

MoneyChords
Guide To Guitar Chord Shapes

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MoneyChords

Guitar Chord Shapes

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Introductions

A great way to kick-start your guitar playing is to study chord shape relationships. This was particularly helpful when I studied Jazz guitar. All Chord Shapes shown are closed, moveable chords with the Root designated in Red. Any given chord is named after its Root note. The chord diagrams indicate proper fingerings as follows: The Index finger is shown as a "1". The Middle finger is designated as a "2". The Ring finger is notated as a "3" and the Little or Pinky finger as a "4". Strings that are not to be played are marked with an "x". Strings without a finger number or an "x" are to be played as an open string.

Augmented Chord Shapes (1-3-#5)

There are five primary "Augmented" Chord Shapes which are based on the open position "A", "C", "D", "E", and "G" chords. The fingering diagrams for these chords are presented below with a link to commonly encountered variations. The most widely used chord shapes are the "C" and "E" Forms. Augmented Chords are unique in that if you move a chord up or down the fingerboard four frets, the chord notes remain the same but in a different order. For example, let's take a look at the "C+" (C Form) Augmented Chord. In the first position the "C+" (x3211x) includes the following notes from lowest to highest: C, E, G#, and C. If you move this chord fingering up four frets (x7655x) you have the "C+/E" or "E+" chord comprised of the following notes: E, G#, C, and E. Continuing up the fretboard another four frets (x9c99x) the chord fingering creates the "C+/G#" or "G#/Ab+" chord from the G#, C, E, and G# notes.

"A" Form

```

--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

"C" Form

```

--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-1-|---|---|--
--|---|-1-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-3-|--
--|---|---|---|-x-|--

```

"D" Form

```

--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|---|-3-|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

"E" Forms

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-3-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--

```

```

-- | --- | -x- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -3- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -4- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

"G" Forms

```

-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --

```

```

-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --

```

```

-- | --- | --- | --- | -x- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -x- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --

```

```

-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --

```

```

-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -x- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -x- | --- | --- | --

```

[Bass Note = 3rd]

Barre Chord Shapes ("A" Form)

There are two primary Barre Chord Shapes which are based on the open position "A" and "E" chords. The fingering diagrams for the most common "A" Form Barre Chords are presented below. Barre Chords, like all moveable chord shapes, get their chord name from their Root note (shown in Red below). For example, if the Major Chord shape below is played at the first fret it would be a "Bb/A#" chord. At the third fret, it would be a "C" chord and at the fifth fret, an "D" chord. Remember that like a clock, the notes repeat at the 12th fret. To find the notes on a fretboard, click on the Fingerboard Lesson to the left

Major Chords

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

M7 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

M9 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

sus2 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

sus4 Chord

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -2- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

Minor Chord

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -4- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

m(M7) Chord

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -3- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -4- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

m7 Chords

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

```

-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

m9 Chord

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -4- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

m11 Chord

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```


Dominant 7th Chords

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

```

--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

9 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

11 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

13 Chord

```

--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

7sus4 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

Barre Chord Shapes ("E" Form)

There are two primary Barre Chord Shapes which are based on the open position "A" and "E" chords. The fingering diagrams for the most common "E" Form Barre Chords are presented below. Barre Chords, like all moveable chord shapes, get their chord name from their Root note (shown in Red below). For example, if the Major Chord shape below is played at the first fret it would be an "F" chord. At the third fret, it would be a "G" chord and at the fifth fret, an "A" chord. Remember that like a clock, the notes repeat at the 12th fret. To find the notes on a fretboard, click on the Fingertboard Lesson to the left.

Major Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

M7 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-3-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

sus4 Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

Minor Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

m(M7) Chord

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

m7 Chords

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

m9 Chord

```
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

Dominat 7th Chords

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

9 Chord

```
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

7sus4 Chord

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

Dominant 7th Chord Shapes (1-3-5-b7)

There are five primary "Dominant 7th" Chord Shapes which are based on the open position A7, C7, D7, E7, and G7 chords. The fingering diagrams for these chords which are collectively referred to as the "CAGED" chords are presented below with a link to commonly encountered variations.

"A7" Forms

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|---|--

```

"C7" Forms

```

--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--

--|---|-4-|---|---|--
--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-3-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|-x-|---|---|--

```

"D7" Form

```

--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

"E7" Forms

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

```

-- | --- | --- | --- | -x- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

```

-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --

```

```

-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -3- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -4- | --- | --- | --
-- | -2- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

"G7" Form

```

-- | --- | -x- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -4- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -x- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -3- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | -2- | --- | --- | --

```

Major Chord Shapes (1-3-5)

There are five primary "Major" Chord Shapes which are based on the open position A, C, D, E and G chords. The fingering diagrams for these chords which are collectively referred to as the "CAGED" chords are presented below with a link to commonly encountered variations.

"A" Forms

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
```

```
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
```

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
```

[Bass Note = 5th]

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
```

[Bass Note = 5th]

"C" Forms

```
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|---|-x-|--
```

```
--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|---|-x-|--
```

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
[ Bass Note = 3rd ]

```

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
[ Bass Note = 3rd ]

```

```

--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
[ Bass Note = 3rd ]

```

```

--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-x-|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
[ Bass Note = 5th ]

```

```

--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|---|-3-|--
[ Bass Note = 5th ]

```

"D" Forms

```

--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
[ Bass Note = 3rd ]

```

```

--|---|---|---|-x-|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
[ Bass Note = 3rd ]

```

"E" Forms

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

```

--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--

```

```

--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--

```

```

--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-3-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--

```

[Bass Note = 3rd]

```

--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--

```

[Bass Note = 5th]

"G" Forms

```

--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--

```

```

--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--

```



```

-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --

```

[Bass Note = 3rd]

```

-- | --- | --- | --- | -x- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --

```

[Bass Note = 3rd]

```

-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

[Bass Note = 5th]

Power Chord Shapes (1-5)

There are five primary "Power" Chord Shapes which are based on the open-position "A", "C", "D", "E", and "G" chords. The fingering diagrams for these chords are presented below. The most widely used chord shapes are the "A" and "E" Forms. There are two and three string Power Chord variations. To play the two string variations, omit the octave notes designated in Blue. Power Chords, like all moveable chord shapes, get their chord name from their Root note (shown in Red below). For example, if the "A" Form Power Chord shape below is played at the first fret it would be an "Bb5/A#5" chord. At the third fret, it would be a "C5" chord and at the fifth fret, an "D5" chord. Remember that like a clock, the notes repeat at the 12th fret. To find the notes on a fretboard, click on the Fingerboard Lesson to the left.

"A" Forms

```

--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|---|---|-2-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

```

--|---|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-4-|---|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
[ Bass Note = 5th ]

```

"C" Form

```

--|---|-x-|---|---|--
--|---|-2-|---|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|---|---|-x-|---|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|---|-x-|--

```

"D" Form

```

--|---|---|---|-x-|--
--|---|---|---|-4-|--
--|---|---|-3-|---|--
--|-1-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--
--|-x-|---|---|---|--

```

"E" Form

```

-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -x- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -4- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | -3- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --

```

"G" Form

```

-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -x- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | -1- | --- | --- | --- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -x- | --
-- | --- | --- | --- | -4- | --

```