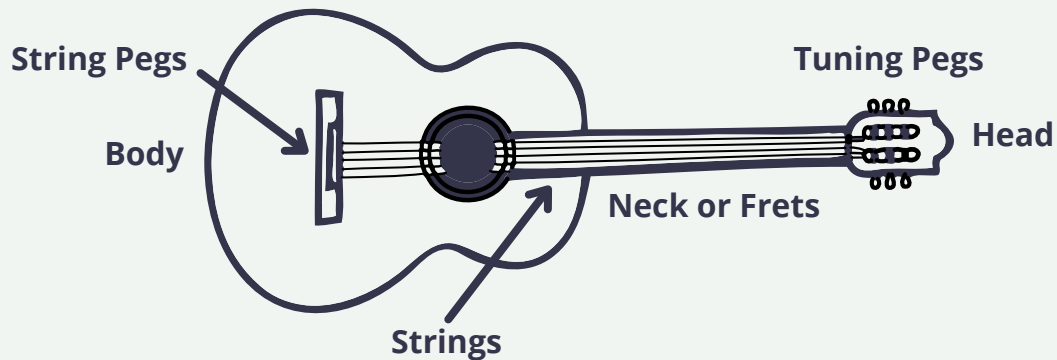


Guitar Made Simple Cheatsheet

Anatomy and Posture



- If you know your posture and get it right now, you'll save your self tons of pain and frustration.
- Let the guitar rest on your right leg with your left hand grabbing the neck comfortably.
- The key here is to keep your left elbow off your body.
- Adjust your guitar to your chest so that you comfortably can reach the strings over the guitar hole and reach all the way down to the left of the neck. You'll have to adjust this to your size.
- To play really fast and hard strumming, it's way easier to raise the guitar up and tighten your strap.

3 Basic Strumming Patterns

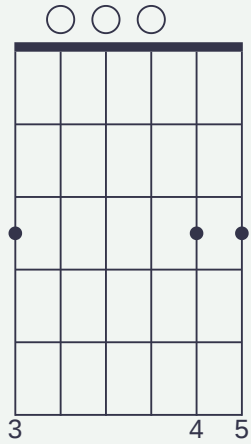
There are 3 strumming patterns that will help you play any song:

1. Up and down strum (watermelon or caterpillar)
2. Down strum
3. 1,2,3, strum

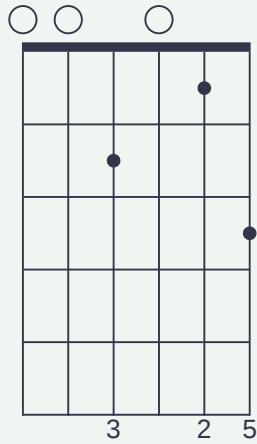
- Don't strum with just your wrist; strum with your whole forearm for more power, stamina, and control

G Chords

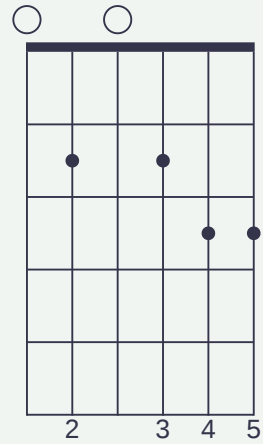
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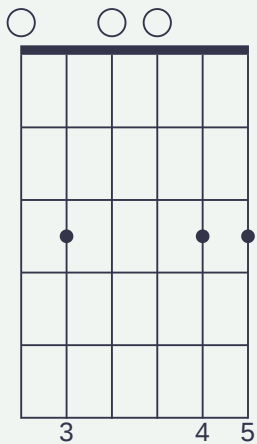
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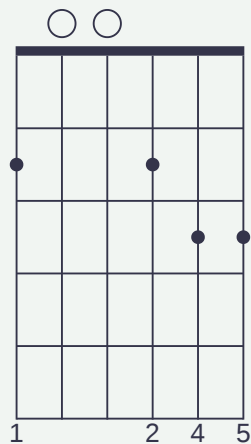
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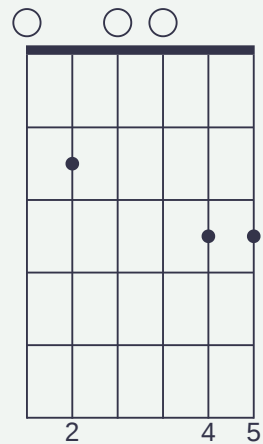
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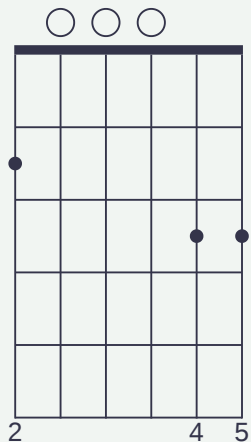
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Em = 6m

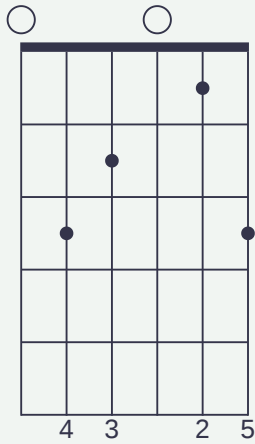


F# Emphasis = 7

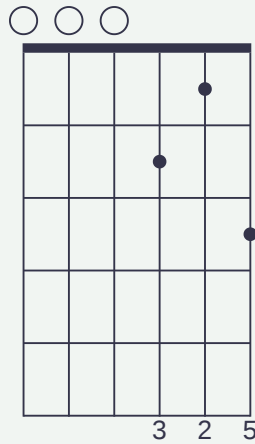


C Chords

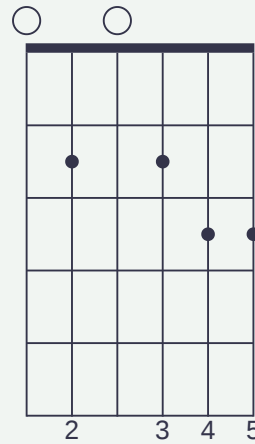
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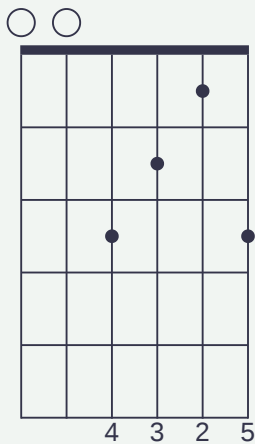
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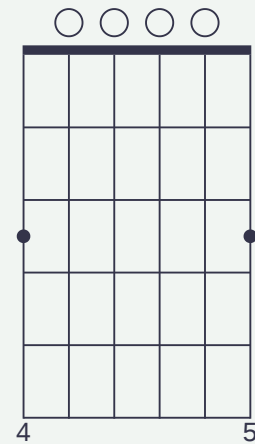
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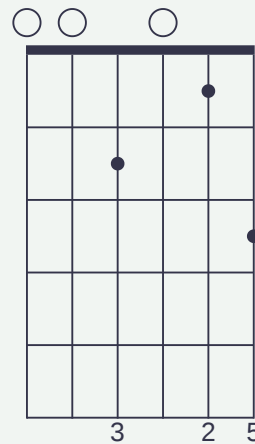
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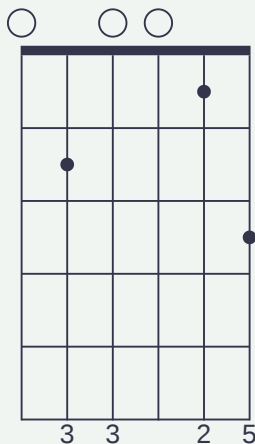
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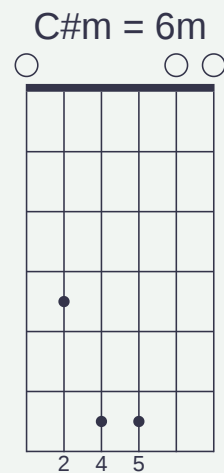
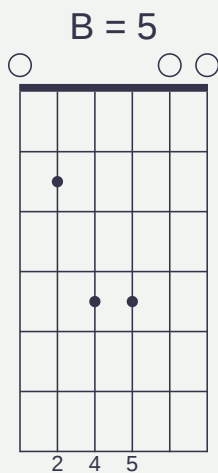
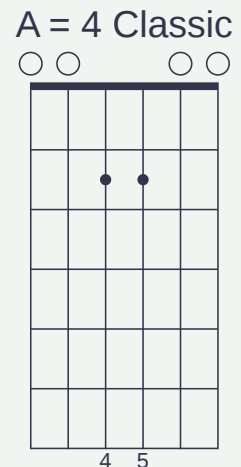
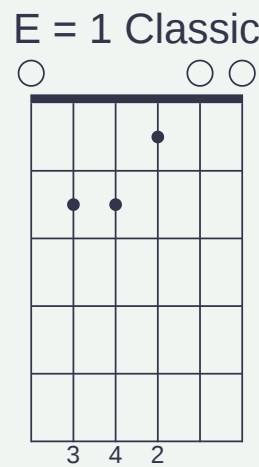
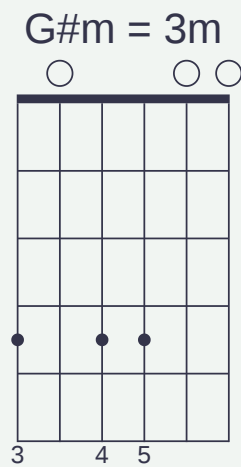
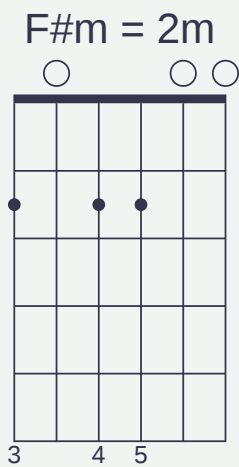
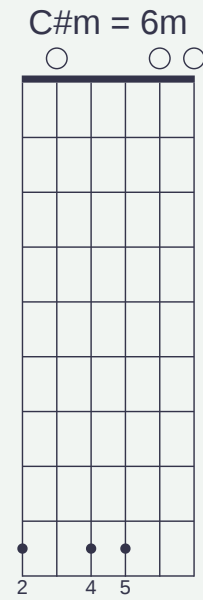
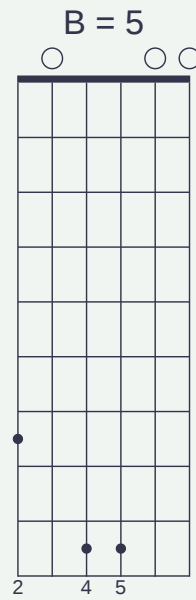
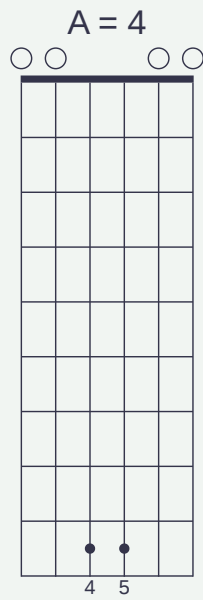
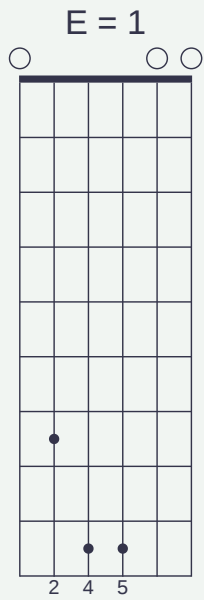
Am = 6m



B Emphasis = 7



E Chords



The Capo

- Every fret on the guitar is a semitone, in the same way playing a G note on the piano, and going up to the next note G#...The only difference is that the fretboard on the guitar isn't stuck with being one note for each fret; it depends on what chords you play.
- With the 3 basic chord shapes, you can basically play any major key on the guitar using a combination of the capo and one of the chord shapes.
- Just keep in mind that when you start using your capo, start by counting up the fret board starting with the chord shape you want to play.
- Sometimes you might find that if you can play in the same key, but using the capo on a different fret and using a different chord shape.

How To Change Your Strings

- Changing your strings quickly is a bit of an art. To do it right, you have to do a few things well, or you risk popping your strings or ruining the intonation of your guitar.
- One of the easiest ways to preserve your guitar's intonation though is to replace the strings safely.
- There's three steps to replacing strings on your guitar: 1. remove one string at a time; 2. install the new one; 3. then stretch it.
- **Remember:** the one thing you must do is wind the strings inside the tuning pegs.

Your Role As a Guitar Player

There are two main ways a great guitar player knows to play their guitar in a band. You can either add texture or you can solo.

- Texture is created through fingerpicking or a strumming pattern that doesn't distract people away from the song.
- Often many amateur guitar players will make the obvious mistake of matching their strumming pattern to the rhythm of the drum kit or the percussion instrument (cajon or djembe). Don't do that.
- Great guitar players know that when their time is come in the moment of the song, they come prepared and have practiced their parts inside and out. So that when it's your time to shine, you avoid messing up as much as possible and delivering on the solo that you were meant to perform.
- Great guitar players know that becoming competent in their instrument requires a lot of practice, dedication, and discipline to ensure they show up to band practice and on stage knowing their parts and being able to deliver their solos, and to add texture that isn't distracting or that mimics the beat of the percussion.



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