open shapes, or Fmaj7 for F
The full song tempo	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	70 to 80 percent speed with a metronome
Power chords and palm muting	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Two note power chords, add the mute later
Fingerpicking or a picked riff	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Strum the chords, or play the first note of each bar
Bends and vibrato	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Play the target note, or slide into it
A solo or lead part	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Play the chords under it, or the vocal melody
Singing while playing	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	Hum or speak the words over a simple strum

Your verdict

If you ticked...	Verdict	What to do
Every needed skill clean	Ready now	Learn it section by section this week
No "not yet", one or two "getting there"; or one "not yet" and at most one "getting there"	Ready with focused work	Build ONE skill on its own, 5 to 10 minutes a day, then start the song
Two or more "not yet", or three or more "getting there", or one "not yet" plus two "getting there"	Park it for later	Build the first missing skill in the list above and play the simpler version meanwhile

Build this first: _____ **Recheck on:** _____

Parked songs

Song	Skill to build first	Parked on	Recheck on	Ready?