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Beginner Guitar Chord Chart - Free Print Sheet

This lesson provides print-friendly (PDF) versions of the [beginner guitar chord charts](#) found in the chord basics series.

Every beginner guitarist should know the chords on this page. They're easy to finger, provide vibrant open voicings and you'll use them throughout your entire guitar playing life.

Many epic songs have been written exclusively using the simple chords on this page!

Printable Beginner Guitar Chord Chart

› [Download the PDF chord sheet here](#) - good for A4 printing.

Or, see the "poster" version below, best for viewing on your screen or larger scale printing (click the image to see full size)...



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure fingers press down vertically, not collapsing back. Fret the strings as close to the fret wire as possible. Ensure each string/note sounds cleanly & resonantly. 	
		<p>Fretting more than one string with one finger (e.g. for Dmaj7) is known as a barre.</p>	

Chord Progression/Exercise Ideas

Remember to try major 7th, dominant 7th and minor 7th variations of these chords.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Emaj / Amaj / Dmaj / Amaj | Cmaj / Dmaj / Gmaj / Em | Gmaj / Cmaj / Dmaj / Gmaj | Am / Em / Fmaj / Gmaj |
| Emaj / Am / B7 / Dmaj | Cmaj / Am / Dmaj / Gmaj | Gmaj / Em / Am / Dmaj | Am / Dmaj / Gmaj / Cmaj |
| Emaj / Cmaj / Amaj / Cmaj | Cmaj / Gmaj / Fmaj / Dm | Gmaj / Am / Dmaj / Cmaj | Am / Cmaj / Gmaj / Emaj |
| Emaj / Cmaj / Amaj / Am | Cmaj / Em / Fmaj / Gmaj | Gmaj / Fmaj / Cmaj / Dmaj | Am / B7 / Em / Dmaj |
| Emaj / Dmaj / Amaj / B7 | Cmaj / Dm / Gmaj / Fmaj | Gmaj / Dmaj / Em / Fmaj | Am / Fmaj / Cmaj / Dmaj |
| Amaj / Dmaj / Gmaj / Dmaj | Dmaj / Amaj / Cmaj / Gmaj | Em / Am / Cmaj / Dmaj | Dm / Am / Cmaj / Gmaj |
| Amaj / Emaj / Gmaj / Dmaj | Dmaj / Em / Cmaj / Amaj | Em / Am / B7 / Em | Dm / Fmaj / Gmaj / Dm |
| Amaj / Em / Cmaj / Gmaj | Dmaj / Gmaj / Cmaj / Gmaj | Em / Cmaj / Gmaj / B7 | Dm / Cmaj / Gmaj / Am |
| Amaj / Gmaj / Dmaj / Emaj | Dmaj / Am / Gmaj / Cmaj | Em / Dmaj / Cmaj / Am | Dm / Gmaj / Em / Am |
| Amaj / Dm / Emaj / Amaj | Dmaj / Cmaj / Gmaj / Amaj | Em / Fmaj / Gmaj / Fmaj | Dm / Amaj / Dm / Cmaj |

These are the basic open position chords most guitarists learn as beginners. They are divided into triads, major 7th, dominant 7th and minor 7th chord forms.

Don't worry about what these names mean right now - as time goes on you'll either learn more about the theory behind their construction or you'll just learn to associate the chord names with their sound and the shapes they form on the guitar fretboard.



The **X** on the charts means **don't play that string!**

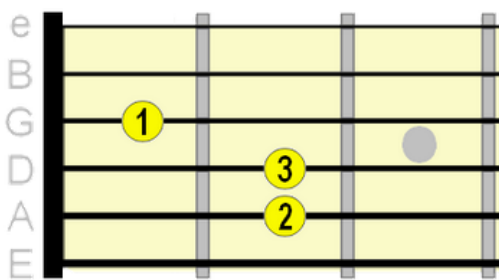
Major and Minor Open Chords

Also known as major and minor **triads**, because they only contain **three notes**.

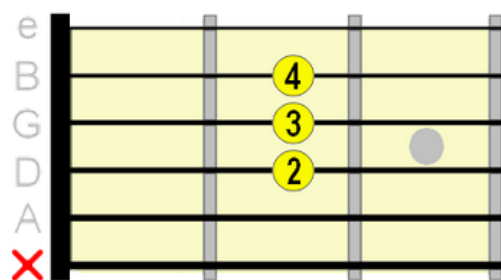
For example, even though the E major chord uses all six strings, the only notes contained within the shape are E, B and G♯.

So notes in a chord shape may appear on multiple strings (for example, in E major, the note E appears three times - on the 6th, 4th and 1st string).

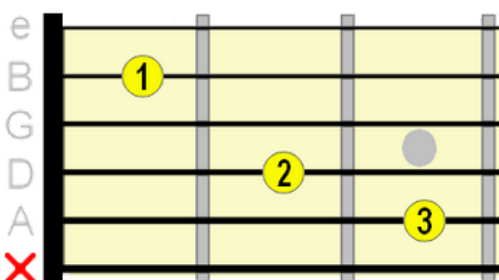
E major



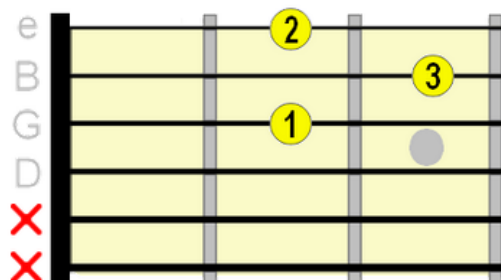
A major



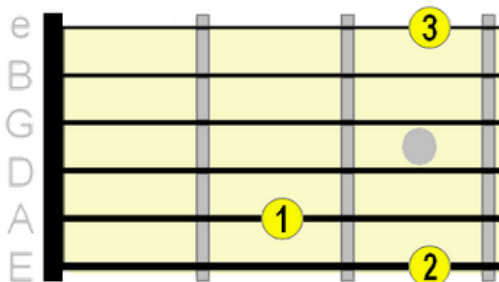
C major



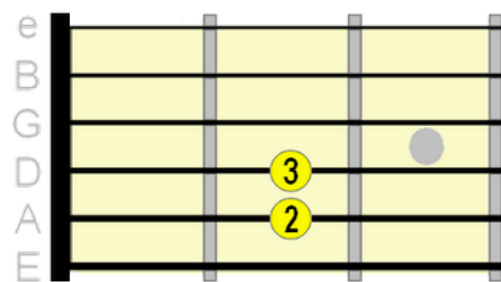
D major



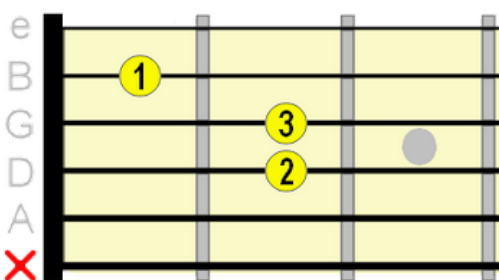
G major



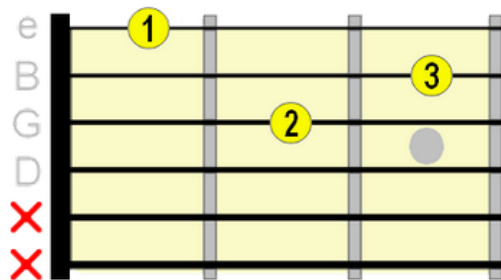
E minor



A minor



D minor



Note: We call these chord shapes "open" or "open position" because they include **unfretted** (open) strings.

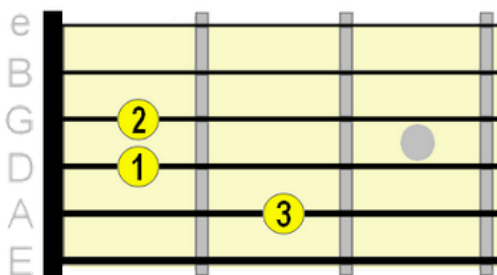
Major 7th Open Chords

Major 7th (maj7 for short) chords add a little depth to the basic major triads above.

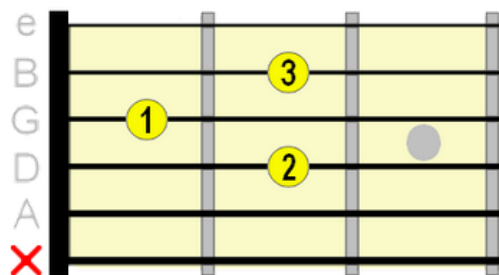
All we're doing is adding an extra note (called the major 7th), giving us four note chords (triad + an extra note). This means you'll need to alter the fingering slightly to accommodate this new note.

Try and see how the major chords above have been modified to create the major 7th chords below. It's just one note/fret difference.

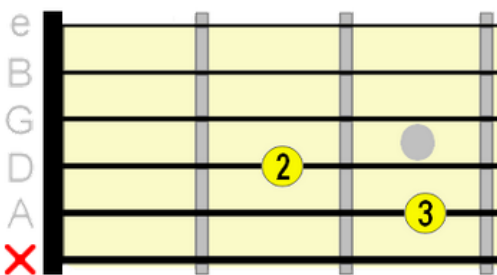
Emaj7



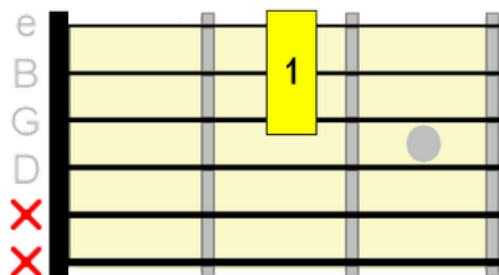
Amaj7



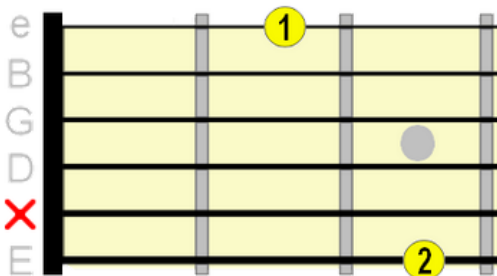
Cmaj7



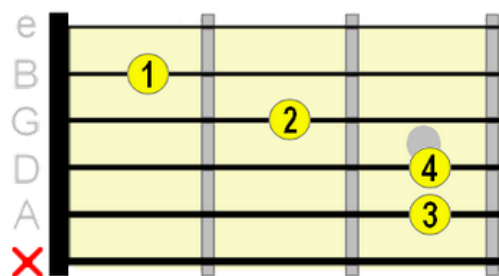
Dmaj7



Gmaj7



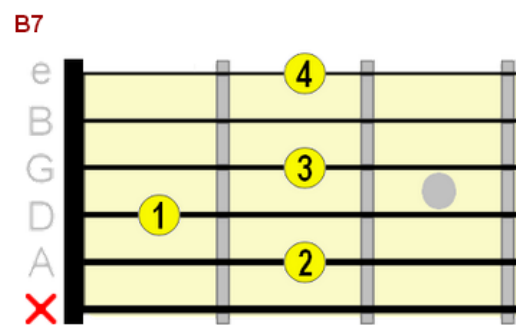
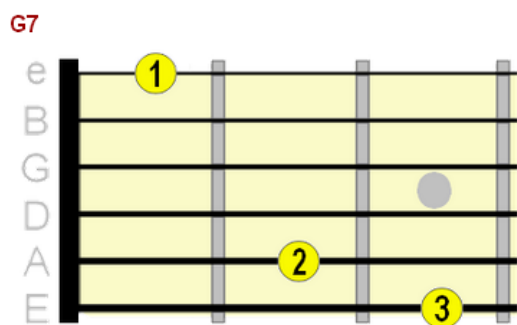
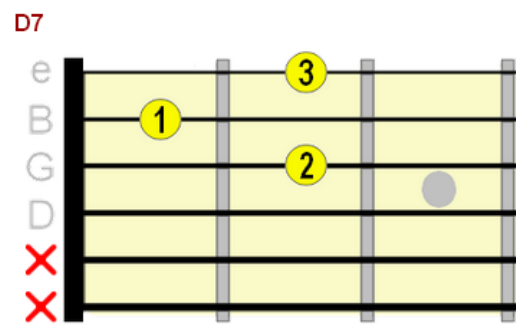
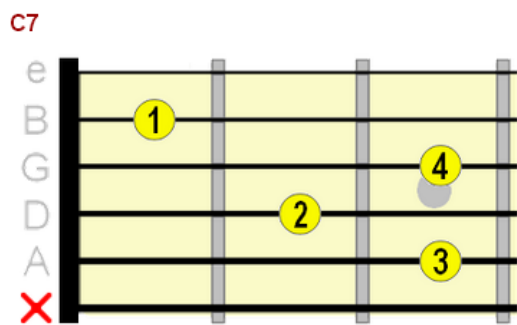
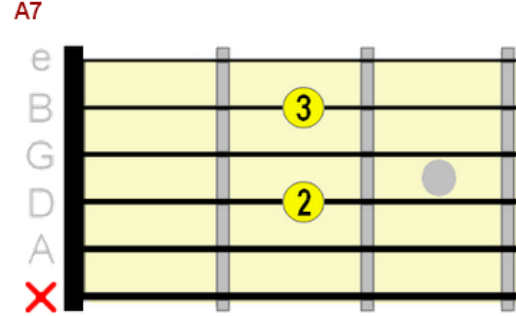
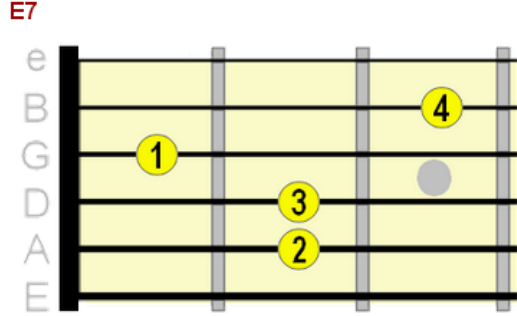
Fmaj7



Dominant 7th Chords

Like major 7th chords, four-note dominant 7th chords (indicated by a **7** after the chord letter) thicken up the basic major chord sound.

When playing the chords in the chart below, experiment with using them in a chord progression, along side standard major/minor chords and major 7th chords. Variety is a good thing!

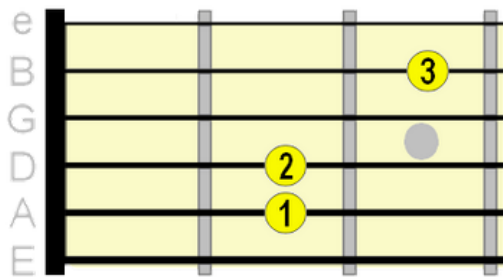


Minor 7th Chords

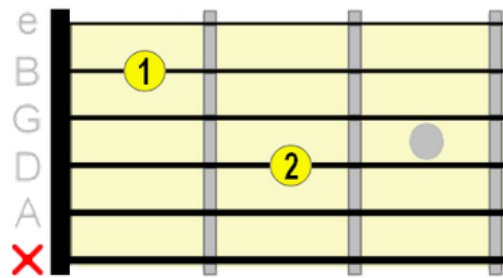
Four-note minor chords built on the basic minor triad chord forms from earlier.

The added (7th) tone is exactly the same as with dominant 7th chords, we're just adding it to minor chords this time, which gives them more colour.

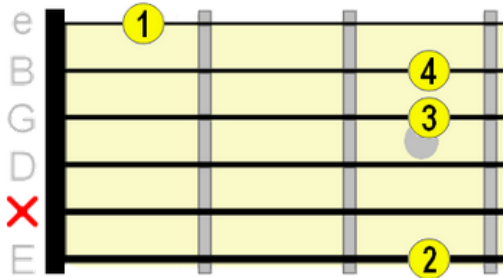
Em7



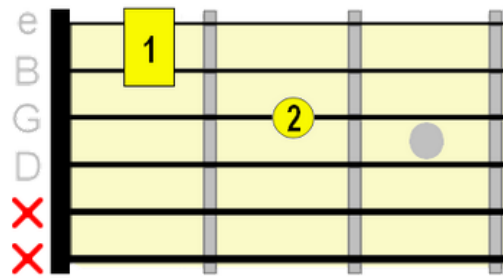
Am7



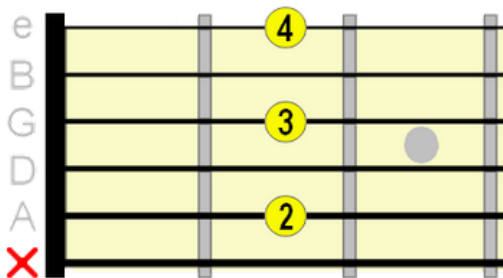
Gm7



Dm7



Bm7



Practicing These Chords

I know I've given you quite a lot of chords to learn, but I hope it'll encourage you to experiment with different chord combinations and create your own songs.

- Try replacing regular major chords with major 7th or dominant 7th chords.
- Try replacing regular minor chords with minor 7th chords.
- Remember you can also change between the chord types on the same root (e.g. Cmaj > Cmaj7 > C7 > Cmaj7)
- Trust your ears - if it sounds good, it is!
- Try both strumming and picking (one note at a time) these chords.

Thanks for your time!

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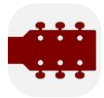
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WD Patriot

11 years ago

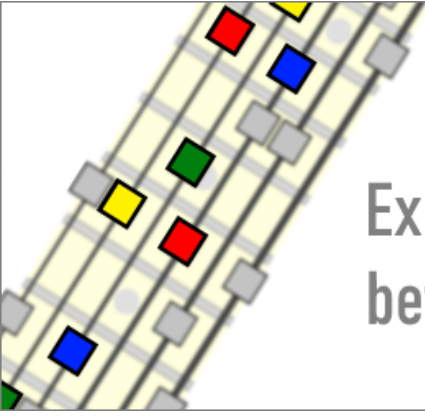
Been playing for 53 years (I am 58) and now am starting to teach and your system and charts are easy to show new guitar stars how best to proceed. I do not sell or profit from this as it is a work of love. After surviving a heart attack and kidney failure, a heart rebuild, dialysis, and finally a kidney and pancreas

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