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John Frusciante

Player Studies



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Twiddly Widdly's

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 4** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

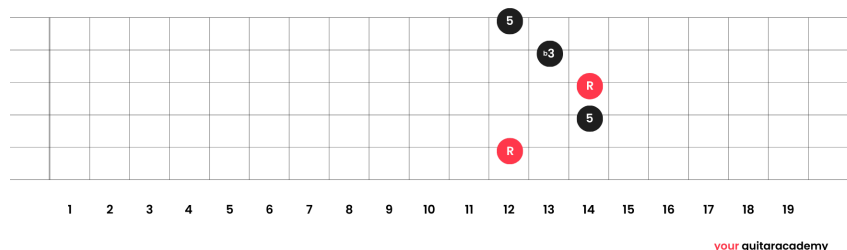
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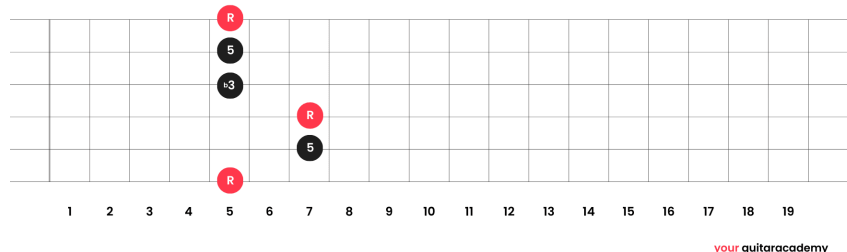
Bring On Minor

We need to do the same thing we did for major, with minor. The good news is that Frusciante tends to focus more on just two CAGED shapes in the minor system. Now, that's not to say he doesn't know the rest, or even use it from time to time, but as with most great players he's settled on a set of systems that just works for him. For Frusciante, it's the Em shape and the Am shape, as shown here:

A Minor Chord (A Minor Shape)



A Minor Chord (E Minor Shape)



Course navigation

UNIT 1

Twiddly Widdly's

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In this first unit our focus is to learn how Frusciante embellishes certain CAGED chord shapes. We call these his "twiddly widdlys"...

Lessons:

- Getting Started
- Practice Time!
- The Licks!
- Bring On Minor
- Minor Twiddly!

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“

We don't typically play these shapes using barre chords either, as Dion shows you in the video. The thumb over the top approach ensures you have more fingers free for twiddly bits!

Dion

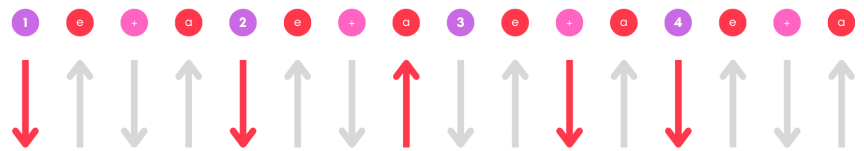
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So your task is to follow along with Dion, and try to get this set of licks together in time and in groove! **Remember, that whenever you use any of those shapes, you can always use these licks.** Our job over the next few lessons and units is to start to build up your repertoire of licks with each chord shape!

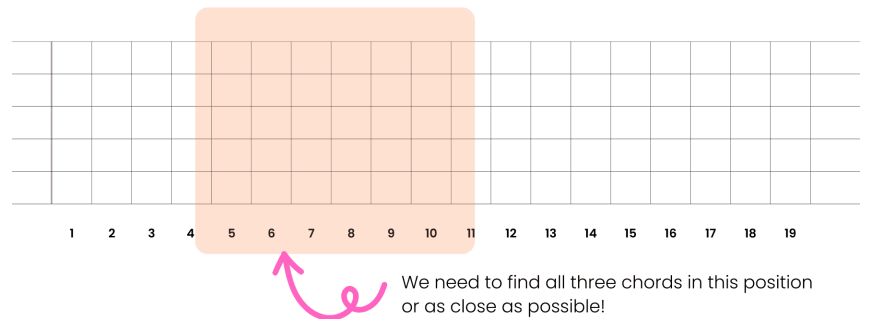
Finding the shapes...

Just as before, we can now look to try and find these shapes within a chord progression, bringing in the major as well. Here is the progression and strumming pattern:

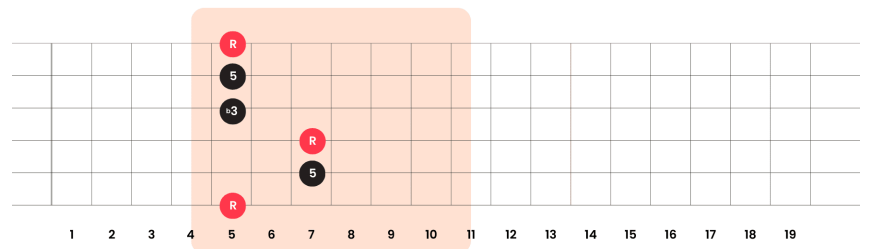
| Am | Dm | C | C |



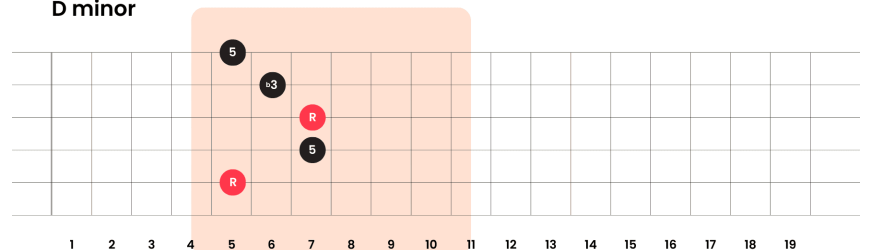
Our task now is to pick a zone of the neck, and try to find these chords. Dion runs through a few examples in the video, so let's just demonstrate one of those here. We will choose this area of the neck:



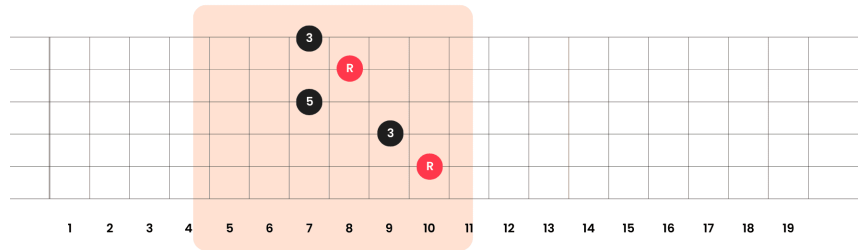
A minor



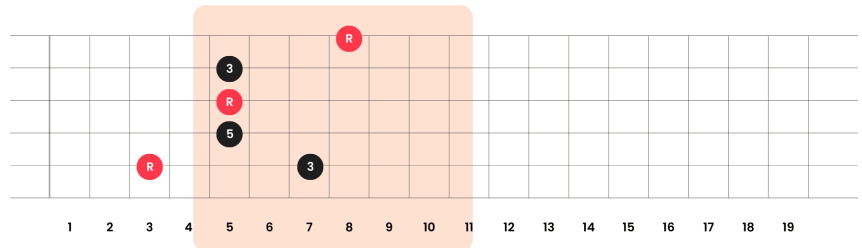
D minor



G major



C major



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