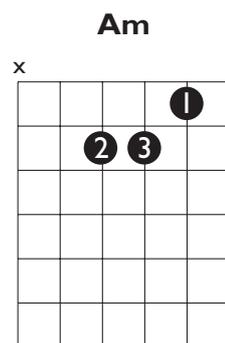
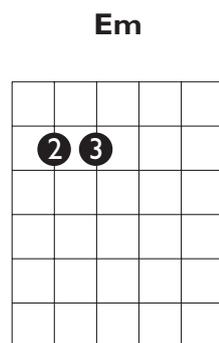
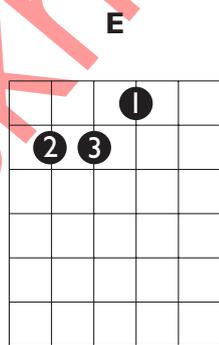
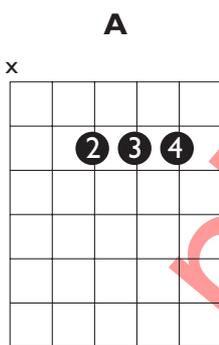
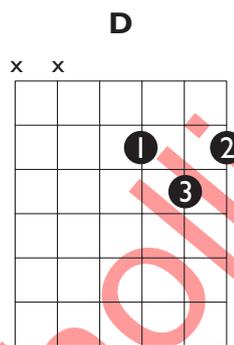
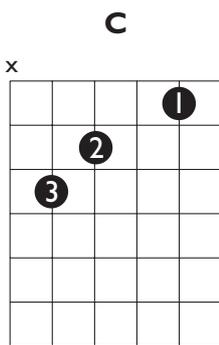
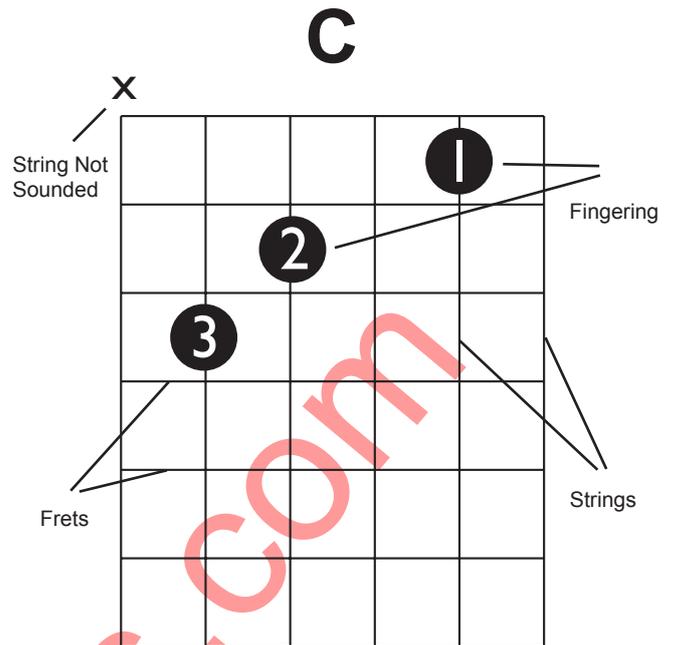


Guitar Chord Basics

A guitar chord is produced when several strings are played simultaneously. Placing your left hand fingers on different frets and strings produces different chords. The diagram on the right shows the guitar fretboard. The vertical lines represent the strings whilst the horizontal lines represent the frets. Above the box is the name of the chord. The numbers on the strings indicate where you should place your fingers on the fretboard and which fingers you should use. (1 denotes index finger) An 'x' above a string indicates that it isn't part of that particular chord and shouldn't be sounded.



When playing chords, it is important that the left hand is positioned correctly with the thumb placed behind the neck as previously described. This allows the fingers to be easily positioned on the selected strings and frets without strain.

The fingertips should be placed just behind the frets with care being taken not to touch adjacent strings. Nails should be kept short so that the fingertips are able to be placed squarely on the fretboard.

When playing your first chord, place your fingers on the designated frets and strings. Grasp the plectrum with your right hand as previously described and pick each string in the chord starting with the thickest string excluding any marked with an 'x'. All the notes should ring clearly. Now strum the chord in its entirety.

Practice all six chords on this sheet until you are satisfied that you are getting all the notes ringing clearly and consistently. (CD track 1).