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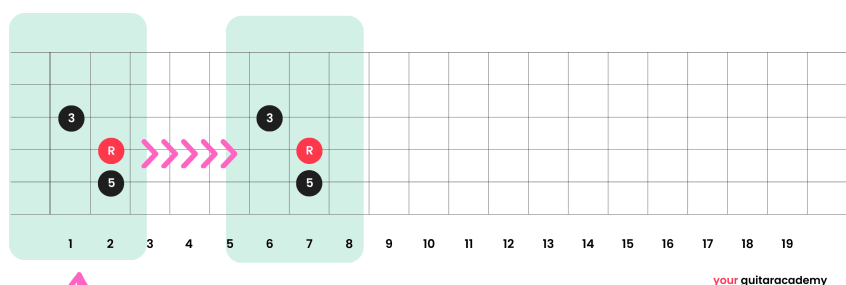
The E Shape Chord

UNIT 1 • LESSON 2 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Diagrams

The E Shape Chord

We will start our barre chord quest by looking at the E shape chord. It is called E shape because it is based on the E major chord, just with a barre behind it. Let's take an example here, assuming we would like to move the E major chord up the neck and transpose it to A major...



Here's our E major chord, using the open strings. We've now moved it up the board to try to create A major.

As you can see, the notes you are fretting are moving to the right place. However, the E, B and E string are still the same notes you had in E. This will give you a lovely mix of two chords, and although very pretty, it's not what we're trying to do. Our aim is to create the same major triad chord, but rather than E major, it will be A major. So instead we do this:

Course navigation

UNIT 1

The E Shape Chord

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In this course, we start the mammoth task of learning barre chords! We will start by doing an exercise to develop hand strength, as well as discuss why barre chords are so useful. We then learn the E shape barre chord and play a cool tune with it!

Lessons:

- What Is a Barre Chord?
- The E Shape Chord
- Notes on the Neck
- "New Groove"
- The Intro & Verse
- The Bridge & Chorus

UNIT 2

The Am Shape Chord

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UNIT 3

The Em Shape Chord

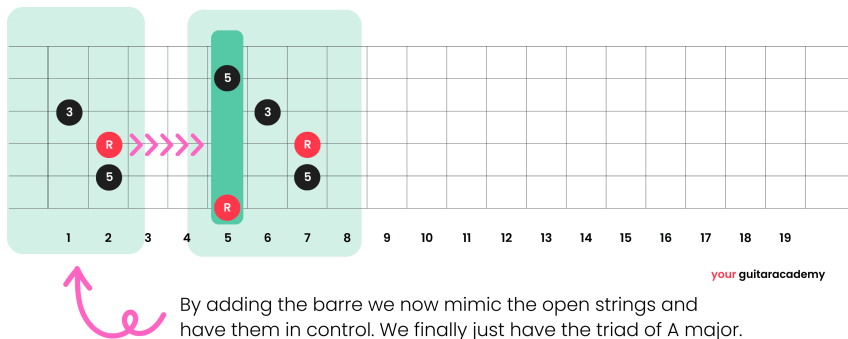
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UNIT 4

The A Shape Chord

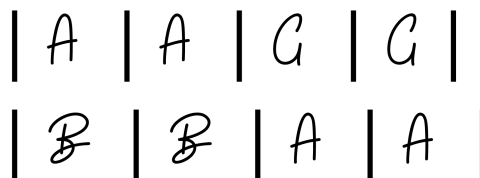
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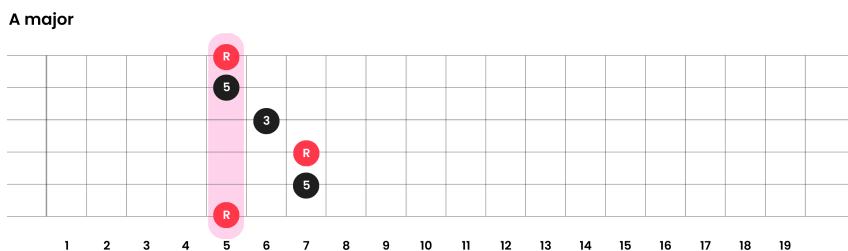
By adding the barre we now mimic the open strings and have them in control. We finally just have the triad of A major.

Moving the chord

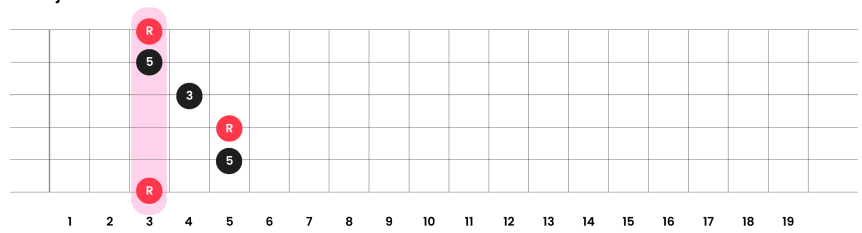
When practising this chord, make sure you push down hard and it sounds as clear as possible, we will also move it around the neck. Remember that this chord shape is always a major chord, but depending on what fret you place it on, you get a different root note. For example, **if you put the shape on the 3rd fret you get a G Major chord. If you put it on the 7th fret you get a B Major chord**, and so on! Here is the chord progression to play:



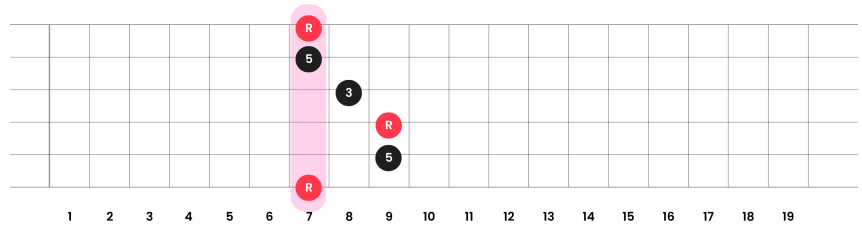
To help you with this, here are the fretboard diagrams for each of these chords.



G major



B major



“

Work with this simple exercise until you're starting to feel a bit more comfortable with the chords you are moving around. Once it's settling a little bit (no need for perfection here) you can move on!

Dan

”



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