



# 15 CHORDS

## EVERY GUITARIST NEEDS TO KNOW



### If you call yourself a guitarist, you need these chords...

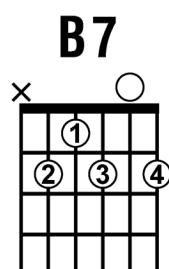
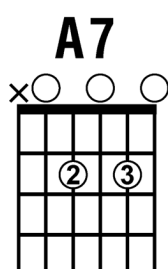
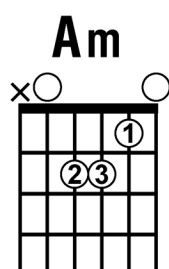
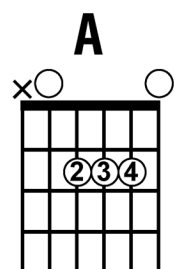
Not all chords are created equal. Some you are going to use much more than others. If you could boil down all of the chords into just the absolute essential chords, these are the ones you should focus on first.

These 15 chords are not random. **These chords are from the most used progressions in the most common keys.**

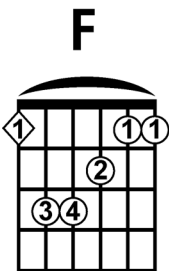
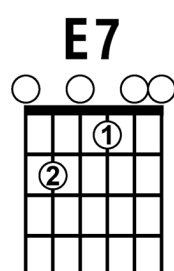
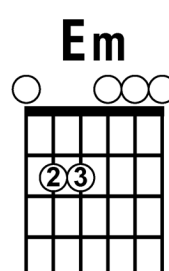
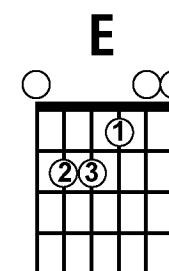
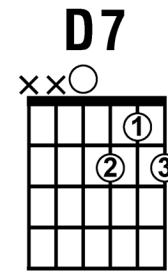
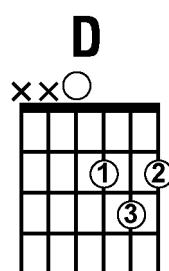
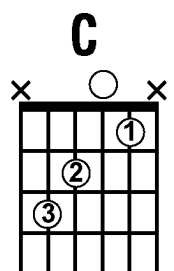
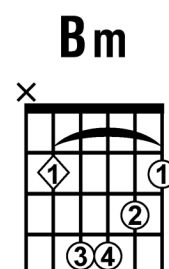
The most common progressions used in songs involve four chords – the one chord (I), the four chord (IV), the five chord (V), and the six minor chord (vi).

The most common keys that guitarists play in are C, D, E, G, and A.

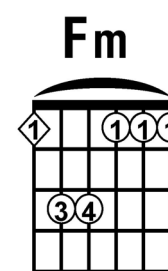
## The Most Used 15 Chords



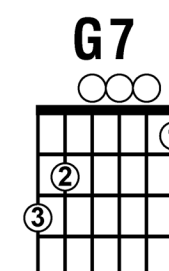
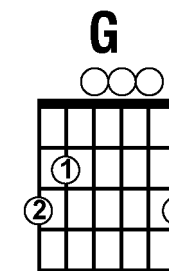
Moveable  
Form



Moveable  
Form



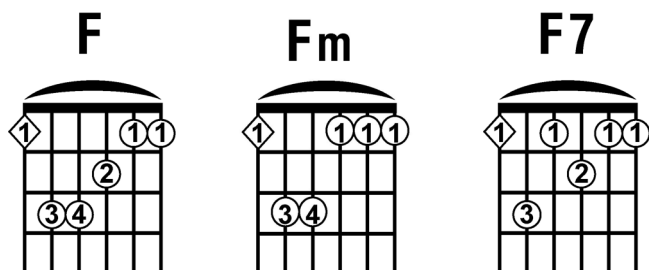
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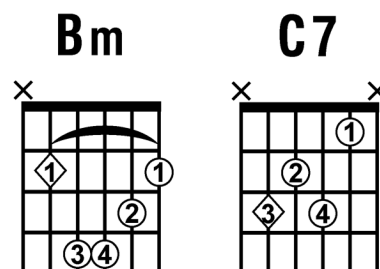
# Moveable Forms

Certain chords do not use an open string. These chords can be moved to various parts of the neck to create the same chord “type” in different keys. The chords can be moved according to the root.

Roots are notated with a diamond in the chord block and are usually on the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> string.



Moveable Root on the 6<sup>th</sup> String



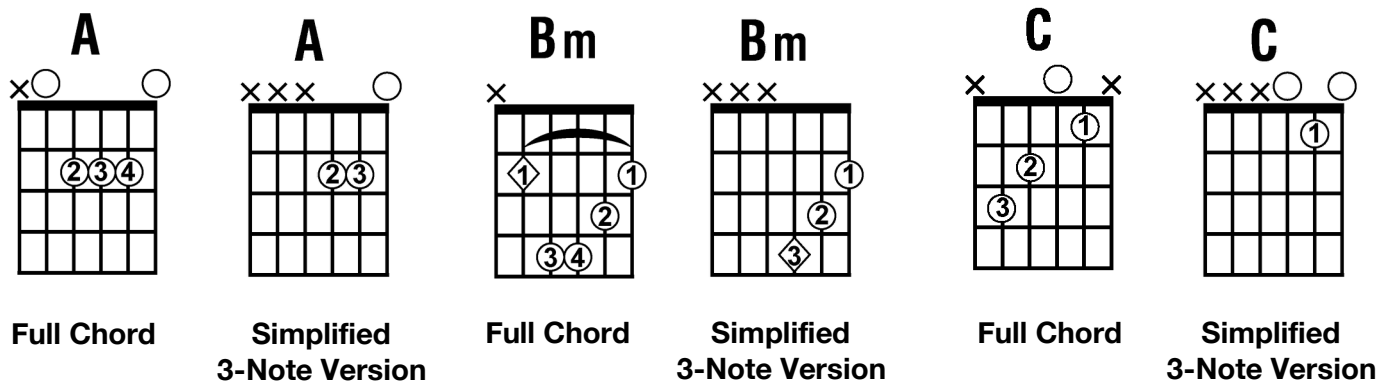
Moveable Root on the 5<sup>th</sup> String

# Simplifying Chord Forms

A beginner learning forming these chords for the first time might find it easier to simplify the form.

Any chord can be simplified by playing the top 3 or 4 strings only.

For example, this A chord can be simplified to a 3-string version.



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