

YourGuitarGuide.com

How to Play Guitar-Chords for Beginners-Bootcamp

Helping You Find Your Sound

Sharon YourGuitarGuide



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Welcome, I'm so excited that you're here. I know you're going to have a ball playing the guitar. I want to explain to you what we are going to be covering in this course; "How to Play Guitar Chords for beginners".

I've been playing guitar for 30 plus years and along the way have had instruction from some of the top guitar teachers. I figure now it's time for me to give back and share with you and pass on to you some guitar tips and basic guitar fundamentals.

Let me just review what will be covered in this course so you will know where we are going on this journey.

First let me just say that not everybody starts at the same place. So if you already know some of the subject matter maybe you will want to watch the lecture anyways as a refresher.

The first video will cover the basics as if you have never seen a guitar before. It will cover the basics from holding the pick and guitar. Then move on to the second video where it picks up a little bit and learn Anatomy. Don't get to nervous it's not that kind of anatomy it is the anatomy of the guitar.

Then we will get into how to read a chord diagram it is simple, but maybe you never have had to read a chord diagram. You will need to know this because quickly after that we will start covering open chords. The videos cover the fingering of the chord in question and I will give you tips that will make it easier for you to get up and running playing guitar quicker. That's the goal to learn it and to learn it the easiest way possible.

I will also show you 11 chords you should know. These are the essential chords to learn to play Thousands of songs. We will cover them in depth. After all we want to be able to play songs for friends and family.

After learning chords and how to build chords then you will need to know how to move from one chord to another. Don't worry I've got you covered. Lecture 21 explains the easiest way to transition between chords.

Even though nobody wants to talk about this, every guitar player needs to be able to play Barre chords. I cover Major and minor barre chord shapes, and give you tips on how to play them to make it as easy as possible.

Most beginner guitar players have problem with barre chords because they haven't built up strength and finger dexterity. Well there are several worksheets to help you along the way and one of them is to help strengthen your fingers. This book will help you with this journey.

I say journey as it takes time to get comfortable holding a guitar in your hand; it's like a foreign object. Let alone playing guitar, but with patience, practice and perseverance you too can play.

After chord transition you will discover strumming techniques. The last part of the course consists of learning the blues chord shapes and Jazz for future construction.

This should keep you busy for quite some time.

Dig in and have fun, and like all things guitar go slow it makes learning it easier.

Again I want to say thank you and enjoy. Before you continue to lesson 1 can you do me a favor? Share this on all your social media, and email to your friends to help me get the word out about this course. Share the love after all Sharing is Caring. Thank You!

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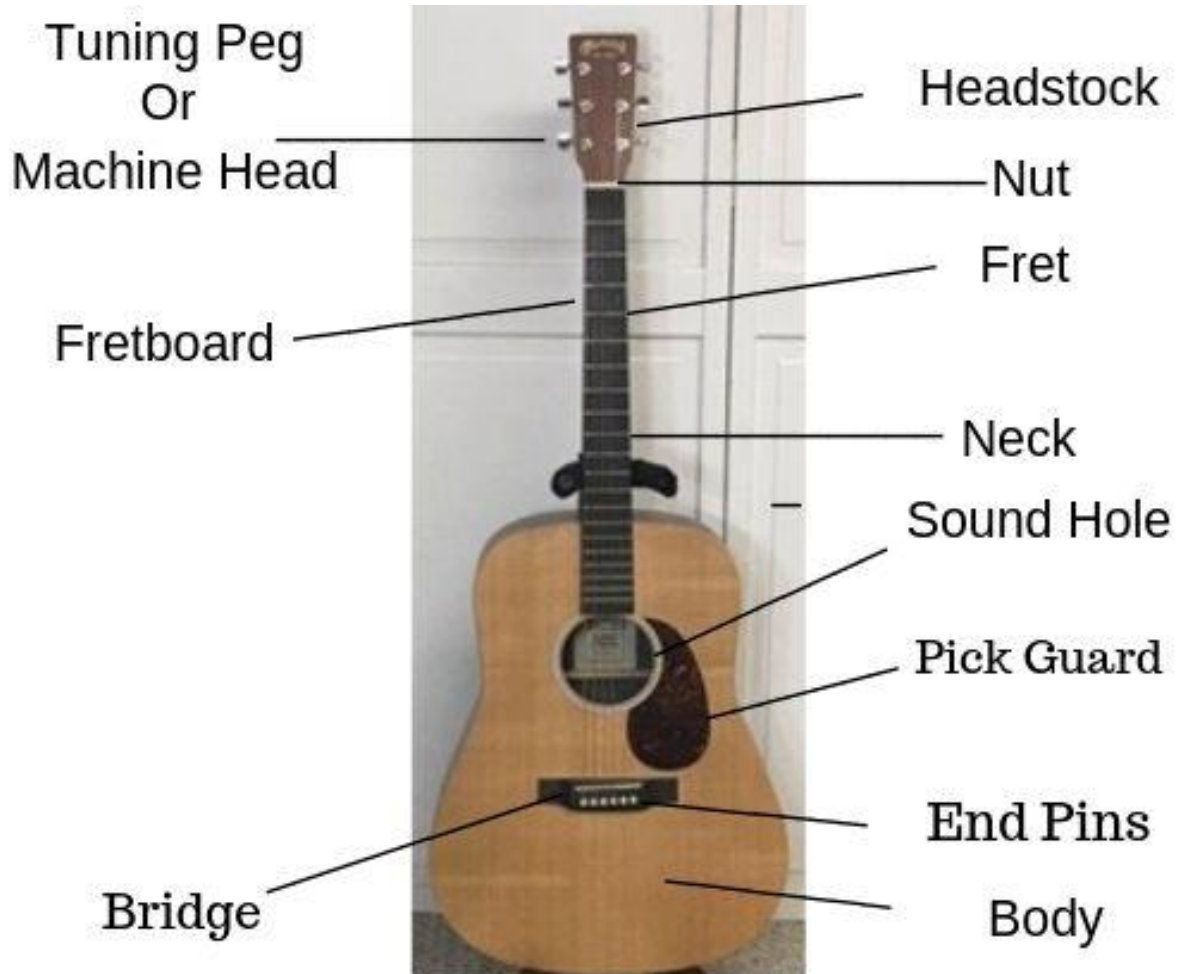
Guitar Anatomy 101

Some people may be further along than others, but I'm starting as if this was your first time ever looking at a guitar and holding it for the first time. If you already know what I'm going over, just follow along it will be a good refresher for you.

Video 1 covers how to hold the guitar take a look at video 1 before continuing.

Now that you know the proper way to hold a guitar let's look at the different parts of the guitar. So that when we discuss chords you will be on the same page as me.

1. The guitar **Headstock** (the headstock holds the tuning pegs or Machine heads). They are used to hold the strings at this end of the guitar. When you turn the tuning pegs it changes the tension of the strings and the string pitch.
2. Next is the **Nut** of the guitar it holds the strings the right distance and angle from each other, and the fingerboard. Keeping the strings at an exact height above the first fret.
3. The **Fret** is the next item on the guitar. The steel wire going across the fretboard or fingerboard. Depending on the size of the guitar will determine how many frets there are.
4. **Fret marker** are the **dots** on the guitar. To indicate at a glance what fret you're on. They are usually located at the 3, 5, 7, 9, 12, 15 and 17 frets.
5. On an acoustic guitar there is a hole called a **Sound hole**. The Sound hole transfers the sound out of the guitar.
6. You have the **Body** of the guitar which makes up the top, back sides of the guitar. The neck attaches to the body.
7. The **Bridge** is on the body of the guitar, and it holds the strings. On an acoustic guitar the strings are held in place with **Pegs**.
8. Most guitars have a **pick guard**; its main purpose is to prevent the guitar from being scratched.



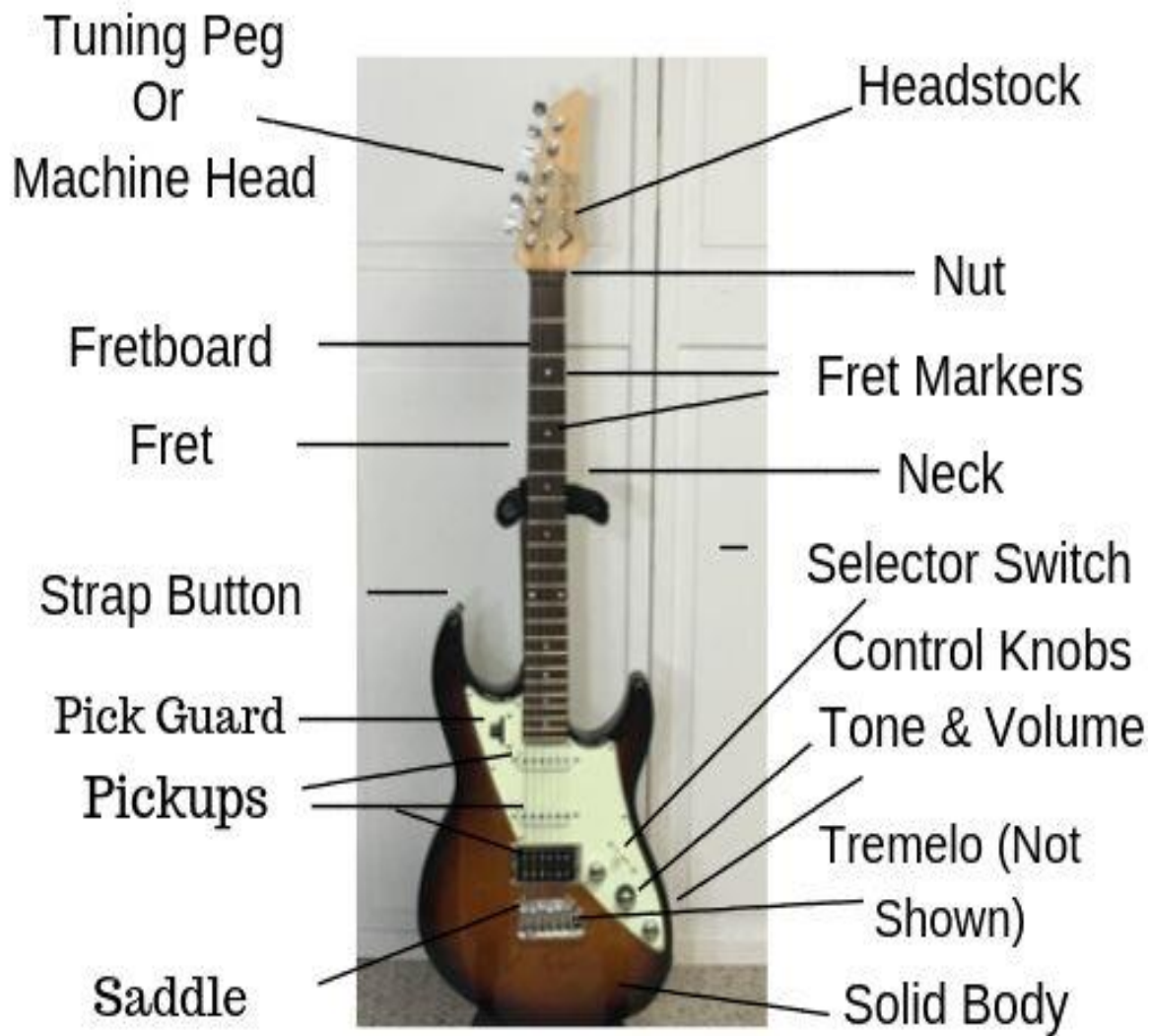
Electric Guitar

On the electric guitar it has the items previously mentioned and more. Let me cover the additional items you will find on the electric guitar.

- On the electric guitar you do not have a sound hole you have **Pickups**. The pickup senses the vibration of the strings, and transfers the electric signal to the amplifier. Then creates the sound that you hear out of the speaker.
- **Pickup Selector** – if your guitar has more than one pickup, the selector allows you to change pickups. You can play one pickup at a time or multiple. Depending on the setup of the guitar the selector switch could have up to 5 positions to choose from.
- **Volume and tone knobs** – by turning the volume knob clockwise determines the amount of volume. Turning the tone knob makes the sound bright (thin tone) or Dark (thick tone). Meaning “thin”, is a higher pitch tone, and “thick”, is a deeper bass tone.
- **Input Jack** – Where the instrument chord is attached to the guitar.
- **Tremolo arm** – Some electric guitars have a tremolo or vibrato arm. This arm allows you to create a wavy effect in the musical tone.
- **String Saddle** – The saddle is what the strings are attached to on an electric guitar. The saddle can be moved forward and up and down to adjust the string action. (That’s for another day).

You can see primarily the guitars have most of the same components. The electric is a little more intricate, thus it has more parts. The Acoustic guitar works off of the mechanical vibration that the strings make and transfers the sound out of the sound hole. If you have a Big body acoustic guitar it sounds richer and has a deep loud tone.

Whereas with the electric guitar it picks up the mechanical vibrations through the transducers (pickups), and transfers the electric signal to an amplifier that creates the sound. Take a look at the anatomy of the electric guitar below.



How to Read a Chord Diagram

Reading a chord Diagram is easy once you know what all the lines, dots, X's and O's mean. When you are looking at the chord diagram it is as if you were holding the guitar up by the neck and looking at the fretboard. You are looking at the first 4 frets. See **Video 4** How to Read a Chord Diagram.

- The vertical lines on the diagram are the 6 guitar strings.
- The horizontal lines are the frets.
- Next the thick line at the very top is the Nut of the guitar.
- Above the Nut are X or O.
- X means do not play this string.
- O means this string is played, but it is an open string. (no fingers are on the string).
- The numbers indicate what fret you are at.
- The Dot's on the strings indicate where to put your fingers.

On the guitar the strings are numbered 1 2 3 4 5 6, but looking down at the guitar the first string is the thinnest string. The **thick** string is the **6th** string, if you were counting the strings. So from the bottom string up it is 1 2 3 4 5 6. Just remember the thickest string is the 6th string.

The strings are also the notes E A D G B E, the last E being the thinnest string on the guitar. On the chord diagram the 6th string is the last line on the left, closest to the numbers.

Listed below is the Em chord, let's use it for an example:

Notice on this chord diagram there are dots above the nut to indicate you can play those strings. There are no X So we can play all the strings. There are also two dots at the second fret, on the 5th and 4th string. This indicates you will place your fingers on those strings.

Here is the finger position of the Em guitar chord:

- Place your second finger on the 5th string, at the second fret.
- Place your Third finger on the 4th string, at the second fret.
- Start strum at the 6th string.
- Strum all strings.

Start With Open Chords

Where to start on this journey of “playing guitar”? Let’s start with some basic chords. These chords are called open chords. Why are they open chords, you ask? Because an open chord, is a chord that is played at the first 3 frets of the guitar. This will be a great starting point to learn these 1 chords. When you learn these chords you will be able to play thousands of songs, just by knowing these chords.

So let’s start with an easy one and that is the **Em**. It is pronounced E minor. Here is a chord diagram showing where to place your fingers. See **Video 5** How to Make an Em Guitar Chord.

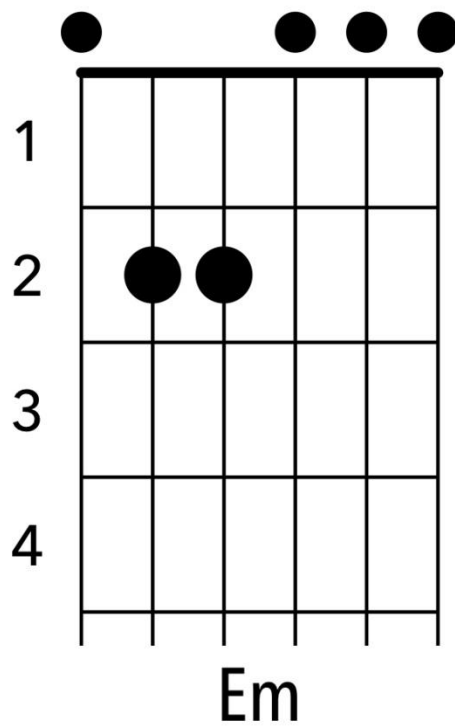
Here is the finger position of the Em guitar chord:

- Place your 2nd finger on the 5th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- all strings. Start strum at the 6th string.
- Strum

Em Open Chord

Video 5

Standard tuning

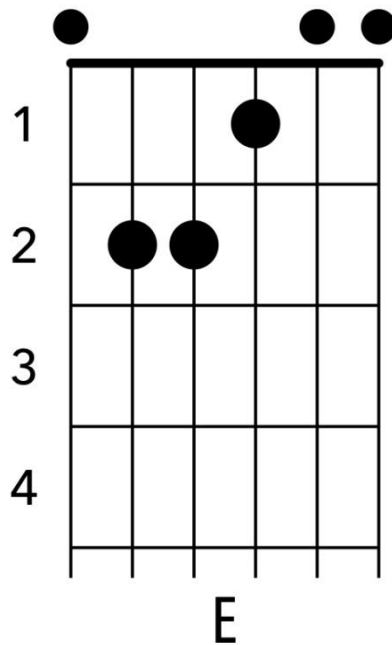


E Major Chord

Video 6

E Chord

Standard tuning



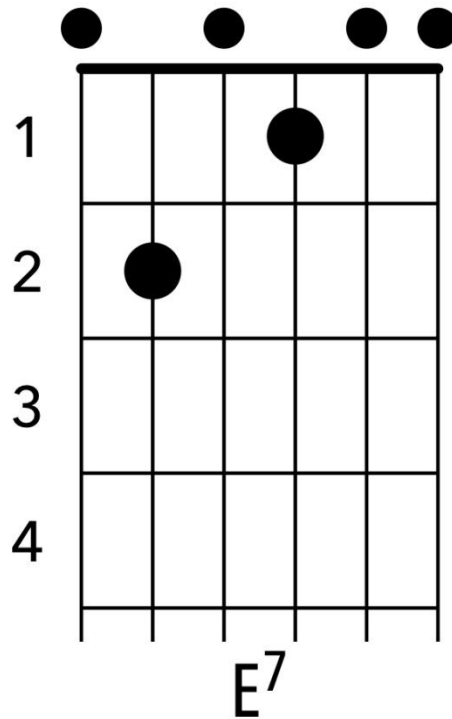
Finger Position of the E guitar chord is:

- Place your 1st finger on the 3rd string at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 5th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Start strum at the 6th string.
- Strum all the strings.

E7 Guitar Chord

Video 7

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the E7 guitar chord is:

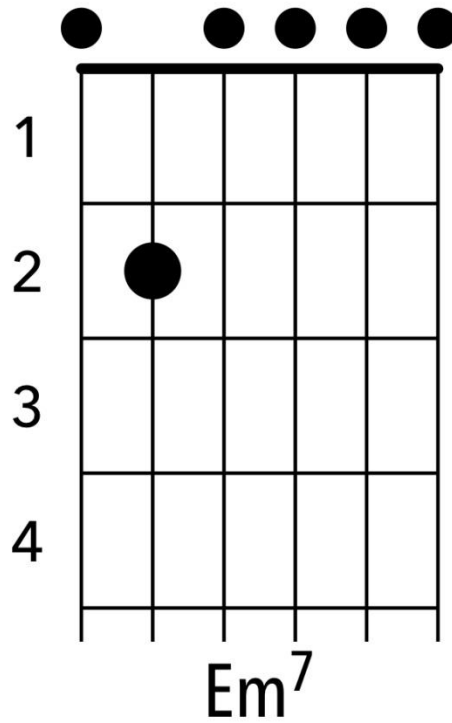
- Place your 1st finger on the 3rd string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 5th string at the 2nd fret.
- Strum all the strings.

If you play this chord and remove your first finger you will be playing an Em7, written like this E minor 7. See diagram below.

Em7 Guitar Chord

Video 7

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the Em7 guitar chord is:

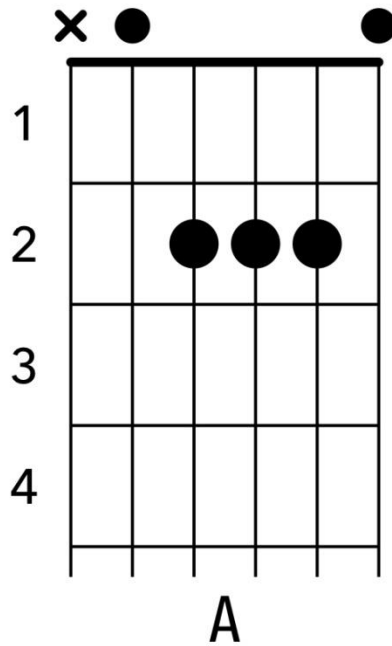
- Place your 2nd finger on the 5th string, at the 2nd fret. You could also use 1st finger.
- Strum all strings.

A Major Chord

Video 8

A Major

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the A guitar chord is:

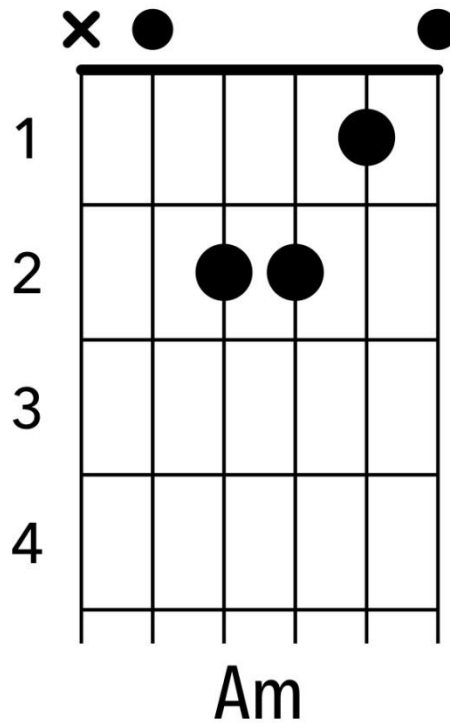
- Place your 1st finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 2nd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Start the strum at the 5th string.

Notice: The X over the 6th string, remember not to play this string.

Am Guitar Chord

Video 9

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the A minor guitar chord is:

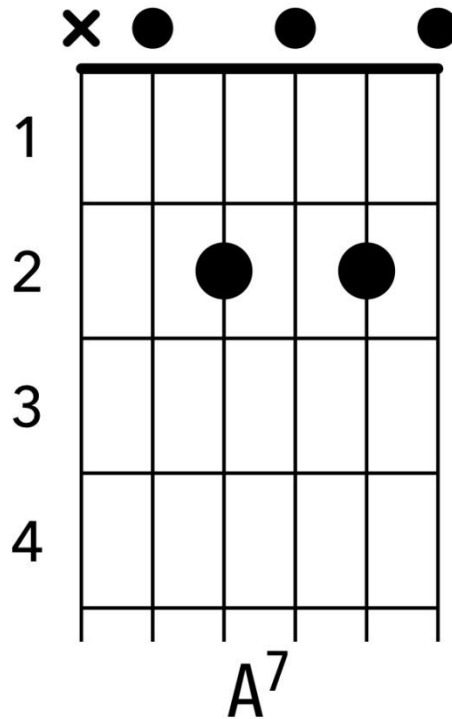
- Place your 1st finger on the 2nd string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Start the strum at the 5th string. Which is the A string.

Notice the X over the 6th string that means don't play that string.

A7 Guitar Chord

Video 10

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the A7 guitar chord is:

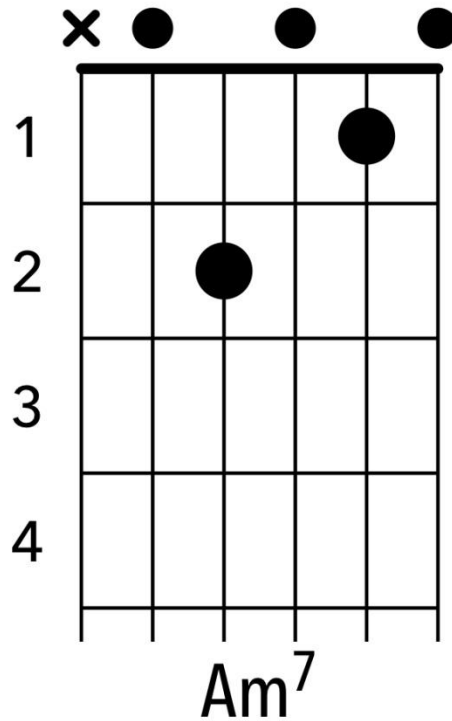
- Place your 2nd finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 2nd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Start Strum at 5th string. Which is the A string.

Aim for the 5th string, you don't want to play the 6th string.

Am7 Guitar Chord

Video 11

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the A minor 7 guitar chord is:

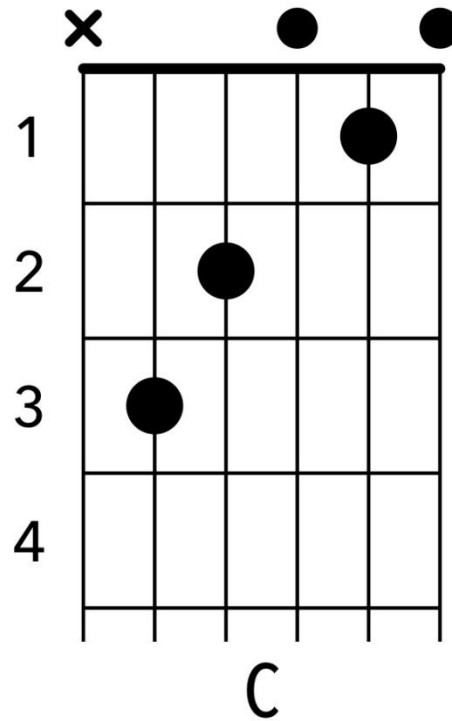
- Place your 1st finger on the 2nd string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Start strum at the 5th string. Which is the A string.

Make sure you don't play the 6th string.

C Major Chord

Video 12

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the C guitar chord is:

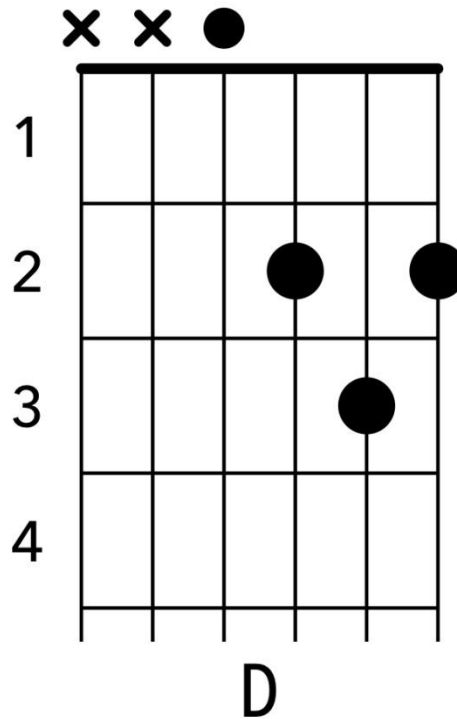
- Place your 1st finger on the 2nd string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 4th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 5th string, at the 3rd fret.
- Start the strum on the 5th string.

Make sure you don't play the 6th string.

D Major Chord

Video 13

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the D guitar chord is:

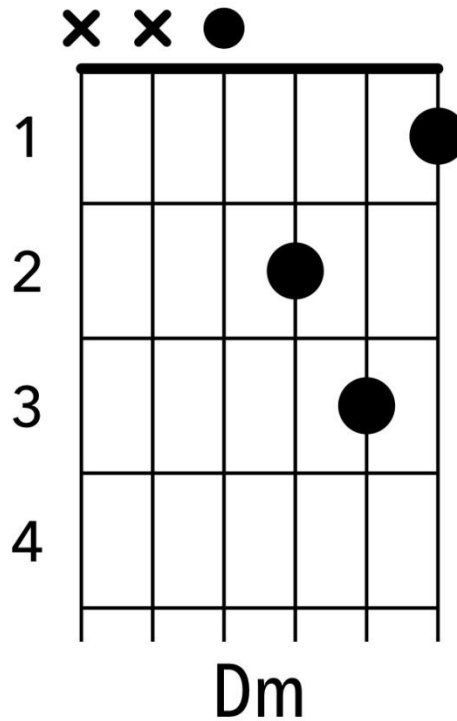
- Place your 1st finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 1st string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 2nd string, at the 3rd fret.
- Start the strum on the 4th string. This is the D String.

Notice the X over the 6th and 5th string that means don't play those strings.

Dm Guitar Chord

Video 14

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the D minor guitar chord is:

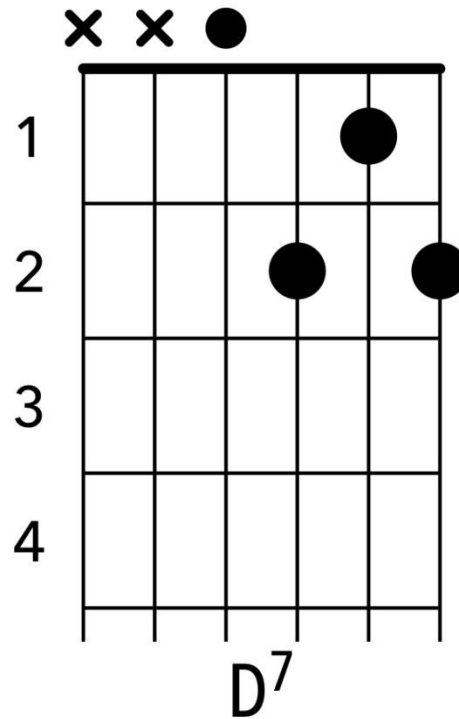
- Place your 1st finger on the 1st string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 2nd string, at the 3rd fret.
- Start the strum from the 4th string, which is the D string.

Make sure you don't play the 6th and 5th strings.

D7 Guitar Chord

Video 15

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the D7 guitar chord is:

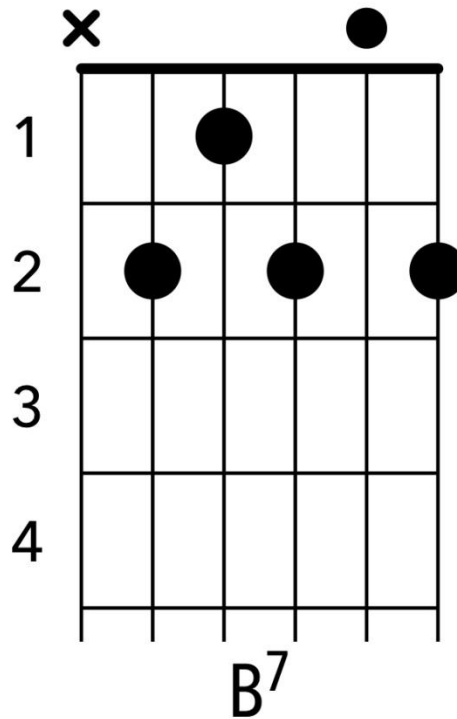
- Place your 1st finger on the 2nd string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 1st string, at the 2nd fret.
- Strum from the D string, which is the 4th string.

Remember don't play the 5th and 6th strings.

B7 Guitar Chord

Video 16

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the B7 guitar chord is:

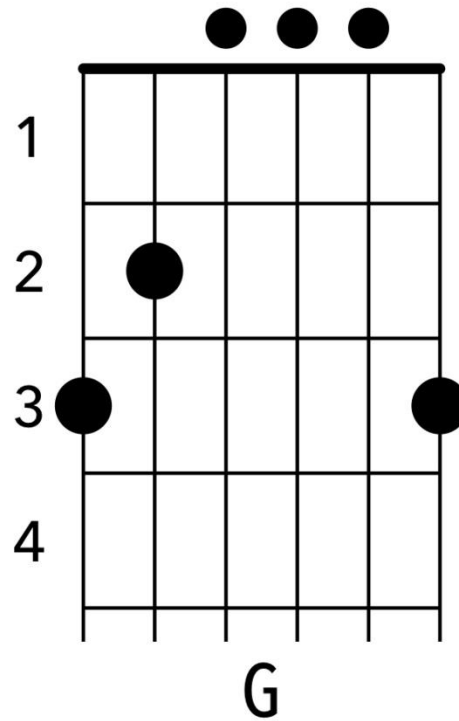
- Place your 1st finger on the 4th string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 5th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 4th finger on the 1st string at the 2nd fret.
- Start strum from the 5th string.

This is a hard chord for a beginner guitar player. You can play this chord without putting your 4th finger on the 1st string, and this is still a B7. If you are not playing the 1st string then make sure you don't strum it.

G major Chord

Video 17

Standard tuning



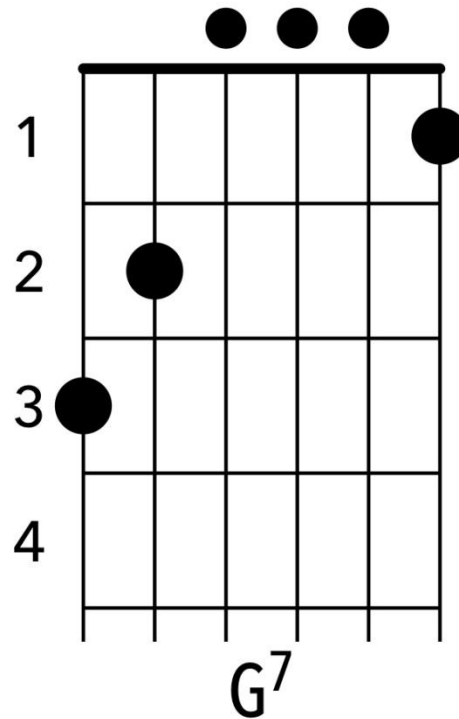
Finger Position of the G guitar chord is:

- Place your 1st finger on the 5th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 6th string, at the 3rd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 1st string, at the 3rd fret.
- Strum all strings.

G7 Guitar Chord

Video 18

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the G7 guitar chord is:

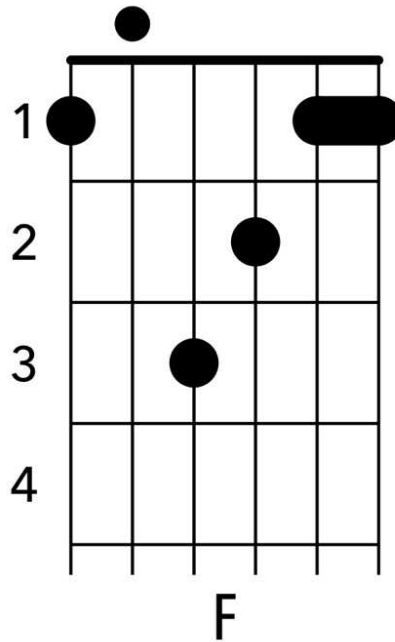
- Place your 1st finger on the 1st string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 5th string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 6th string, at the 3rd fret.
- Strum all the strings.

F Major Chord

Video 19

F Chord

Standard tuning



Finger Position of the F guitar chord is:

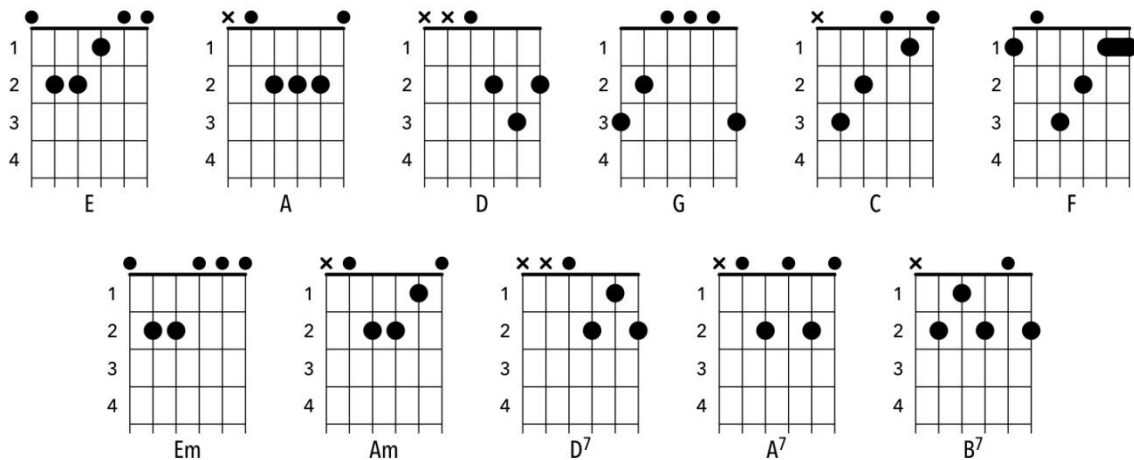
- Place your 1st finger on the 2nd and 1st string, at the 1st fret.
- Place your 2nd finger on the 3rd string, at the 2nd fret.
- Place your 3rd finger on the 4th string, at the 3rd fret.
- Strum from the 4th string down.

Make sure your not strumming the 6th and 5th string.

11 Guitar Chords you should know

11 Guitar Chords You Should Know

Standard tuning



See **Video 20** for a Review of all 11 chords. Don't forget to download the PDF to assist you while you're learning to play these essential chords. Once you have these chords under your belt, you will unlock the key to 1000's of songs.

Take your time learning these chords. I would recommend learning one chord at a time. Really dig in, and concentrate on where your fingers are being placed on the fretboard. Remove your hand and try it again. Slow and easy wins the race when it comes to learning all things guitar.

Do this multiple times a day to build up muscle memory.

Remember

- You want to play on the tips of your fingers.
- Put your finger directly behind the fret.
- Keep your thumb down low on the back of the guitar neck.

After you have done that a couple of times, and you get the hang of getting your fingers in position. Then you can pluck the strings one at a time, and listen for any dead notes. If there are strings that are not ringing out or muted, then figure out why. Usually another finger is touching that string. Once you make the adjustment, pick the strings one at a time again.

Once you play the chord and it sounds good. Try to strum the chord, with downward motion only. When you play the chord and it sounds good move to the next chord. Repeat the previously mentioned steps. After you get the second chord sounding good go back to the first chord, and see if you remember how to position your fingers. Don't worry if you can't remember all the finger positions this is why you have the practice sheet to follow along.

With repetition it won't be long before your playing all eleven chords. Then once you can play them without thinking you will be able to play songs. That's the goal to play a song.

Next you will learn how to "Transition" from a chord. What I mean is move from one chord to the next. Then you will need to learn the fundamental technique of strumming. All these things take time, and you can accomplish them like millions of other guitarists. In the beginning all guitarist started at zero, even the great Rock Stars. Everyone starts in the same place, not knowing any guitar. It will be hard at times but with perseverance you can overcome! The amount of work you put in is the amount of work you will get out of playing the guitar.

That's enough rambling let's learn Chord Transitioning.

Chord Transitioning

Video 21 Chord transitioning is: How to switch between chords. In this lesson you will learn how to switch between chords smoothly. This can be hard for most new guitar players, so if you are having trouble switching between chords don't feel bad, you're not alone.

You need to make sure you know the chords you are using before you ever start trying to switch between the chords. In your mind if someone says switch to a C chord. Without hesitation you know where your fingers are going to be placed to make the C chord.

The Chords that we will use in this lesson are all in the open position. The first chord is the G Major chord, next the C Major chord and the D Major chord. These are all chords we went over in previous lessons. If you do not already know these chords perfectly then stop. Go back to the video lesson for these chords, practice and learn them. Then come back to this lesson to learn to change between the chords.

First let's go over basic chording technique. You won't need to worry about strumming. Let's concentrate on your "fretting hand." If your right handed this would be your left hand.

Start with the C Major chord -

- Make sure your **hand is relaxed**, and position your hand on the guitar with your thumb resting on the back of the neck.
- When you're placing your first finger on the 2nd string at the 1st fret, **make sure you're playing on the tips of your fingers**. This is the B string (2nd) string.
- Your 2nd finger is going to **line up behind the fret** on the D string, the 4th string. At the 2nd fret.
- Your third finger is at the 3rd fret of the A string, the 5th string.

Make sure your hand is in a comfortable position not too far forward or backward. You want to be able to see between the bottom of the guitar and your hand.

3 things to remember:

1. Your hand is relaxed.
2. You're playing on the tips of your fingers.
3. Place your finger directly behind the fret. To stop fret buzz.

Note: That if your elbow is close to your body this helps your hand get into a natural position to play the chord.

Next the G Major Chord; Place your pinkie on the 1st string of the high E string the (1st string). Then Place your second finger on the A string, the 5th string, at the second fret. Then place your 3rd finger on the low E string, the 6th string at the 3rd fret.

You could make the G with your 1st, 2nd and 3rd fingers respectfully.

Remember to keep your hand relax, your fingers bent and behind the fret, and your elbows in. Try strumming the chord. When you first start playing guitar it takes time to build up finger strength and dexterity so making chords maybe a little tough, but you will get there with practice.

How to remember a chord

Make the G chord position your fingers the fretboard. Make sure it sounds proper by using the technique previously mentioned. Then really look at the G chord finger position. Hold the chord position for about 30 seconds. Concentrating on how the G chord feels. Then remove your hand from the guitar neck, and then try to make the G chord again. Another method is to look away and visualize what the G chord looks like. The more ways to think and meditate on a chord the easier it will become to memorize it.

Switching between chords

To start just use two chords to switch between. Let's use the G and the C chord. Start by making the G chord, and remember visualize what the C chord looks like, and then move to it. This process in your mind, you will need to think of the C chord. Then what fingers go on the strings before you can actually make the C chord.

For example if you're playing a song you don't go from playing the G chord then have to stop, and think about what chord is next, and then think how do I make the chord? Then what fingers do I use. **NO!** You have to think a head to "visualize" the chord and then make it in a split second.

A good practice technique is to go from the G to the C a couple of times then go from the C to the G. The more you practice chord transitioning the easier it will become. It will be second nature just like if you were learning to ride a bike in the beginning there is a lot going on. You probably thought you would never be able to master riding a bike. Then one day after lots of practice you learned to ride a bike and now you don't even have to think about it. Well it's the same with switching between chords in the beginning you're not very steady, it just doesn't feel right. But through hard work and practice you will master switching between the chords.

Once you practice from the G to the C and from the C to the G use the same practice method and go from the G to the D chord.

To accomplish switching between the chords smoothly you need to practice consistently. The more you practice consistently the more you build muscle memory. This is programming your mind and muscles to do what you want them to. So practice chord changes multiple times a day to get your muscle memory working for you and making these chord changes easier.

To practice use this chord progression G, C, G, and D. Don't worry so much about fancy strumming. We want to concentrate on switching between the chords. Just strum down and wait four beats.

Start with your hand on the G Then strum. The next chord in the progression is C, switch to C then strum down, wait for a measure (1, 2, 3, 4) then change the chord. **Remember to think ahead.** What the next chord in the progression? The next chord is G, Play the G, wait for the count and then switch to the D chord.

After you feel comfortable switching between these chords try strumming four times then switch to the next chord. Try strum down at first and then strum down up, down up, down up down up, and switch.

When you practice this it may go slow at first, but with time and muscle memory you will master chord transitions. **Video Lesson 21, and don't forget to print out the Worksheet.**



C Major Chord

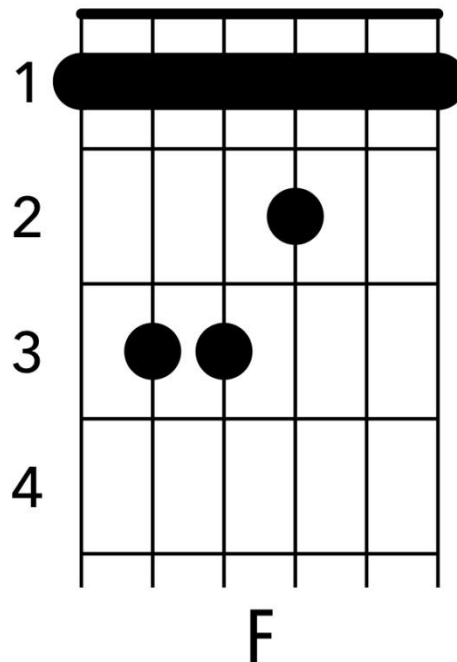


G Major Chord

6th String Root Barre Chords

Video Lesson 22. The next type of chord to learn are chords that the root note is on the 6th string. This is why it is called a 6th string root chord. The first one we will cover is the “Major” form of the bar or barre chord. This is what it looks like:

Standard tuning



The finger position of the Major form of the Barre chord 6th string root is:

Place your first finger over all the strings. This is called a bar or barre, when you “bar” more than one string. It could be as little as barring two strings.

Next you place your second finger on the 3rd string, at one fret above the barred string. In this example of the F bar chord your 2nd finger is at the 2nd fret.

Then your 3rd finger is on the 5th string 3rd fret. And your 4th finger is on the 4th string, at the 3rd fret. This how you play the F chord.

The Barre chord is very hard for a beginner because you haven't built finger strength and dexterity. But there are exercises that can help with strengthening your fingers. Also the more you practice regularly this will help matters. **Video 22, will show tips to help play the barre chord. (Don't forget to download the Worksheet)**

The cool thing about learning the shape or form of the chord is the chord translates down the neck of the guitar. It is important to learn the notes on the fretboard so you know what chord you are playing. For example the above chord with the root on the first fret, is an F Bar chord. The reason that it is an F bar chord is because when you put your finger on the 1st fret at the 6th string. That is an F note.

Let's look at the same chord shape, and move everything up to the 2nd fret. Now you are barring the 2nd fret with your 1st finger. We are keeping the same chord shape. That means your second finger will be on the 3rd string, but now at the 3rd fret. Then your 3rd and 4th fingers will be at the 4th fret on the 5th and 6th strings respectively.

The same chord shape starting at the 2nd fret is a F# bar chord. (#) spelt out is Sharp. So knowing the form plus knowing what note is at what fret on the 6th string will unlock a lot of chords. Get the **worksheet** it will help you identify all the notes on the fretboard.

Practice making the 6th string root barre chord shape. Just like previously mentioned use the same technique.

Position your fingers on the fretboard in the Major bar chord position.

Pick the strings one at a time and listen for any dead notes or buzzing noises.

Make the necessary adjustments and try again. If all the strings are ringing out properly try strumming the chord. Don't worry that you don't get this chord the first time or 10 times. It will take time for your hands to get strength. Don't give up!

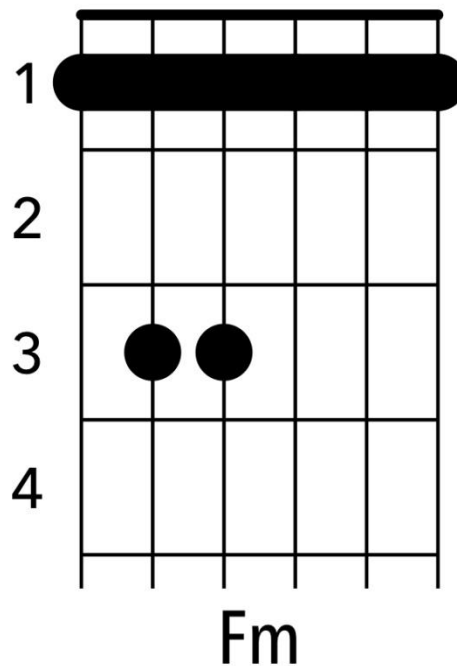
Practice with the Worksheet provided use it, and the chord shape to work up and down the guitar to name the notes. If making the chord is too hard right now, just use one finger at a time start on the 6th string at the 1st fret. Hold the string, pick the string with your picking hand.

While you're doing that say the note out loud. F, then go to the next fret and pick it, and say the note out loud. Do this up to the 12th fret. Keep practicing and you will start to learn the notes. Once you think you have the notes in your head, and then go back down the neck from the 12th fret back. Remember to take your time learning this. You know what they say "Rome wasn't built in a day."

6th String Root minor Barre Chord

Video Lesson 23

Standard tuning



Here is the minor bar or barre chord shape with the root on the 6th string. You position your fingers like the Major barre chord without placing your 2nd finger on the third string. Like the Major bar shape when you learn the minor barre shape you can also play it up and down the fretboard.

The chord in the diagram is an Fm but if you move the form up a fret, now you're playing the F#m or written as an F sharp minor. Move up to the next fret, the third fret now you're playing a Gm or G minor.

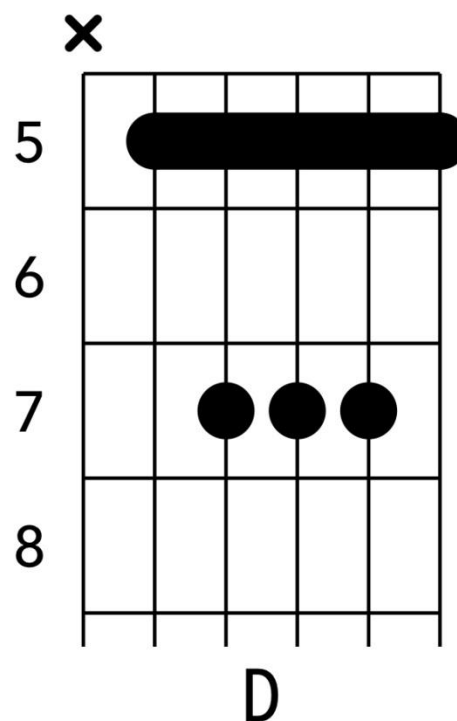
Use the worksheet from lesson 22, and learn all the root notes.

5th string root Barre chords

Video Lesson 24

You can find the root of the chord on the 5th string. The root note is the 1st note and the name of the chord. When you have learned all the notes on the fretboard on the 5th string, and you know this shape of the chord, you will be able to play all the 5th string root barre chords. **Don't forget to print the Worksheet on video 24.** Here is the shape of a Major 5th string root chord:

Standard tuning

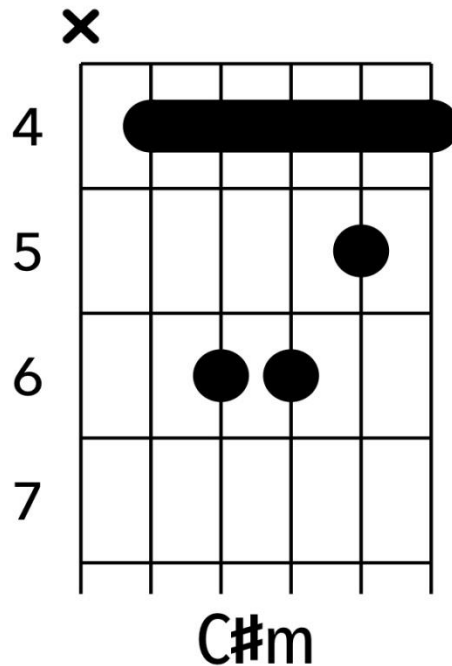


The shape above your 1st finger is barred on the 5th fret which makes this chord a D Major barre chord. If you were to move up a fret this chord would become a D# spelled D Sharp. If you take the same form and go up another fret from the D# it would be a E chord, in the form of the 5th string root barre chord. Where ever your first finger is on the 5th string when making this form is where the root note is. Finger Position: Your first finger is barred across the 5 strings at the 5th fret. Your 3rd finger covers the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd string.

5th String Root minor Barre Chord

Video lesson 25

Standard tuning



This minor 5th string barre chord shape is the C#m, the root of the chord is on the 5th string and at the 4th fret. This is accomplished by barring your 1st finger across the 5 strings on the 4th fret. Your 2nd finger is on the 2nd string, at the 5th fret. Your 3rd finger is on the 4th string, at the 6th fret. Then your 4th finger is on the 3rd string, 6th fret. If you move this shape up a fret you would now be playing the Dm Chord. So you can see how important it is to know the notes of the fretboard. This way you can move chords up and down the fretboard, and play in any key.

Playing a barre chord is extremely difficult for beginner guitarists, but is definitely a chord you need to learn to master. Most songs will have a barre chord in it. You can use a capo to limit the amount of barre chords you will be playing. But there is no way of getting around them. So learn the forms and the root notes. Practice making these chords until you master playing the barre chord.

Strumming Time

Lesson 26

Now that you have a couple of chords under your belt here is a quick way to learn how to strum. First off mute the strings with your fretting hand. Strum down on the numbers and when you see the + sign you strum up. The plus is known as the “and of the beat”. So Always strum down on the number and always strum up on the numbers.

Here’s a tip: All the strums should be an equal distance apart. 1 and 2 and 3 and 4. (1+2+3+4). While you are strumming say the strum out loud. Go slow! Here is the pattern we will try.

1 2 3 4

1 2 3 4

1 2 3 4

Remember you’re not playing any chords, the strings are muted your simply strumming down towards the floor 1 2 3 4, and counting. Once you feel good about strumming down, and it’s an even distance apart, then try the next pattern. The 1+2+3+4, remember the + is the up strum. Don’t stop when you get to 4, try to keep it going. 1+2+3+4, 1+2+3+4, 1+2+3+4 and so on.

1 + 2 + 3 + 4

1 + 2 + 3 + 4

1 + 2 + 3 + 4

So now you are strumming down and up, down and up, down and up, down and up. Don’t forget to count while you strum, 1 and 2 and 3 and 4. If there is a pattern that is missing a number or a + then you still move your arm and hand so you do not miss a beat. You will always be ready to strum on the down beat or the upbeat. Example: 1 + 2 3 + 4, strum down , up, down (bring your hand up, do not strike any strings) Then down, up, down. **Print the worksheet to practice strumming.**

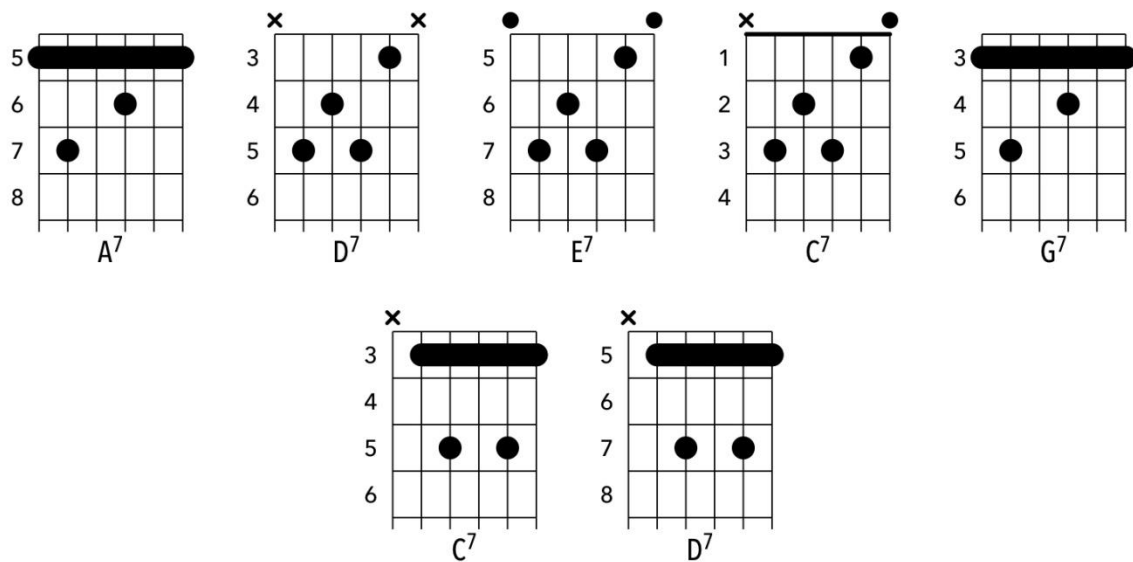
Blues Chords

Video Lesson 27

The blues is the most popular chord progression in music today. It can be found in Rock N Roll, Country, and yes, the blues music. The chords that are played in the blues are the Dominant 7 chords. Like the A7 the B7, G7, Here is a list of some of the Dominant 7 chords.

7th Chords

Standard tuning

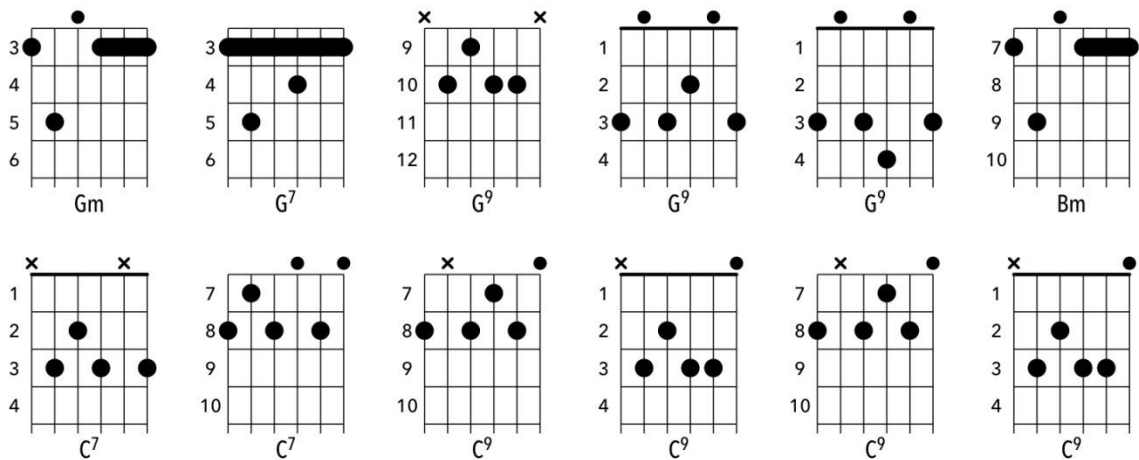


Jazzy Chords

These are for the purpose of learning the finger positioning of these chords. I have made a small collection of chords, but I would recommend learning the open chords, and barre chords front and back before starting these chords. Remember chord shapes can be moved up and down the fretboard, which changes the name of the chord and the root of the chord.

Jazzy

Standard tuning



How to find all the notes on the fretboard

Lesson 28

The Definition of a chord is 3 or more notes played at the same time. Every chord has a root, and the root is the letter name of the chord. Example: A B C D#. Let's take a look at Major and minor chords and what make up the chord. All chords are named by determining what notes are in the chord.

The Major chord is made up of a 1, 3, 5, of the Major Scale. The chord has a root or the 1st, 3rd, and 5th of the scale steps of the Major Scale.

The minor chord is a 1, b3, 5, a minor chord has the 1st flatted 3rd and 5th of the scale steps of the Major scale. All Major chords if you flatten the 3rd note then it is a minor chord.

You can build any chord once you know the Major Scale. There is a formula to follow to make chords, and the formula for the Major Scale is: Whole step, Whole step, Half step, Whole step Whole Step, Whole step, Half step. The names of the notes are 1-8 (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 or 1).

When a note is sharpened (#) the pitch is raised by half a step. A half step is one fret. If the note is flattened (b), then the pitch is lowered by a half step.

The Major Scale Formula

1. The musical alphabet is A B C D E F G A
2. A half step equals the distance between one fret and the next fret.
3. A Whole step is two frets distance or two half steps.
4. (b)Flat is where you lower the pitch by a half step which is one fret.
5. Sharp # is where you raise the pitch by a half step or one fret.
6. Every note has a Sharp except B and E.

Here is what the musical alphabet looks like: A, A #, B, C, C#, D, D#, E, F, F#, G, G#.

Scale steps (Notes) are: 12345678 or 1

The Distance between the notes are: W W H W WW H

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 or 1
W	W	H	W	W	W	W	H

If W is Whole step & H is Half step, Then the Major Scale is (WWH WWWH)

Print out the worksheet, and fill in the blanks to learn all the notes on the fretboard.

Congratulations you have finished the course! Job Well done. I want to say thank you for taking the course and learning the basic foundation of chords. I'm hopeful you will continue your journey of playing guitar.

Come over to YourGuitarGuide.com to see the latest in guitar courses, Gear & guitar tips.

If you enjoyed the course you can always follow me on Twitter, Pinterest or my YouTube Channel. Don't be shy follow, like, share and Subscribe.

I'm Glad you made it this far, and I really hope you will continue this lifelong process of playing the guitar.

Thank You.

Sharon

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