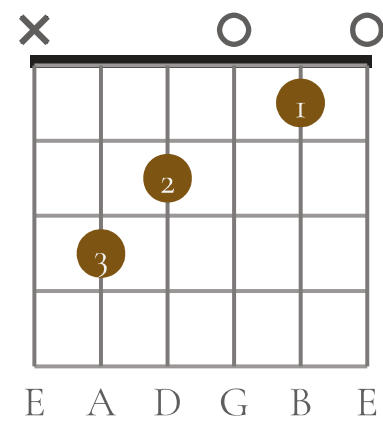


Guitar Chords

Sixteen shapes for the first year of playing. Each box is the neck seen head-on — six strings across, the top line is the nut, and the numbers tell you which finger goes where.



Reading a chord box

Thick top line — the nut, the very end of the neck. Frets run downwards from it.

Vertical lines — the strings, thickest on the left: E A D G B E.

Gold dot — press here. The number inside is the finger to use.

The other marks

○ **above a string** — play it open, no finger.

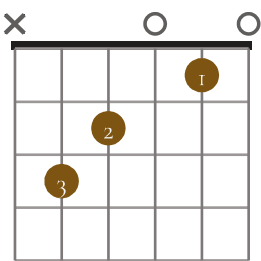
✕ **above a string** — don't play it at all.

A long gold bar — one finger lies flat across several strings: a barre.

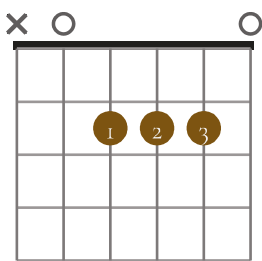
2fr beside a box means the top fret shown is the second, not the first.

Ten chords to learn first Fingers: 1 index · 2 middle · 3 ring · 4 little

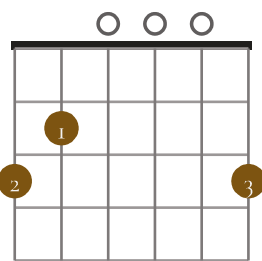
C major



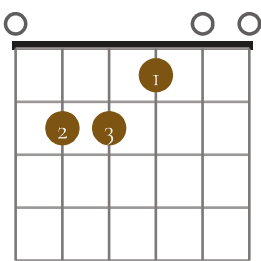
A major



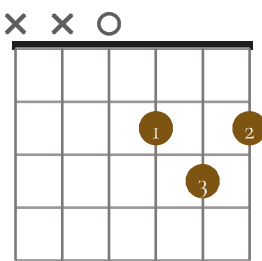
G major



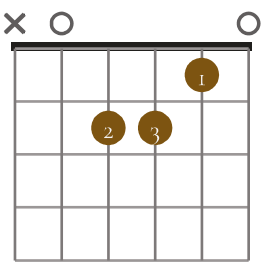
E major



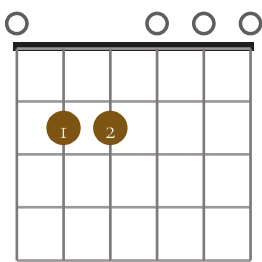
D major



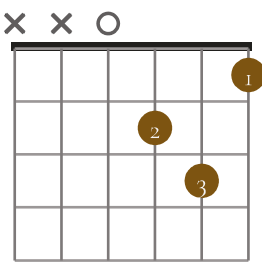
Am minor



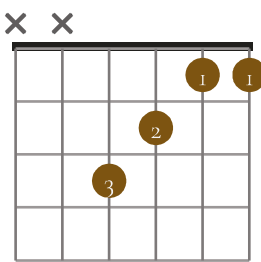
Em minor



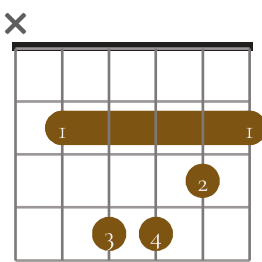
Dm minor



F major

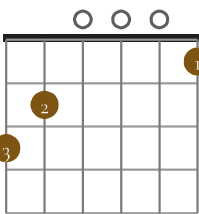


Bm barre

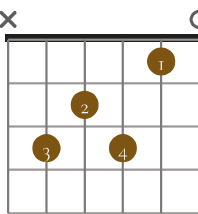


Six dominant sevenths The restless chord that pulls back to the key

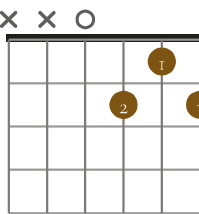
G7



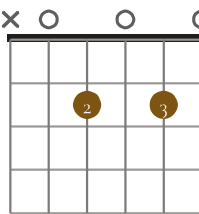
C7



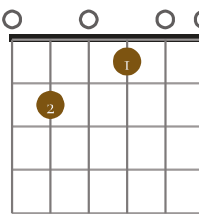
D7



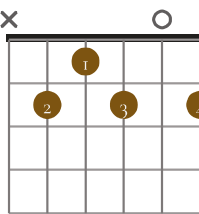
A7



E7



B7



Chord families — songs from three chords Pick a key and stay in its row

KEY	I	IV	V	RELATED KEY
G	G	C	D	Em
C	C	F	G	Am
D	D	G	A	Bm
A	A	D	E	F#m
E	E	A	B7	C#m
Am	Am	Dm	E7	C

Almost every song you know lives in one of these rows. Start with **I — IV — V — I** and change chord at the start of each bar.

Swap the related key in for the I chord and the same progression turns wistful.

Turn the V into its seventh — G into G7 — and the pull back home gets stronger.

Strum down on every beat until the changes are clean, then try down-down-up-up-down-up.