

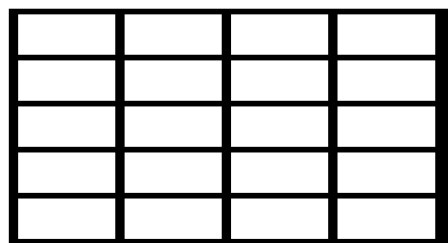
FINALLY LEARN THE GUITAR FRETBOARD

How to Finally Learn the Guitar Fretboard

Many guitarists are familiar with the open position but are less familiar with the notes above the fifth fret. This lesson covers how to learn and memorize the upper notes on the guitar neck.

The musical alphabet goes from A-G. Musical notes extend from A to G then repeat up and down like a number line. (A-B-C-D-E-F-G-A-B-C...)

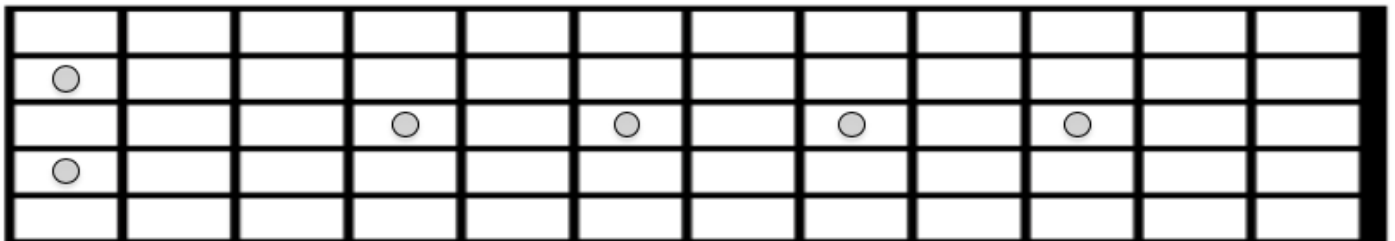
Each of the six strings on the guitar have a letter name that goes with them.



E – 6th String
A – 5th String
D – 4th String
G – 3rd String
B – 2nd String
E – 1st String

Dots are placed at the 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th frets.

A double dot is placed at the 12th fret.



The note at the double dot is always the same as the open string note.

In music, there are “half-steps” and “whole-steps”. Each fret on a guitar represents one half-step. Two half-steps, or two frets, is a whole step.

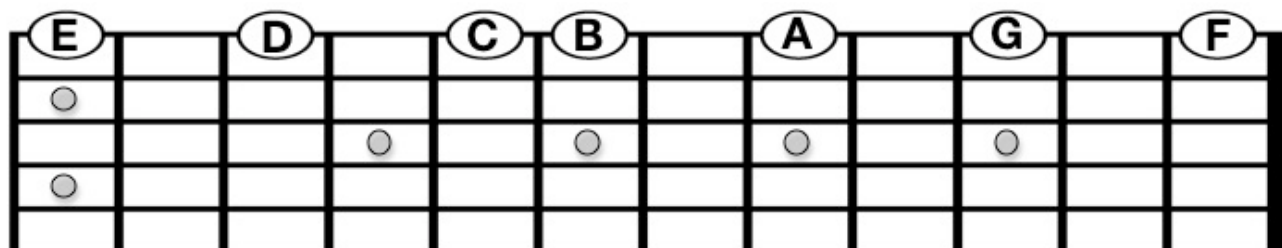
Every note to the next note up is a whole step, EXCEPT for B-C and an E-F.

Let's Practice & Learn

Practice Challenge 1: Memorize the Notes on the Open Strings.

Notes on the 6th String

The 6th string is the one closest to the ceiling and is the lowest in pitch. The open 6th string is an E. Here are the rest of the notes on the 6th string. Notice the half-step between B and C. Also, notice how the notes relate to the dots.



Let's Practice & Learn

Practice Challenge 2: Say and Play the Notes on the 6th String Ascending and Descending.

Adjustments to the Notes: Sharps and Flats

Any note can be adjusted either one half-step (one fret) up or down.

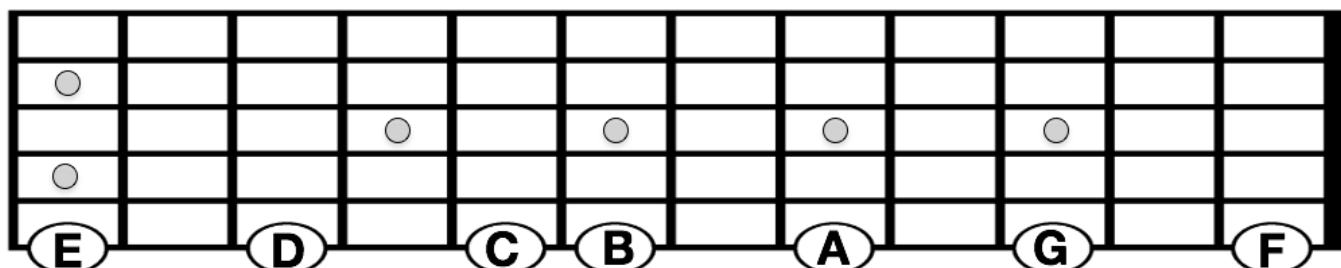
If the note is adjusted one fret up it is called a "sharp" which is notated with a "#" after the letter name.

If the note is adjusted down one fret it is called a "flat" which is notated with a "b" after the letter name.

Practice Challenge 3: Say and Play the Notes on the 6th String or the 1st String in this order: G-C-F-Bb-D#-Ab-C#-Gb-B-E-A-D-G.

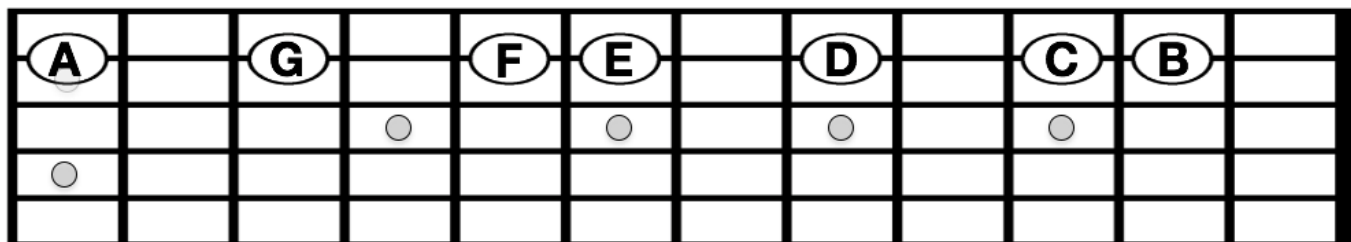
Notes on the 1st String

The 1st string is the string closest to the floor. The 6th string and the 1st string are both E and therefore have the same notes all the way up and down the fretboard.



Notes on the 5th String

The 5th string is the one just below the string closest to the ceiling. The open 5th string is an A. Here are the rest of the notes on the 5th string. Notice the half-step between B and C and also E and F.



Let's Practice & Learn

Practice Challenge 4: Say and Play the Notes on the 5th String Ascending and Descending.

Practice Challenge 5: Say and Play the Notes on the 5th String in this order: C-F-B \flat -D \sharp -A \flat -C \sharp -G \flat -B-E-A-D-G.

Practice Challenge 6: Find the Notes of the Same Name on Both the 6th & 5th Strings.

Practice Challenge 7: Say and Play the Notes on the 4th String Ascending and Descending.

Practice Challenge 8: Say and Play the Notes on the 3rd String Ascending and Descending.

Practice Challenge 9: Say and Play the Notes on the 2nd String Ascending and Descending.

Practice Challenge 10: Octaves

- From the Notes on the 6th String, Find the Corresponding Octaves on the 4th String.
- From the Notes on the 5th String, Find the Corresponding Octaves on the 3rd String.
- From the Notes on the 4th String, Find the Corresponding Octaves on the 2nd String.
- From the Notes on the 3rd String, Find the Corresponding Octaves on the 1st String.

Practice Challenge 11: Find Every Note of the Same Name on the Fretboard

- Find all of the E's on the Guitar.
- Find all of the C's on the Guitar.

Practice Challenge 12: Play a Major Scale on One String Up the Neck

- Play the C Major Scale on the 2nd String Starting at the 2nd String C at the 1st Fret.
- Play the G Major Scale on the 3rd String Starting at the 3rd String Open G.
- Play the F Major Scale on the 2nd String Starting at the 2nd String C at the 1st Fret.

Practice Challenge 13: Play a Simple Melody Starting on Any String. Play with Multiple Fingers