

5 Common Chord Types

Boxes = Root (The letter name you brain should 1st think about)
Diamond = Redundant. These notes are unnecessary to maintain the chord name

Diagram and musical notation for A, Am, A7, Am7, and Amaj7 chords. The diagrams show fingerings on a 6-string guitar grid. The musical notation shows the chords in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Chord shapes and musical notation for A, Am, A7, Am7, and Amaj7. The diagrams show fingerings on a 6-string guitar grid. The musical notation shows the chords in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

To Do:

1. Put in fingerings (counterintuitive fingerings)
2. Name scale degrees and/or solfedge
3. Name interval distances (Ex. minor 3rd)
4. Practice transposing to different keys
5. Compose!

Diagram and musical notation for B, Bm, B7, Bm7, and Bmaj7 chords. The diagrams show fingerings on a 6-string guitar grid. The musical notation shows the chords in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#).

Chord shapes and musical notation for B, Bm, B7, Bm7, and Bmaj7. The diagrams show fingerings on a 6-string guitar grid. The musical notation shows the chords in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#).

Notice how the shape stays the same. I opted for concise music theory and easily moveable chords.

Notice how 5 letter names up from the root is often missing as if there is a gap in the chord. This is done because those notes are not needed to maintain the chord name, have little emotional impact, and because guitar struggles to have some voicings be practical.

Diagram and musical notation for C, Cm, C7, Cm7, and Cmaj7 chords. The diagrams show fingerings on a 6-string guitar grid. The musical notation shows the chords in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

Chord shapes and musical notation for C, Cm, C7, Cm7, and Cmaj7. The diagrams show fingerings on a 6-string guitar grid. The musical notation shows the chords in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

2

D **Dm** **D7** **Dm7** **Dmaj7**

16

This section shows the first five chords of the guide. Each chord is represented by a 6x6 fingerboard diagram and a corresponding musical staff in treble clef. The diagrams use 'x' for muted strings and 'o' for open strings. The musical notation shows the notes for each chord: D (D, F#, A, D), Dm (D, F, A, D), D7 (D, F#, C, A, D), Dm7 (D, F, C, A, D), and Dmaj7 (D, F#, C#, A, D).

E **Em** **E7/D** **Em7** **Emaj7**

21

This section shows the next five chords. The diagrams and notation are as follows: E (E, G#, B, E), Em (E, G, B, E), E7/D (E, G#, B, D, E), Em7 (E, G, B, D, E), and Emaj7 (E, G#, B, D, E).

Unique chords can be built by finding other combinations versions of the same letter names. For this guide, I opted for more concise, transposable voicings, rather than super clever voicings.

F **Fm** **F7** **Fm7** **Fmaj7**

26

This section shows the next five chords. The diagrams and notation are as follows: F (F, A, C, F), Fm (F, A, B, F), F7 (F, A, C, E, F), Fm7 (F, A, B, E, F), and Fmaj7 (F, A, C, E, F).

There are some chords missing in this guide, but hopefully this is enough to transpose to whatever key you need.

G **Gm** **G7** **Gm7/F** **Gmaj7**

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This section shows the final five chords. The diagrams and notation are as follows: G (G, B, D, G), Gm (G, Bb, D, G), G7 (G, B, F, D, G), Gm7/F (G, Bb, F, D, G), and Gmaj7 (G, B, D, F#, G).

5 Common Chord Types

Diagram showing five common guitar chord types (A, Am, A7, Am7, Amaj7) with their respective fretboard diagrams and musical notation. The notation shows the root note (A) as the lowest note, often with redundant notes.

This version shows famous versions of guitar chords that often have the root as the lowest note. These versions often have redundant notes that are not necessary to maintain the chord name.

Diagram showing five common guitar chord types (B, Bm, B7, Bm7, Bmaj7) with their respective fretboard diagrams and musical notation. The notation shows the root note (B) as the lowest note, often with redundant notes.

Diagram showing five common guitar chord types (C, Cm, C7, Cm7, Cmaj7) with their respective fretboard diagrams and musical notation. The notation shows the root note (C) as the lowest note, often with redundant notes.

2

D **Dm** **D7** **Dm7** **Dmaj7**

16

E **Em** **E7** **Em7** **Emaj7**

21

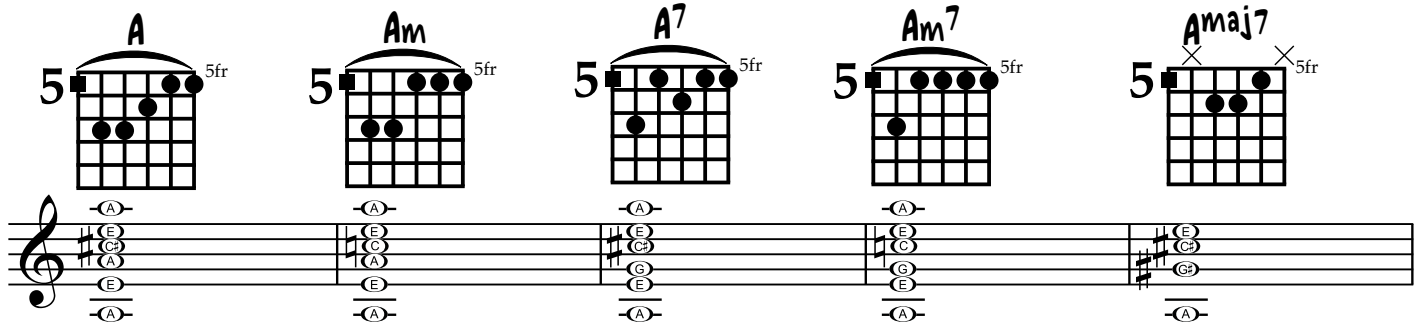
F **Fm** **F7** **Fm7** **Fmaj7**

26

G **Gm** **G7** **Gm7** **Gmaj7**

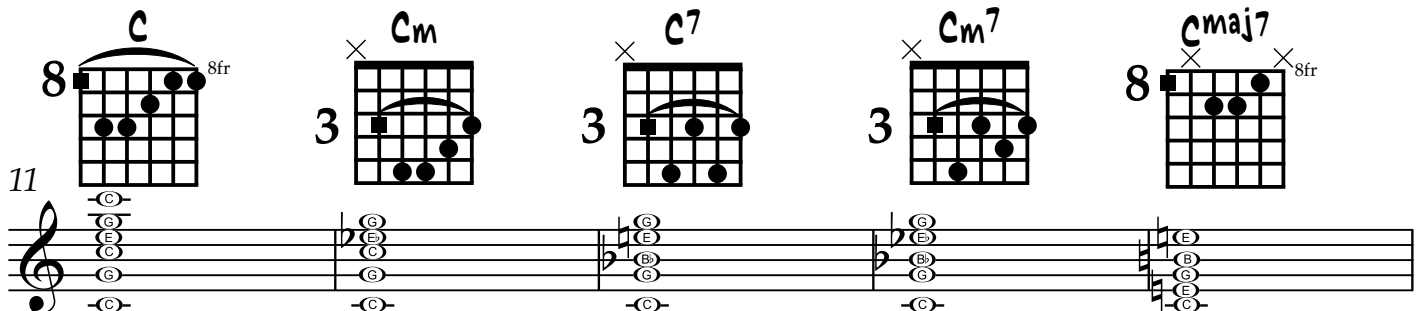
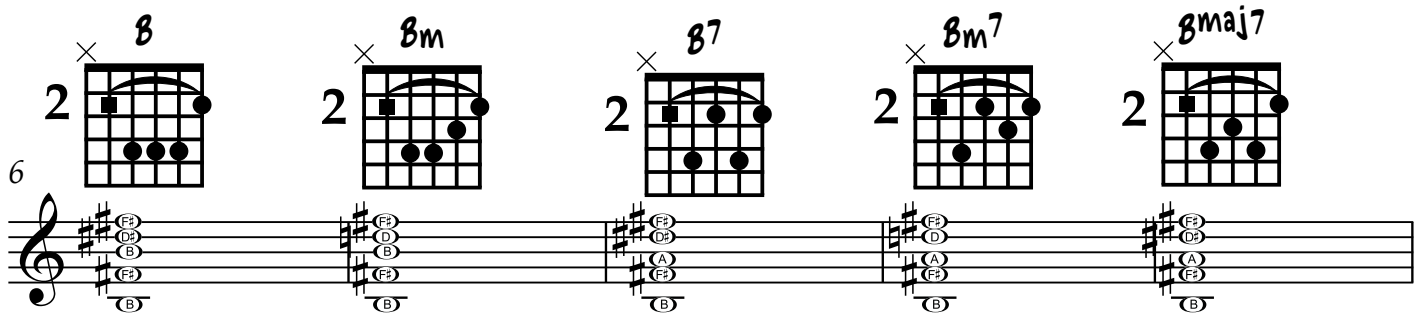
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5 Common Chord Types



This version includes larger chords. Consider if playing the entire chord is really worth it.

There is a well known guitar chord concept called "CAGED". The famous versions of C, A G, E, D chords can risen in pitch to create the chords found in more difficult keys. For example, the first chord in this guide should remind you of a famous version of an E major chord.



2

5fr

D

Dm

D7

Dm7

Dmaj7

5fr

5fr

5fr

5fr

5fr

16

E

Em

E7

Em7

Emaj7

7fr

7fr

7fr

7fr

7fr

21

F

Fm

F7

Fm7

Fmaj7

8fr

26

G

Gm

G7

Gm7

Gmaj7

31