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Jack White & The White Stripes

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Jack White's Blues

UNIT 3 • **LESSON 1** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Diagrams

The I, IV, V Chords In Blues

So what is a 1, 4, 5 chord? Well, firstly, we would typically write them in Roman numerals, like this: I, IV, V. Secondly, this is **based on the degrees of the major scale**. Let's make that really clear by drawing out the A major scale here, with Roman numerals above each note.

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	I
A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#	A

A MAJOR SCALE

This is the A major scale, built from the formula T,T,S,T,T,T,S. This is our base scale.



As you can see, when we look at the A major scale, the I, IV and V chords are A, D and E. These will always harmonise to be major chords, so we can safely say that the 1,4,5 in A is A major, D major and E major.

Dig a little deeper

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Jack White's Blues

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It's time to talk about the blues, as Jack White and blues go hand in hand. His major influence is without doubt rooted in blues playing and great blues players.

Lessons:

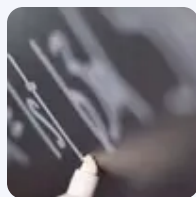
- The I, IV, V Chords In Blues
- 12 Bar Blues In E
- Breaking The Rules!
- Making Connections
- Adding a Little More...

UNIT 4

Leaves & Biscuits

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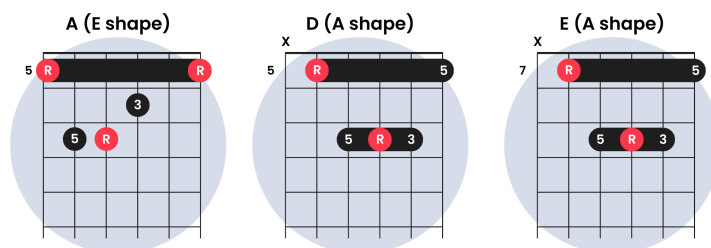
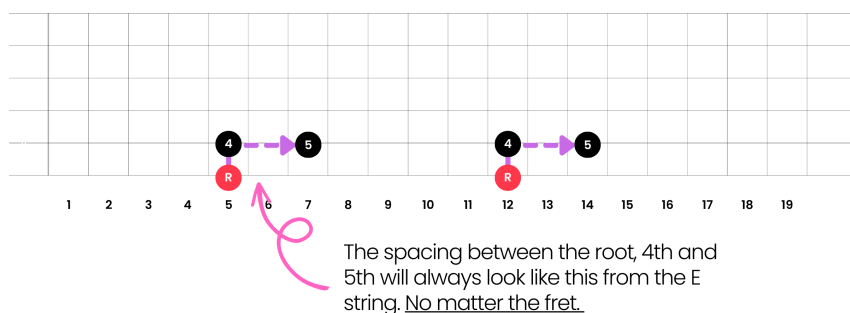
Want more detail on this theory stuff? We have a full theory course and the best place to start is the Essential Theory lessons.



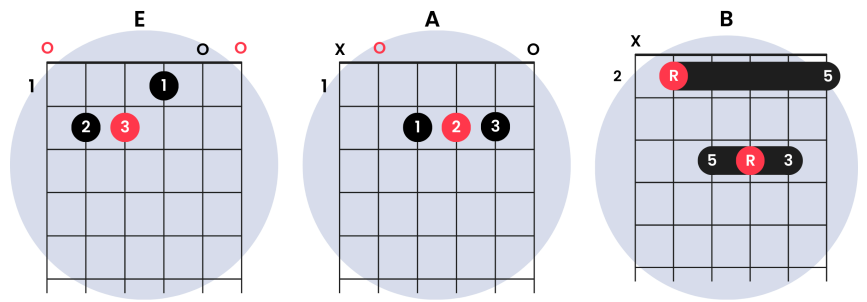
Essential Theory Theory Lab

Onto The Guitar...

To find a 1,4,5 on the guitar, we can use a simple pattern. If you play the 1 chord on the E string, for example, A major as a barre chord, you can then find the 4 chord one string down and the 5 chord two frets across from the 4 chord. Like this:



You can then move this around to anywhere on the neck. In our example we are moving it finally to the key of E major, which allows us to use open chord shapes. We therefore need to use the same shapes as above, just down around the first frets. It would look like this:



Practice these shapes (Which can also be found in the **diagrams** section), and we'll continue this idea in the next lesson. See you there!



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