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Acoustic Beginners

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills



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Essentials Part 3

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

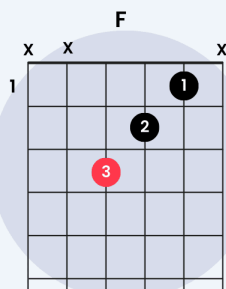
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New Chords

It's time to take another step up in difficulty by learning the last open chords we'll need for now. The new minor chords are a little easier to pick up, but F major can be very tricky. In fact, it makes sense to divide the F major into a few stages, eventually ending up with the full barre chord shape. Those stages of F major look like this:

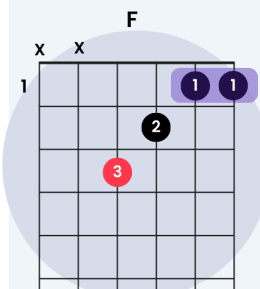
1

The first F is a three string version, and covers every note you need! Perfect start.



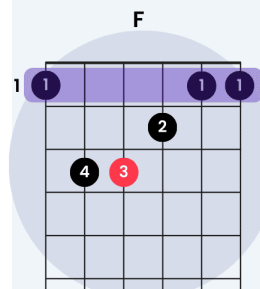
2

The second F is the first mini barre chord you will tackle, and allows you to play 4 strings.



3

Finally, we upgrade to the full 6 string barre chord shape, but this is later down the line.



Course navigation

UNIT 1

Essentials Part 0% ✓
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UNIT 3

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In this course we'll be learning three more open chords, including the notoriously tricky F major! We'll then explore the difference between swung and straight rhythm patterns and finally tackle a new song with a hint of Van Morrison about it!

Lessons:

- **New Chords**
- **Swung Rhythms**
- **"Can't Hold Me Back"**
- **Intro and Verse**
- **Chorus**

UNIT 4

Essentials Part 0% ✓
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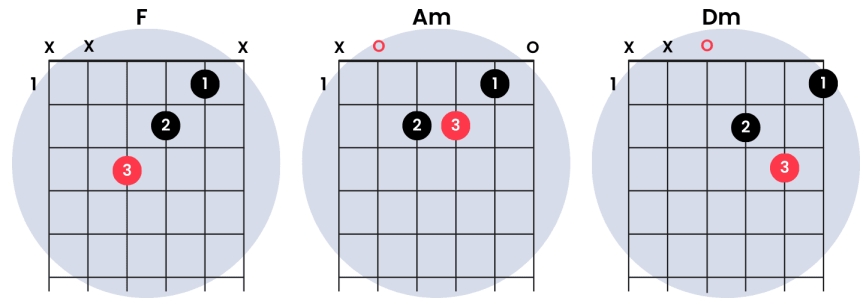
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All these F major chords have the same notes in them, it's just that as they use more strings we double or even triple up on the same notes! That's why the first F major chord is still perfectly fine, as it has the three notes needed to make the major chord!

Dan

”

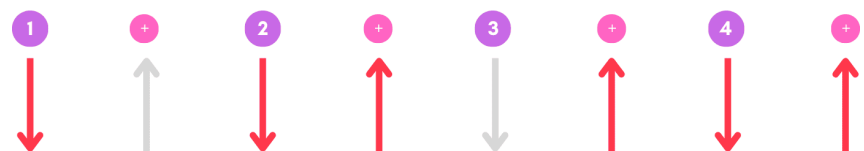
So, here are the three chord shapes we are learning in today's lesson:



Changing chords

As always, we will begin to practice by changing between these new chords to a beat. The chord chart is as shown below, and you should try to apply the "universal strumming pattern" to the changes as soon as you feel confident in doing so.

practice chart



Want to understand chords?

If you love getting to the bottom of the theory behind the chords, check out our Theory Lab section of the site when you have time. The course you will need is the Essential Theory course. Enjoy!



Essential Theory

Theory Lab



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