

How to Play Guitar

A Manual for Rock Stars!



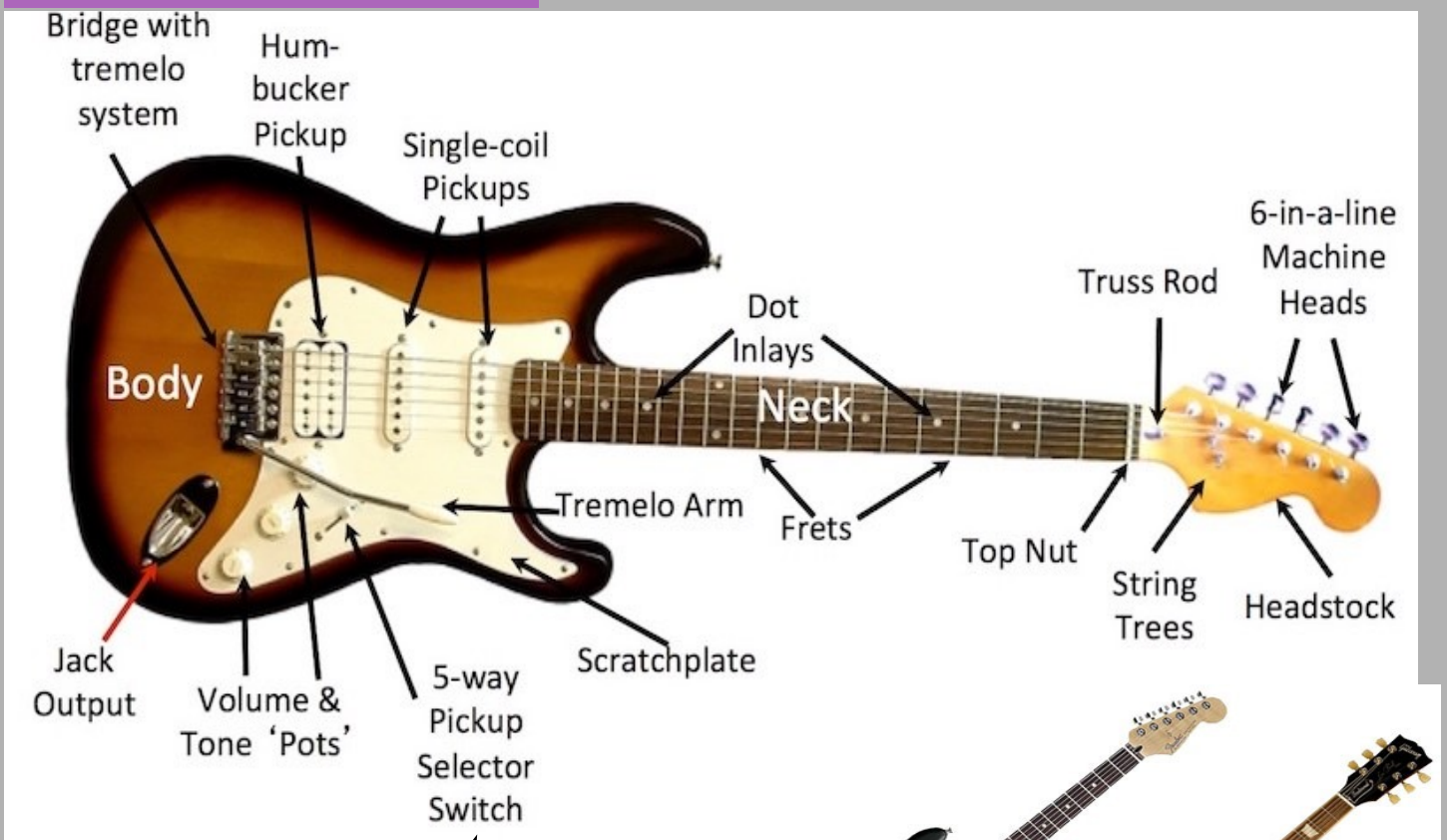
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Intro

How to use QR
Codes

The Parts of the Guitar

Learning the parts of the guitar will help you become a better guitar player, you're learning a new language!



Learn the difference between the Fender Stratocaster and the Gibson Les Paul



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Holding the Guitar

Holding the guitar correctly will help you play more comfortably and efficiently, Practice while wearing a guitar strap, it will help hold the guitar in place.

The guitar should be resting between your right forearm and your right thigh, with your elbow resting roughly on the corner of the body.

Keep your wrist below the fretboard and make sure your fingers can comfortably reach across the strings. Also try to keep the top of your thumb just over the back of the fretboard.

The guitar should be approximately at a 90 degree angle to your body.

To play the guitar properly, you will need to sit in an upright, but comfortable position. You should be able to keep your knees relaxed and your shoulders over the body of the guitar.

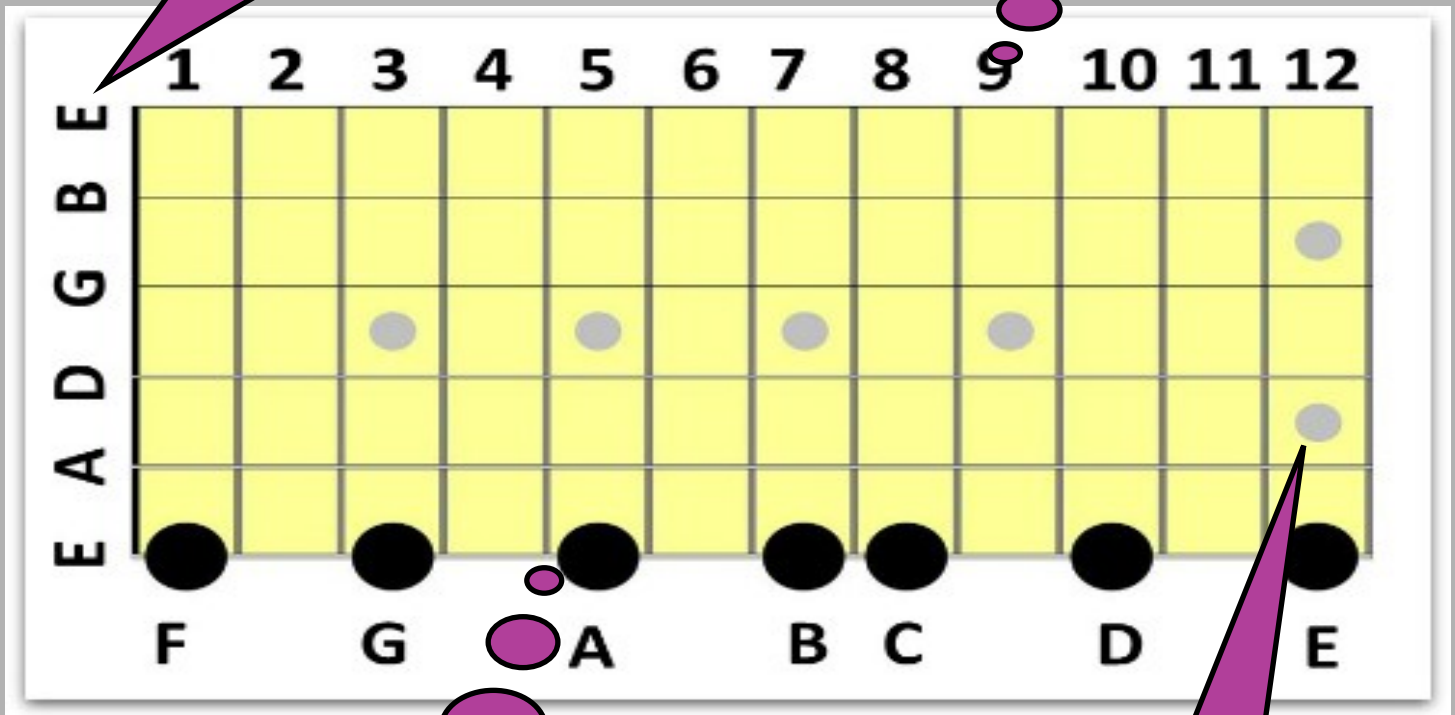


Proper pick technique is important especially as you develop, practice "alternate" picking- up-down-up-down

Notes on the Guitar

These notes are "open strings" The high E is the open string closest to you.

Notice that the 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th fret are indicated by a fret dot.



Knowing the notes on the bottom E string will be important later when learning "bar chords"

The double dots is the octave

How to Tune Your Guitar

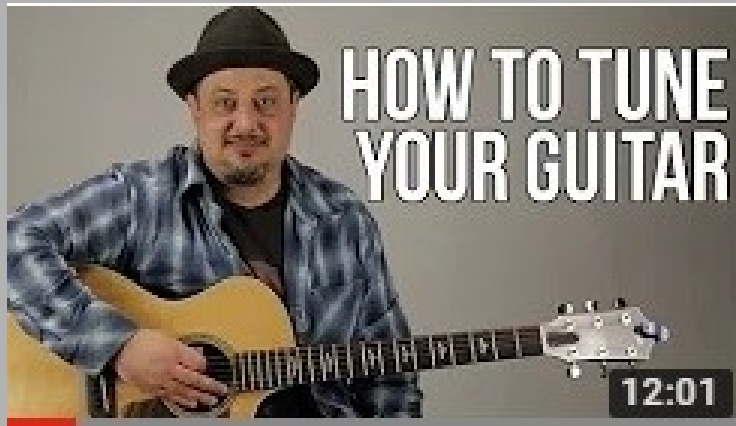
No matter how good your technique is, if you are out of tune you will not sound your best.



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One of the easiest ways to tune your guitar is with an online tuner

Check out this tutorial to teach you how to tune your guitar in standard tuning

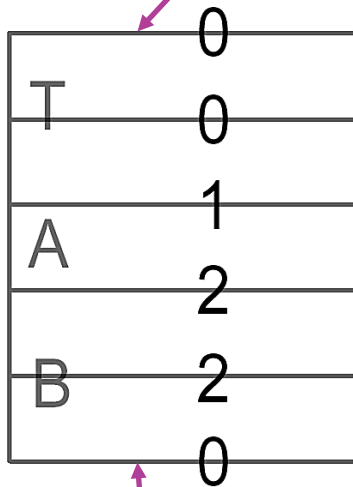


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There are many guitar tunings but standard A440 is the best bet when starting out.

Tablature (Tab)

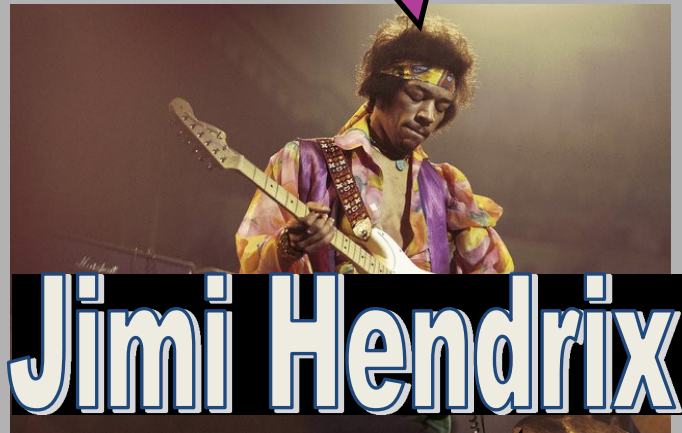
High E string



Here is an example of tablature showing how to play a standard open E major chord

Low E string

Tab is a shorthand way of notating music for the guitar. Each line represents a string and the numbers are at what frets you play the note



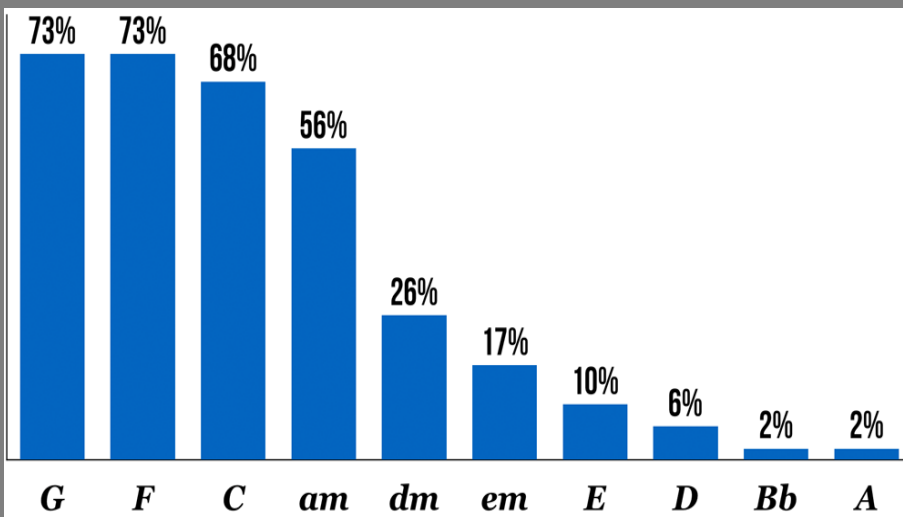
IRON MAN -EASY

BLACK SABBATH

A riff is a repeating phrase usually an introduction or refrain

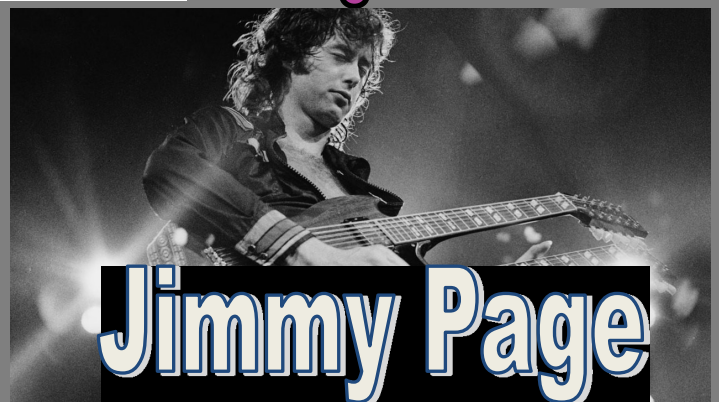
Guitar Chords

A chord is defined as three or more notes played together, there are major chords (happy) and minor chords (sad). Chords are the building block of popular music.



Did you know that most common key in popular music is the key of C.

Most common chords in popular music

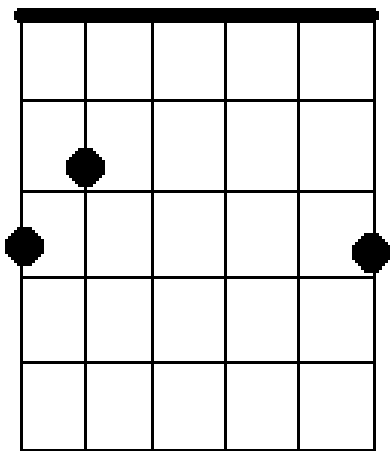


Open Chords

Open chords are played on the first 3 frets and contain "open strings" tend to sound full and have sustain.

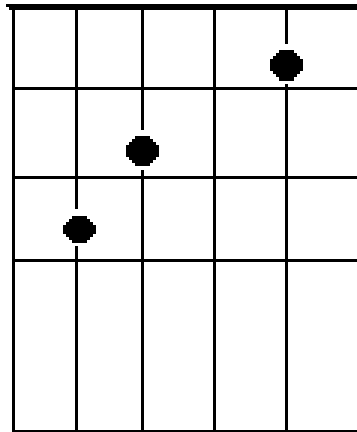
G

2 1 0 0 0 3



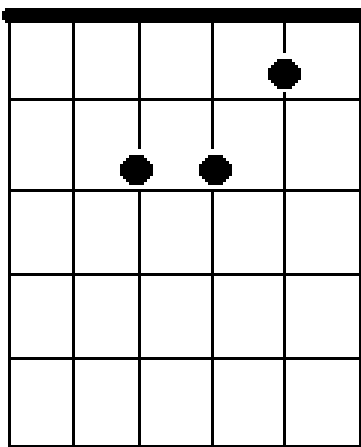
C

X 3 2 0 1 0



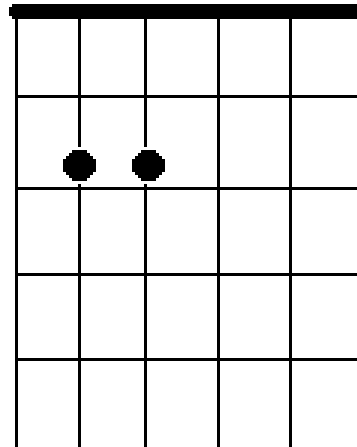
Am

X 0 2 3 1 0



Em

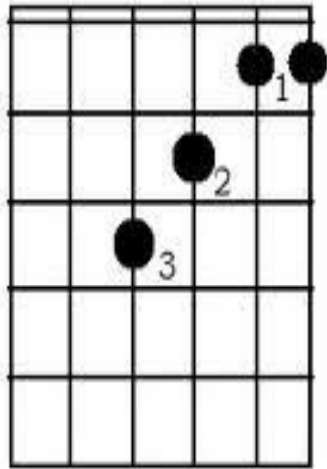
0 2 3 0 0 0



Open Chords

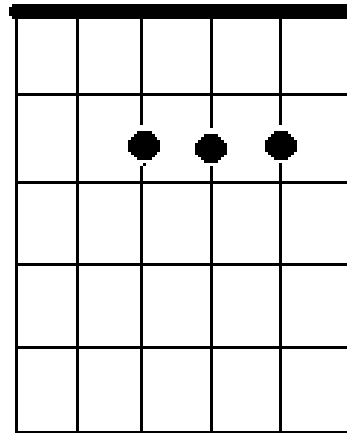
F Major

x x



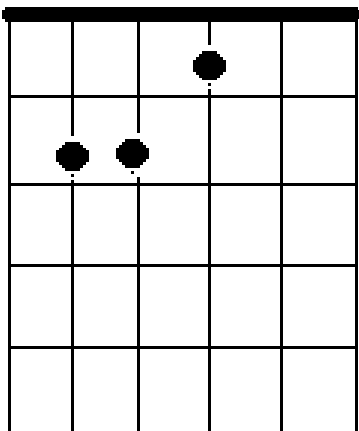
A

x 0 2 3 4 0



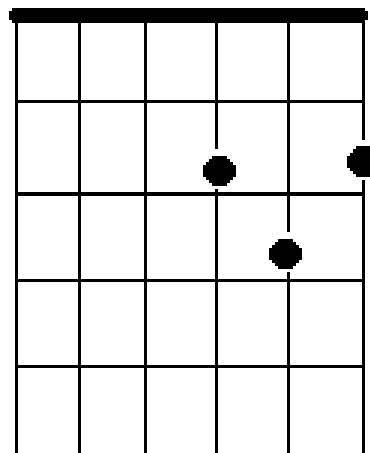
E

0 2 3 1 0 0



D

x x 0 1 3 2

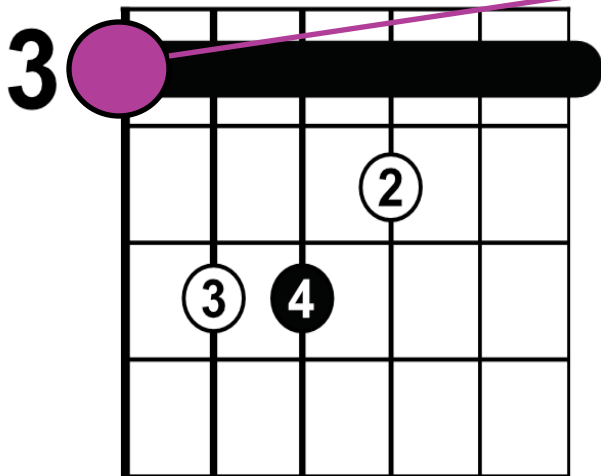


Bar Chords 6th String Root

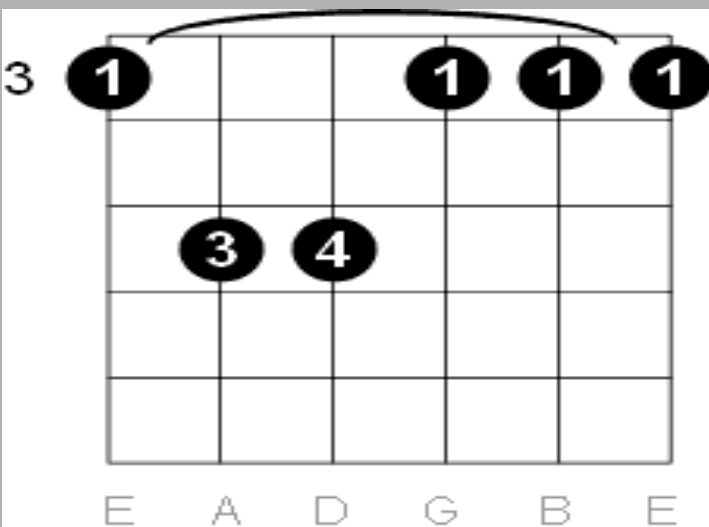


Bar chords are played by laying your index finger across several strings at a time. Very popular with electric guitarists.

G Major Bar Chord



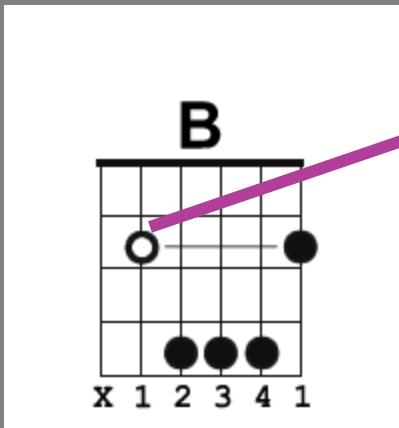
The "root" note on the 6th string is the name of the chord, since the root is on 6th string at the 3rd fret this is a G Major chord. This shape can be moved up and down the fretboard.



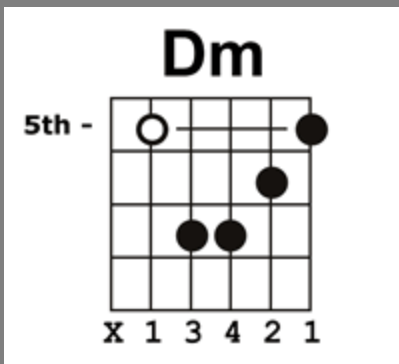
To make the chord minor simply lift up your 2nd finger, practice going between Major and minor and moving up and down the fretboard.



Bar Chords 5th String Root



The “root” note on the 5th string is the name of the chord, since the root is on 5th string at the 2nd fret this is a B Major chord. This shape can be moved up and down the fretboard.



This is a minor bar chord shape. Root is on the 5th string, practice going between Major and minor and moving up and down the fretboard.



Pete Townshend of the Who performing the “windmill”

This is why you must know the names of the notes on the 5th & 6th string!

Our 1st Song!

Don't Stop Believing— Journey

Verse

C G Am F
Just a small town girl, livin' in a lonely world
C G Am F
She took the midnight train, goin' anywhere
C G Am F
Just a city boy, born and raised in South Detroit
C G Am F
He took the midnight train, goin' anywhere

Verse

A singer in a smoky room
The smell of wine and cheap perfume
For a smile they can share the night
It goes on and on and on and on

Chorus

F C
Strangers waiting, up and down the boulevard
F C
Their shadows searching, in the night
F C
Streetlight people, livin' just to find emotion
F C
Hidin' somewhere in the night

Verse

Workin' hard to get my fill, everybody wants a thrill
Payin' anything to roll the dice, just one more time
Some will win, some will lose
Some were born to sing the blues
Oh, the movie never ends
It goes on and on and on and on

