

NMPositiviT

The Chord

First steps.....

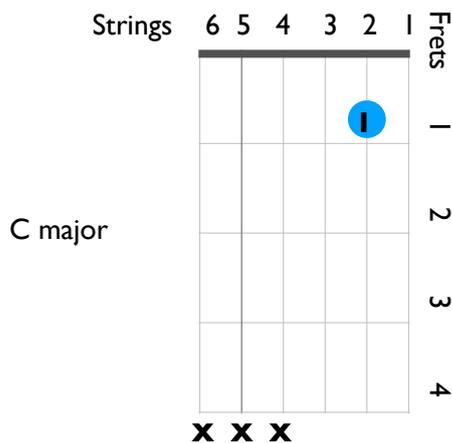
Many classical guitar students may want to learn chords but have not yet covered them in their own lessons. This is your opportunity to start learning the basic chord shapes and names.

What is a chord?

The definition of a chord is - *a group of (typically three or more) notes sounded together, as a basis of harmony.* We guitarists remember chords by their shapes. We 'train' our fingers through 'muscular memory'. The fingers will eventually remember where to go, although it takes time and can frustrate at times.

If you are doing chords for the first time start here:

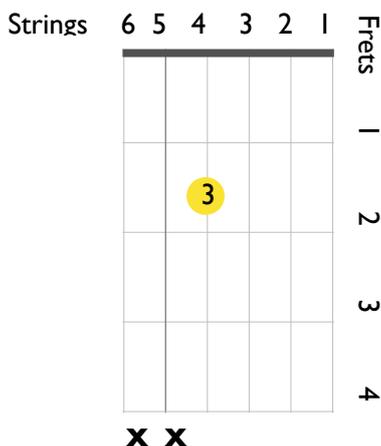
This is the chord grid. It is a diagram of the fret board.



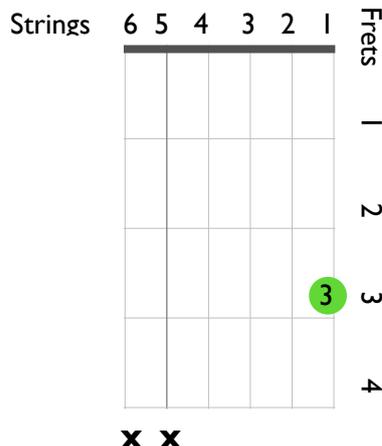
- A dot will be where you place your left hand finger
- ✗ A cross means don't strum that string.
- 3 The number inside the dot tells you what finger to use in your left hand.

Try playing this first chord. Hold the note C down on the first fret of the second string and strum strings 3, 2 and 1 with your thumb (you can use a plectrum if you have one) You have played your first chord.....it's called **C major**.

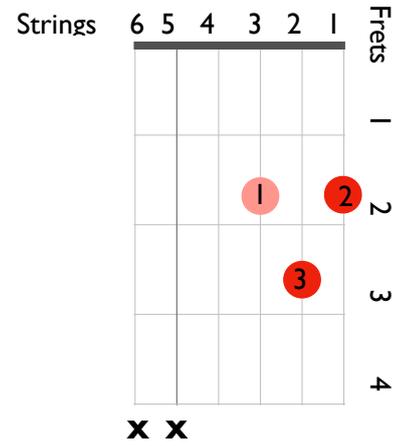
Now look at these shapes. Learn the patterns and we'll use them in the next sheet.
The D chord is hard so miss out finger 1 to start with.



E minor



G major



D major