

guitarchordschemes

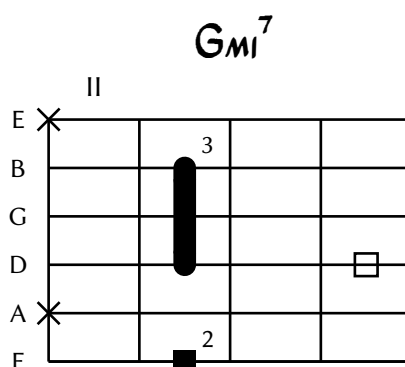
VO.2 2013/04/30

Guitar Chord Tablatures with TikZ

Clemens NIEDERBERGER

<https://bitbucket.org/cgnieder/guitarchordschemes/>
contact@mychemistry.eu

English documentation



Contents	3 Options	4
	4 Using realbookchords	5
1 License and Requirements	1 References	6
2 The Command	2 Index	7

1 License and Requirements

GUITARCHORDSCHEMES is placed under the terms of the L^AT_EX Project Public License, version 1.3 or later (<http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt>). It has the status “maintained”.

GUITARCHORDSCHEMES loads the packages TikZ [TWF10], etoolbox [Leh11] and pgfopts [Wri11]. It also loads the TikZ libraries shapes.misc, arrows and calc. Depending on an option it also loads realbookchords [Nie13]. This package is not yet published on CTAN¹ and thus not

¹ the COMPREHENSIVE T_EX ARCHIVE NETWORK

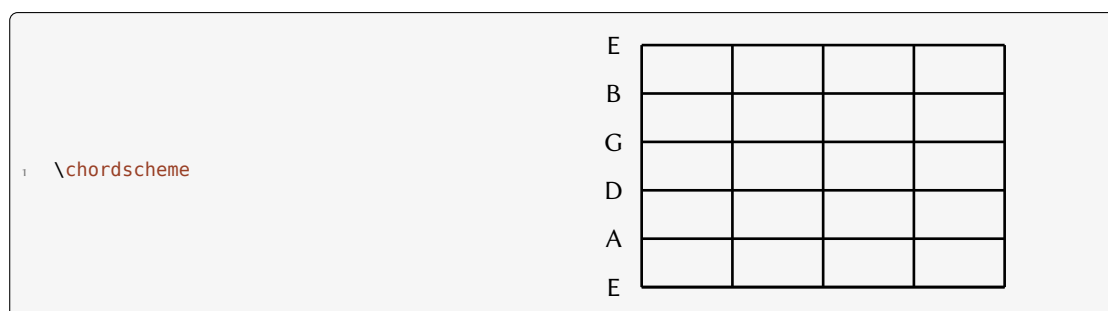
part of any T_EX distribution. Until it is you can find it at <https://bitbucket.org/cgnieder/realbookchords/>. See section 4 for details on this option.

2 The Command

This package more or less provides a single command:

► `\chordscheme[<options>]`

This command sets the frame for the chord tablature and can be used to create a sheet for manually writing down chord tablatures:



The [options] argument is where the actual details for a chord happen. These are the available ones:

- `name = <chordsymbol>`
Set the chord symbol. This option accepts a list of entries.
- `position = <position>`
Set the position for the first of the four frets.
- `finger = <fret>/<string>/<finger>`
Specify the finger positions for a chord. This option accepts a list of entries.
- `root = <fret>/<string>/<finger>`
The same as finger but uses a square instead of a circle to indicate that this finger is playing the root of the chord. This option accepts a list of entries.
- `show-root = <fret>/<string>`
Specify positions of the root that are *not* part of the actual chord but are somewhere in the vicinity of it on the guitar neck. This option accepts a list of entries.
- `barre = <fret>/<string range>/<finger>`
Specify a barré position for a chord. The `<string range>` part must contain a two string numbers separated with a dash. This option accepts a list of entries.
- `ring = <string>`
Specify open strings. This option accepts a list of entries.

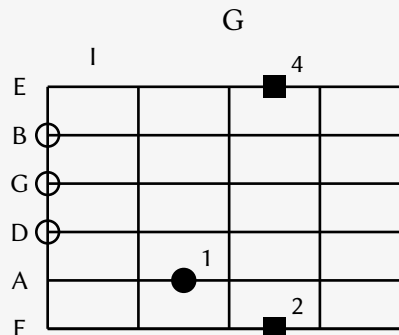
2 The Command

► `mute = <string>`

Specify muted/un-played strings This option accepts a list of entries.

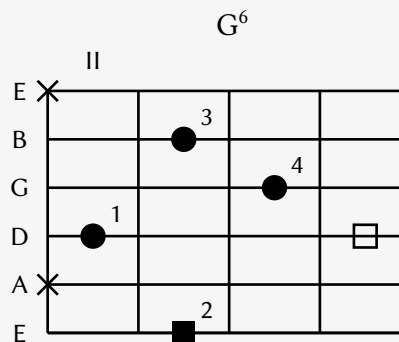
Let's take a look at a few examples:

```
1 \chordscheme[
2   name      = G ,
3   position  = I ,
4   finger    = {2/5/1} ,
5   root      = {3/6/2, 3/1/4} ,
6   ring      = {2,3,4}
7 ]
```



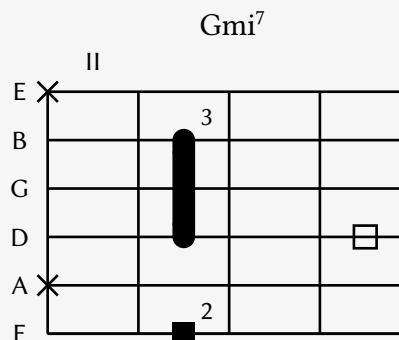
Or a more “jazzy” chord:

```
1 \chordscheme[
2   name      = G\textsuperscript{6} ,
3   position  = II ,
4   finger    = {1/4/1, 3/3/4, 2/2/3} ,
5   root      = 2/6/2 ,
6   show-root = 4/4 ,
7   mute      = {1,5}
8 ]
```



One with a barré:

```
1 \chordscheme[
2   name      = Gmi\textsuperscript{7} ,
3   position  = II ,
4   barre     = 2/2-4/3 ,
5   show-root = 4/4 ,
6   root      = 2/6/2 ,
7   mute      = {1,5}
8 ]
```



3 Options

There are quite a number of options determining the layout of the tablatures. They can either be set as package options or via the setup command:

► `\setchordscheme{<options>}`

Below every option and its corresponding default setting is described.

► `x-unit = <dim>` Default: .8cm

The basic x unit for the TikZ picture the chord scheme is set in.

► `y-unit = <dim>` Default: .8cm

The basic y unit for the TikZ picture the chord scheme is set in.

► `finger-format = <TeX code>` Default: `\sffamily\small`

The format the numbers for the fingers are typeset with.

► `finger-format+ = <TeX code>` (initially empty)

Code to be appended to `finger-format`.

► `position-format = <TeX code>` Default: `\sffamily`

The format the number for the position is typeset with.

► `position-format+ = <TeX code>` (initially empty)

Code to be appended to `position-format`.

► `name-format = <TeX code>` Default: `\large`

The format the chord name/symbol is typeset with.

► `name-format+ = <TeX code>` (initially empty)

Code to be appended to `name-format`.

► `string-name-format = <TeX code>` Default: `\sffamily\small`

The format the names of the strings are typeset with.

► `string-name-format+ = <TeX code>` (initially empty)

Code to be appended to `string-name-format`.

► `line-width = <dim>` Default: 1pt

The line width used for all lines drawn in the chord scheme.

► `finger-radius = <dim>` Default: .15cm

The radius of the circles that represent the fingers. Also determines the size of the root markers and the barré.


► `finger-x-offset = <dim>` Default: 3mm

The x offset of the number with respect to the circle.

- ▶ `finger-y-offset = <dim>` Default: 3mm
The y offset of the number with respect to the circle.
- ▶ `finger-style = <tikz style>` Default: fill
The TikZ style the circles representing the fingers are drawn with. This is equivalent to `\tikzset{finger style/.style={<tikz style>}}`.
- ▶ `root-style = <tikz style>` Default: fill
The TikZ style the squares representing the roots are drawn with. This is equivalent to `\tikzset{root style/.style={<tikz style>}}`.
- ▶ `show-root-style = <tikz style>` Default: draw
The TikZ style the squares representing the “ghost roots” are drawn with. This is equivalent to `\tikzset{show root style/.style={<tikz style>}}`.
- ▶ `ringing-style = <tikz style>` Default: draw
The TikZ style the circles representing the open string markers are drawn with. This is equivalent to `\tikzset{ringing style/.style={<tikz style>}}`.
- ▶ `muted-style = <tikz style>` Default: {cross out,draw}
The TikZ style the nodes representing muted strings are drawn with. This is equivalent to `\tikzset{muted style/.style={<tikz style>}}`.
- ▶ `tuning = <comma list of string names>` Default: {E,B,G,D,A,E}
The tuning.
- ▶ `use-rbc = true|false` Default: false
If set to true the `name` will be set in the command `\rbc` from the *realbookchords*. If this option is not used as a package option then make sure you also load *realbookchords* [Nie13]. Please be aware that the latter requires \LaTeX or \LuaTeX . See section 4 for details.

4 Using *realbookchords*

Setting `\setchordscheme{use-rbc=true}` or using the same as package option will set the chord names/symbols in *realbookchords*’ command `\rbc`.

In order to use this option you need to install the *realbookchords* package [Nie13]. I expect it to go to CTAN eventually but until then you can get it at <https://bitbucket.org/cgnieder/realbookchords/>. The package uses Jochen Pietsch’s “New Real Book” font [Pie] for typesetting the chord symbols which you can get at <http://notation.jochenpietsch.de/>. It is placed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 Unported License .

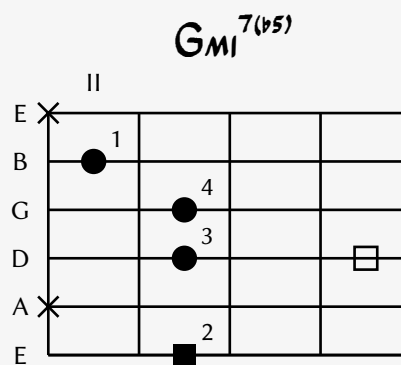
realbookchords requires that you compile your document with \LaTeX or \LuaTeX .

Here is an example of how the chord symbol looks with *realbookchords*:

```

1 \setchordscheme{use-rbc=true}
2 \chordscheme[
3   name      = Gmi7(\b5) ,
4   position  = II ,
5   finger    = {1/2/1, 2/3/4, 2/4/3} ,
6   show-root = {4/4} ,
7   root      = {2/6/2} ,
8   mute      = {1,5}
9 ]

```



References

- [Leh11] Philipp Lehman. etoolbox. Version 2.1, Jan. 21, 2011. URL: <http://mirror.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/etoolbox>.
- [Nie13] Clemens Niederberger. realbookchords. Version 0.1, Apr. 29, 2013. URL: <https://bitbucket.org/cgnieder/guitarchordschemes/>.
- [Pie] Jochen Pietsch. *Jazz Fonts*. URL: http://notation.jochenpietsch.de/index_e.html (visited on 05/10/2012).
- [TWF10] Till Tantau, Mark Wibrow, and Christian Feuersänger. TikZ/pgf. Version 2.10, Feb. 25, 2010. URL: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/pgf/> (visited on 04/18/2013).
- [Wri11] Joseph Wright. pgfopts. Version 2.1, June 2, 2011. URL: <http://mirror.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/pgfopts>.

Index

B		M		S	
barre	2	mute.....	3	\setchordscheme.....	4 f.
		muted-style	5	show-root.....	2
C				show-root-style.....	5
\chordscheme.....	2	N		string-name-format	4
		name	2, 5	string-name-format+	4
E		name-format	4		
etoolbox	1, 6	name-format+.....	4	T	
				TikZ.....	1, 4 f.
F		P		\tikzset	5
finger	2	pgfopts.....	1, 6	tuning	5
finger-format.....	4	position	2		
finger-format+.....	4	position-format.....	4	U	
finger-radius.....	4	position-format+.....	4	use-rbc	5
finger-style.....	5				
finger-x-offset.....	4	R		X	
finger-y-offset.....	5	\rbc.....	5	x-unit	4
		realbookchords	1, 5 f.		
L		ring	2	Y	
line-width	4	ringing-style.....	5	y-unit	4
		root	2		
		root-style	5		