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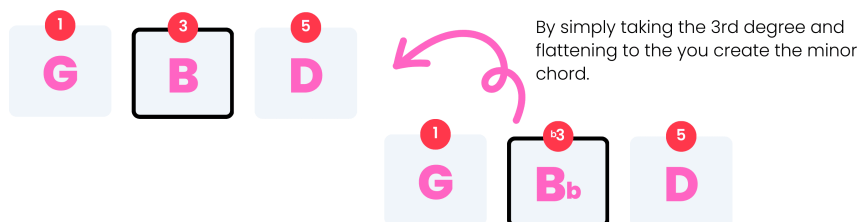
The Em Shape

UNIT 3 • LESSON 1 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

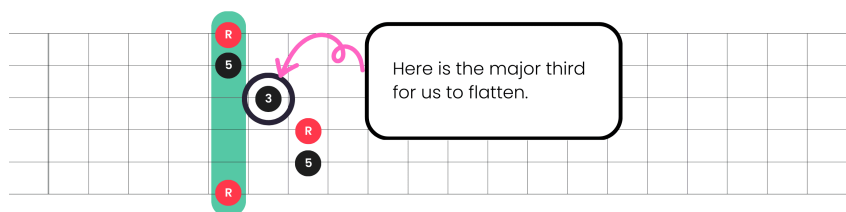
Lesson notes Diagrams

The Em Shape

Our third chord shape is based on the Em open chord. The easiest way to learn this chord is by taking the E shape major barre chord and removing the second finger. The tricky bit, however, is then getting the G string to ring out nice and clearly! It will take some work, so don't be put off if you can't get it the first time, not many people do! Let's look at the theory based around a G major and G minor chord:



It is therefore easy to shift our major barre chord to the minor, as long as we can locate the 3rd degree. Let's do it for A major, which looks like this:



Course navigation

UNIT 1

The E Shape Chord

0%



UNIT 2

The Am Shape Chord

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UNIT 3

The Em Shape

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At this point in the barre chord quest, we will be tackling the third shape, the Em shape. However, there is still a lot to be done on the previous shapes to get them confident and clear, so in the song at the end of this course, we use all 3 shapes!

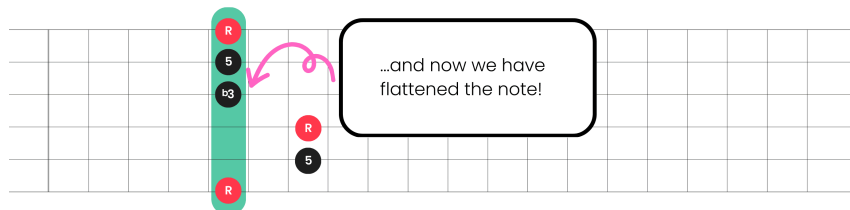
Lessons:

- The Em Shape
- Why Two Shapes?
- "Minor Blues"
- Rhythm...
- The Chords

UNIT 4

The A Shape Chord

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Moving the chord

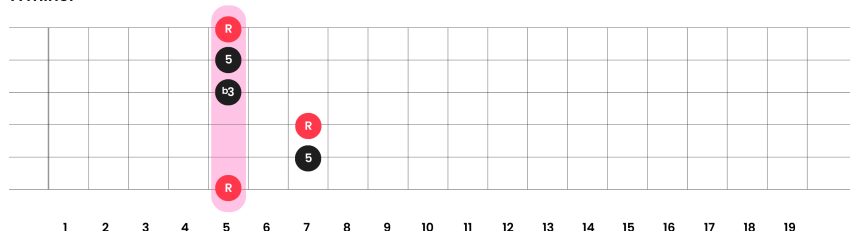
When practising this chord, as well as moving it around the neck, make sure you push down hard and it sounds as clear as possible. Remember that this chord shape is always a minor chord, but depending on what fret you place it on, you get a different root note. For example, if you put the shape on the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



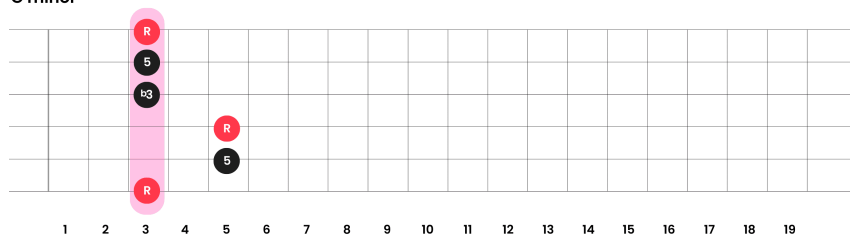
Super simple progression, but great exercise for moving these chord shapes around the neck!

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

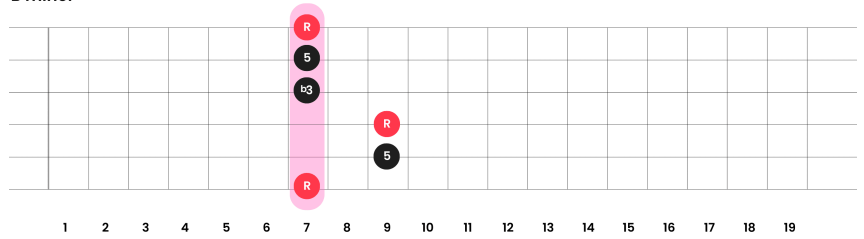
A minor



G minor



B minor



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