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# Ed Sheeran

Player Studies



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## Chordal Flickys

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Lesson notes

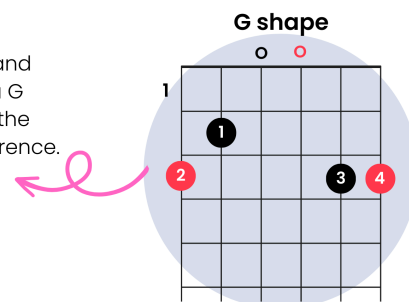
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Diagrams

### The G Chord Shape

We will start by looking at the G shape chord. Now, notice how we refer to it as a “G shape” rather than simply “G Chord”. That’s because these are two separate things. The G chord will always have the notes G, B & D in it. If you put those notes together on the guitar (or any other instrument) you will have a G major chord. However, that G shape is specifically that open shape we know and love (see the diagram below). If you use this shape further up the guitar, and with a capo on another fret, it may not end up being a G chord any more (as it may not have G, B & D in it) but it’s still the G shape.

Imagine if you put a capo on the 2nd fret and used this shape. This would still be called a G shape, but now would actually be playing the notes of an A major chord. That is the difference.



### Layering the scale

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#### Flickys

We're going to be taking a deeper dive into the improvisational nature of Ed Sheeran's playing, focusing in on those flicks and twists that he plays around with on open chord and barre chord shapes.

Lessons:

- The G Chord Shape
- The C & Am Chord Shape
- The A & D Chord Shape
- Barre Chords
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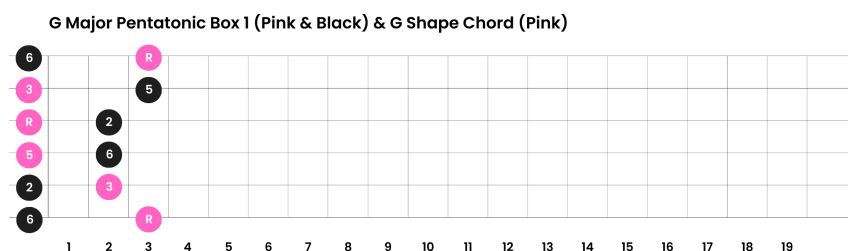
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When we work with the shape of a chord, rather than the chord notes itself, we can layer up a scale underneath the shape. These scale notes will always work with that chord shape, no matter where you put it on the guitar. That is our aim in this unit! So, let's tackle the G shape and the G major pentatonic in the open position.



“

I encourage you to try to visualise these two elements on top of each other, and then play around with it to your heart's content! See what happens as you hammer on, and

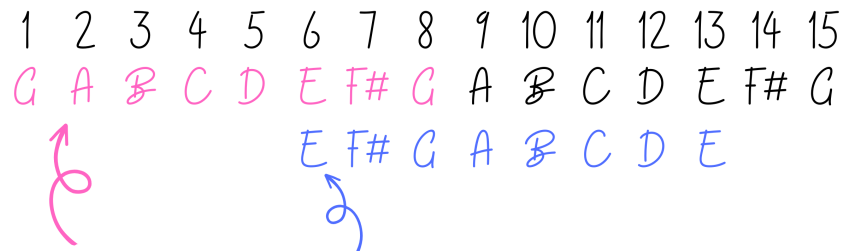
move  
between  
these  
notes  
under the  
chord.

Thomas



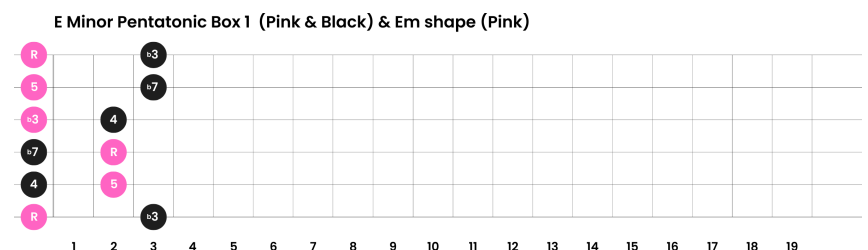
## Relative major and minor

Every major scale has a related minor. These are the exact same notes, just starting and ending in a different place. For example, if we had the G major scale and E minor scale side by side, you can see clearly how the notes are the same:



The pink notes are the G major scale, and the blue notes are the E minor scale. The relative minor always starts on the 6th degree of the major scale and contains the exact same notes.

This means we can do the same thing with our chord and scale layer, except now with E minor.





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