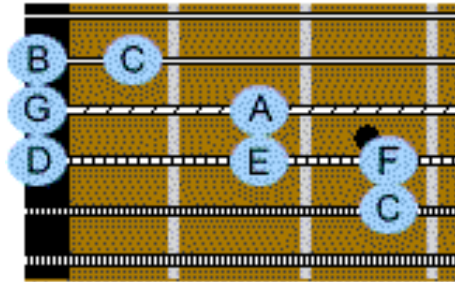


CHORD CONSTRUCTION ON GUITAR

On your guitar, a whole step is moving up or down two frets, and a half step is one fret up or down. The major scale for any key starts at its root note then goes up a whole step, whole step, half step, whole step, whole step, whole step, half step. For example, the C major scale is made up of the notes: C, D, E, F, G, A, B.

The following diagram shows how the C major scale could be played on the guitar. Try playing this on your instrument.



Numbering the notes, C is the 1st, D is the 2nd, E 3rd, F 4th, G 5th, A 6th, B 7th. There's no need to count C twice. A major chord consists of the root note 1, with notes 3 and 5 in its major scale. So C, E and G played together make up the C major chord.

Using the formula table on the next page and a list of the notes in each major scale, you can work out which notes make up any chord for which you have the formula. This is also useful for identifying a chord you are playing, but don't know the name of.

Below is a list of each major scale and its notes. # denotes sharp, b denotes flat.

Notes in the Major Scales

| Key | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | Key signature |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|
| C | C | D | E | F | G | A | B | C | |
| G | G | A | B | C | D | E | F# | G | # |
| D | D | E | F# | G | A | B | C# | D | ## |
| A | A | B | C# | D | E | F# | G# | A | ### |
| E | E | F# | G# | A | B | C# | D# | E | #### |
| B | B | C# | D# | E | F# | G# | A# | B | ##### |
| F# | F# | G# | A# | B | C# | D# | F | F# | ##### |
| Bb | Db | Eb | F | Gb | Ab | Bb | C | Db | bbbb |
| Ab | Ab | Bb | C | Db | Eb | F | G | Ab | bbb |
| Eb | Eb | F | G | Ab | Bb | C | D | Eb | bbb |
| Bb | Bb | C | D | Eb | F | G | A | Bb | bb |
| F | F | G | A | Bb | C | D | E | F | b |

Below is a summary of common chord types showing the "formula" for each type. The root note is note 1 of the scale.

| Chord type | Written as | Chord formula |
|----------------|---------------|--|
| Major | Â for A major | root, 3, 5 |
| Minor | m | root, b3, 5 |
| Diminished | dim, ° | root, b3, b5 |
| Diminished 7th | dim7, °7, dim | root, b3, b5, bb7 |
| Augmented | aug, + | root, 3, #5 |
| 7th | 7, dom7 | root, 3, 5, b7 |
| Minor 7th | m7 | root, b3, 5, b7 |
| Major 7th | maj7 | root, 3, 5, 7 |
| Suspended 4th | sus4 | root, 4, 5 (4 th replaces the 3 rd) |
| Suspended 2nd | sus2 | root, 2, 5 (2 nd replaces the 3 rd) |
| Added 9th | add9 | root, 3, 5, 9 (2 nd added in) |
| Added 11th | add11 | root, 3, 4, 5 (4 th added in) |
| Added 13th | add13 | root, 3, 5, 6 (6 th added in) |
| 6th | 6 | root, 3, 5, 6 |
| Minor 6th | m6 | root, b3, 5, 6 |
| 9th | 9 | root, 3, 5, b7, 9 |
| 11th | 11 | root, 3, 5, b7, 9, 11 |
| 13th | 13 | root, 3, 5, b7, 9, 11, 13 |

Notes on Guitar fretboard

Fret-> Open 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|
| E | F | F# | G | G# | A | A# | B | C | C# | D | D# | E | F |
| B | C | C# | D | D# | E | F | F# | G | G# | A | A# | B | C |
| G | G# | A | A# | B | C | C# | D | D# | E | F | F# | G | G# |
| D | D# | E | F | F# | G | G# | A | A# | B | C | C# | D | D# |
| A | A# | B | C | C# | D | D# | E | F | F# | G | G# | A | A# |
| E | F | F# | G | G# | A | A# | B | C | C# | D | D# | E | F |