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# Barre Chords

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UNIT 1

## Barre Chords

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Master barre chords

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- The E Shape Chord
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- The Am Shape Chord
- The A Shape Chord

## Barre Chords

UNIT 1 • LESSON 4 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

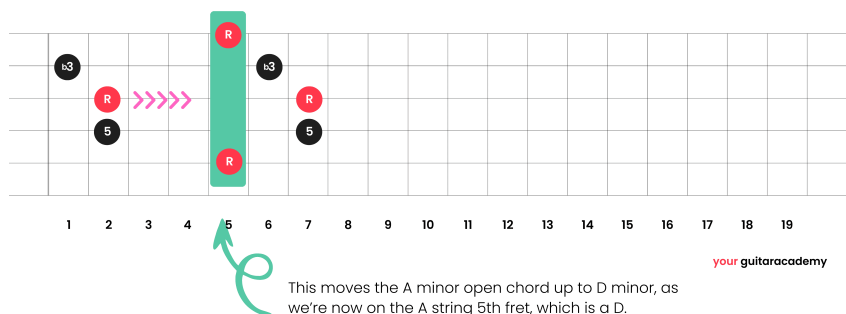
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### The Am Shape Chord

We're now moving away from our root notes on the E string, and tackling the A string barre chords. We'll kick off with the A minor shape, as it's far easier than the major shape. So when you're ready, pick up your guitar and let's get started.

### Transposing the A

E is not the only chord we can make into a barre chord shape! We can do the same process with A, and that gives us access to all the major and minor chords we want to play on the A string, as well as the E string. We'll start with A minor for this process, and it would look like this:

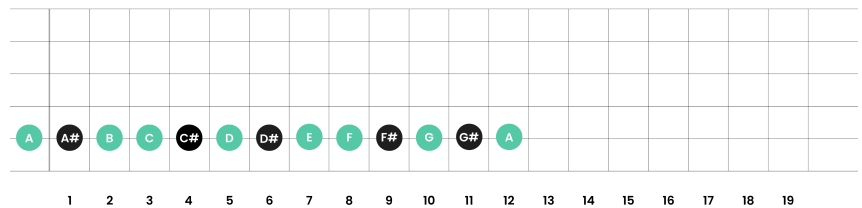


An important point here is that we do not need to fret the E string (the thickest string) at all. The root note is on the A string, and so that should be the lowest note we hear in the chord. You can mute the E string by slightly touching it with the first finger. You'll see Franco do this every single time he plays the chord in the video.

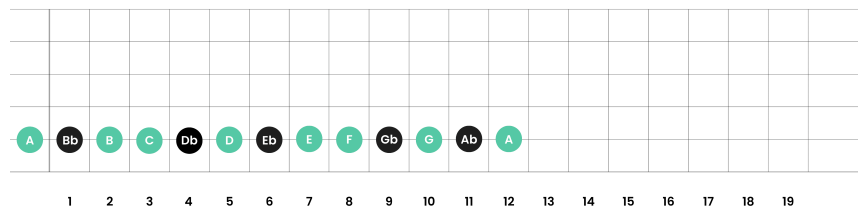
## The notes on the neck

As you're now probably realising at this point, we need to easily be able to find the right note on the A string. So, as a reference for you, here are all the notes on the A string in sharps and flats.

Sharps On A String (memorise notes in green)



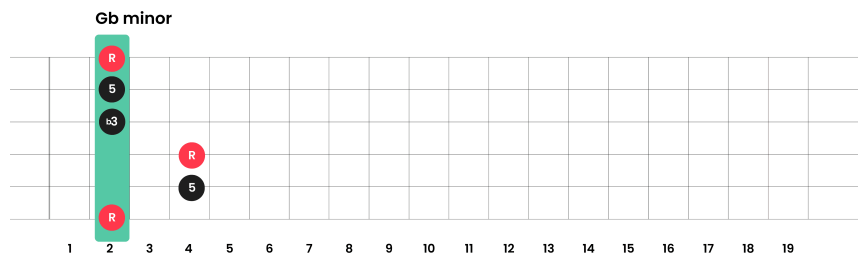
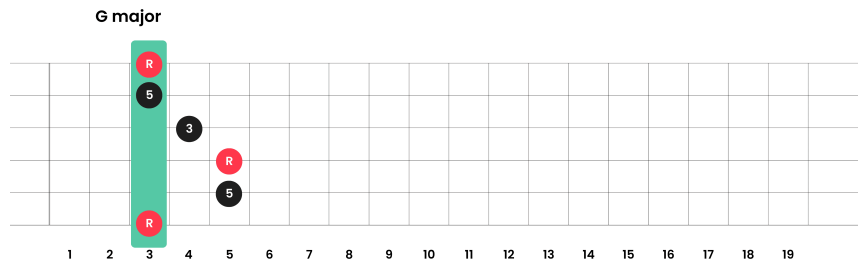
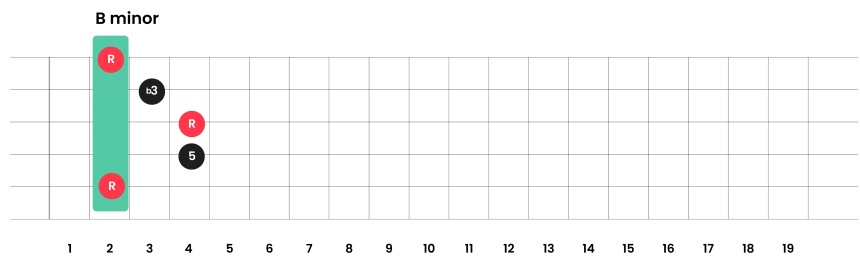
Flats On A String (Notes to Memorise in Green)



## The track

To get this all into practice, we're going to be using a simple jam track to help you move this chord around the neck. The chord chart is:

| Bm | C | Cbm | Cbm |



As you can see, we've now shifted this chord chart to use the new Am shape. It actually keeps the whole progression in one place, which is a massive benefit to learning more barre chords! The more shapes we know, the more we can decide how we want to play those chords. This choice opens up different musical ideas, and easier playing!



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