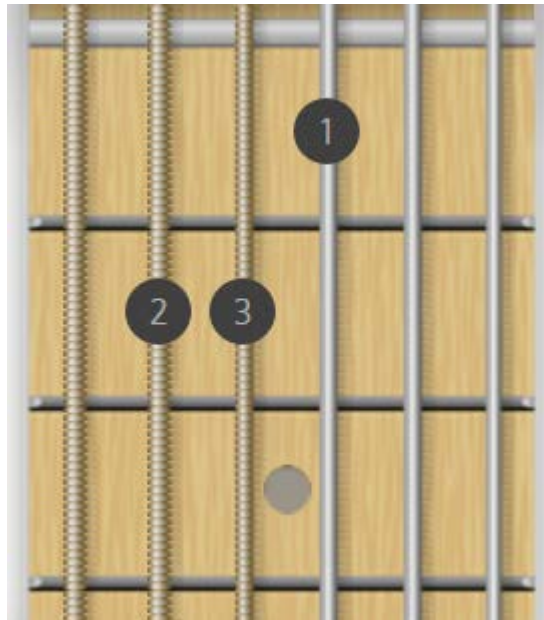


# Barre Chords

Movable chords – based on E and A Chords

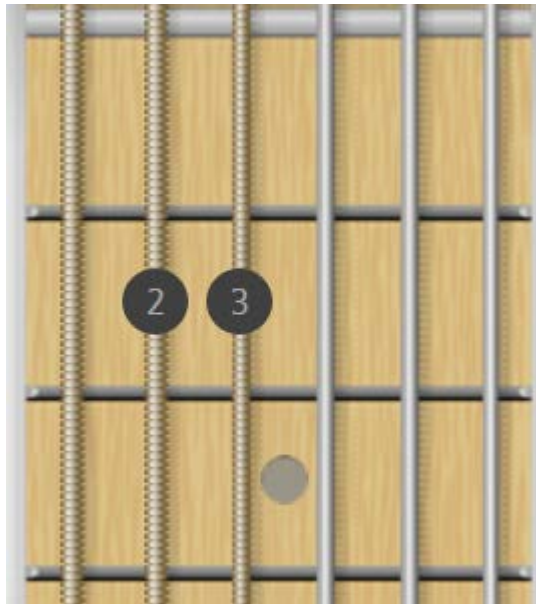
# Making BARRE CHORDS

- You need to know your 4-E and 4-A chords...
  - Here are E and A (major) chords. (Saying “major” is redundant. Major is implied by just saying E and A.)



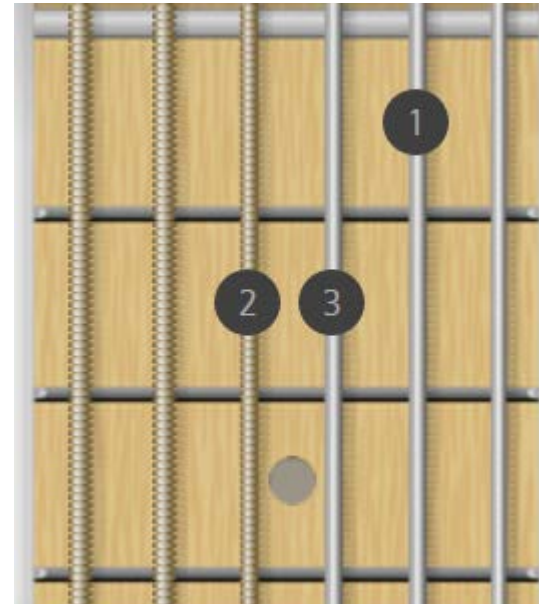
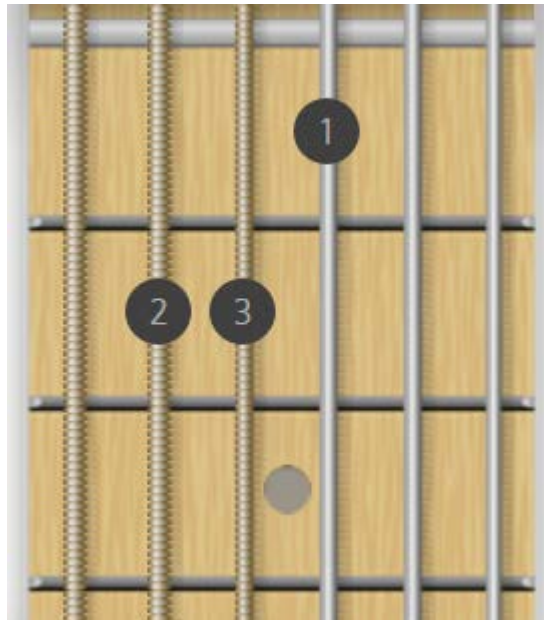
# Making BARRE CHORDS

- Here are Em and Am... the m=minor. (Minor chords are darker/sadder sounding chords.)



# Making BARRE CHORDS

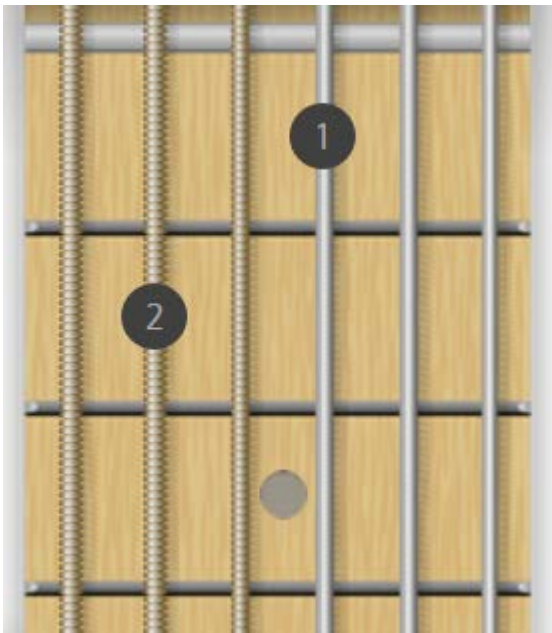
- Notice now how E and Am are super similar. Just shift the fingers down – towards the floor – and you are there.



# Making BARRE CHORDS

- These chords are used – but less often when making many barre chords.

E7



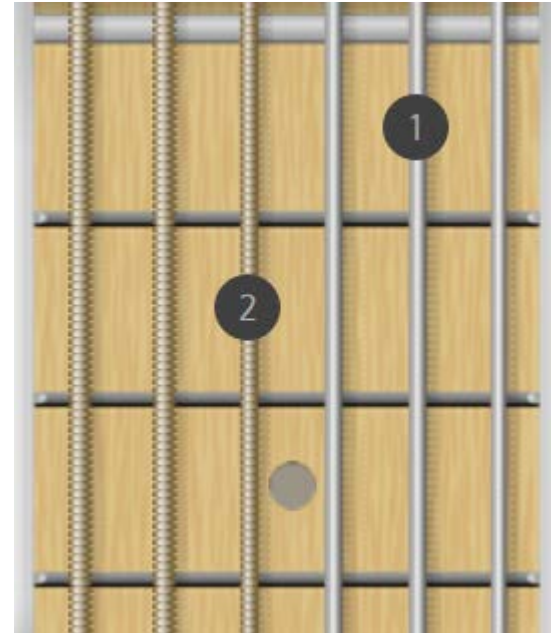
A7



Em7



Am7

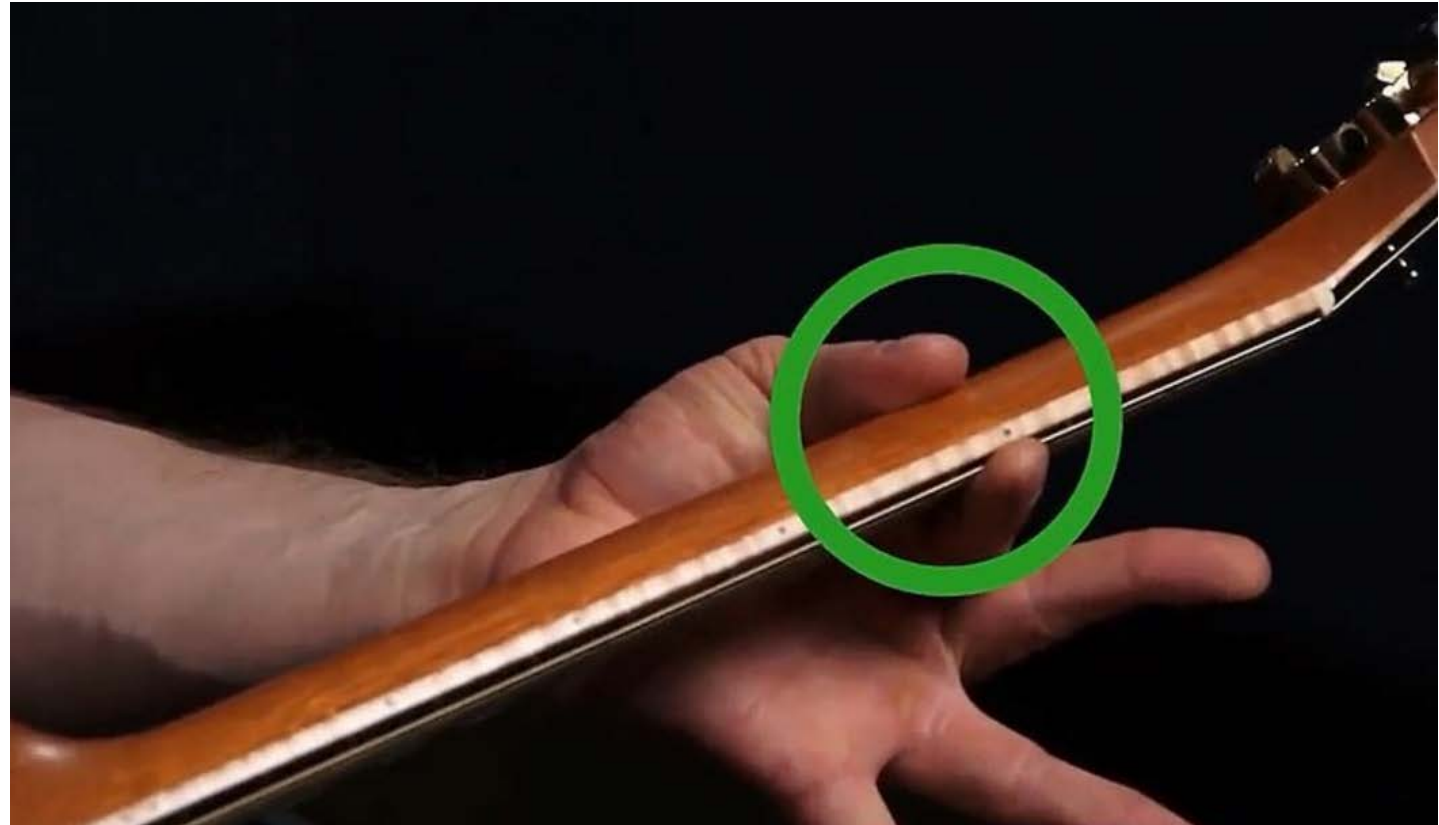


# E and A “patterns”

- To successfully make barre chords – you no longer think of these chords as E and A chords, but E and A chord **patterns**. These chord patterns, or even hand shapes, are used to make the various barre chords.

# Start with the INDEX finger

- The Barre chord gets its name from us using our index finger to stretch across all the strings somewhere on the guitar neck.
- The remaining fingers will be used to make one of our E or A chord patterns.



# Front of the fingerboard (E pattern)

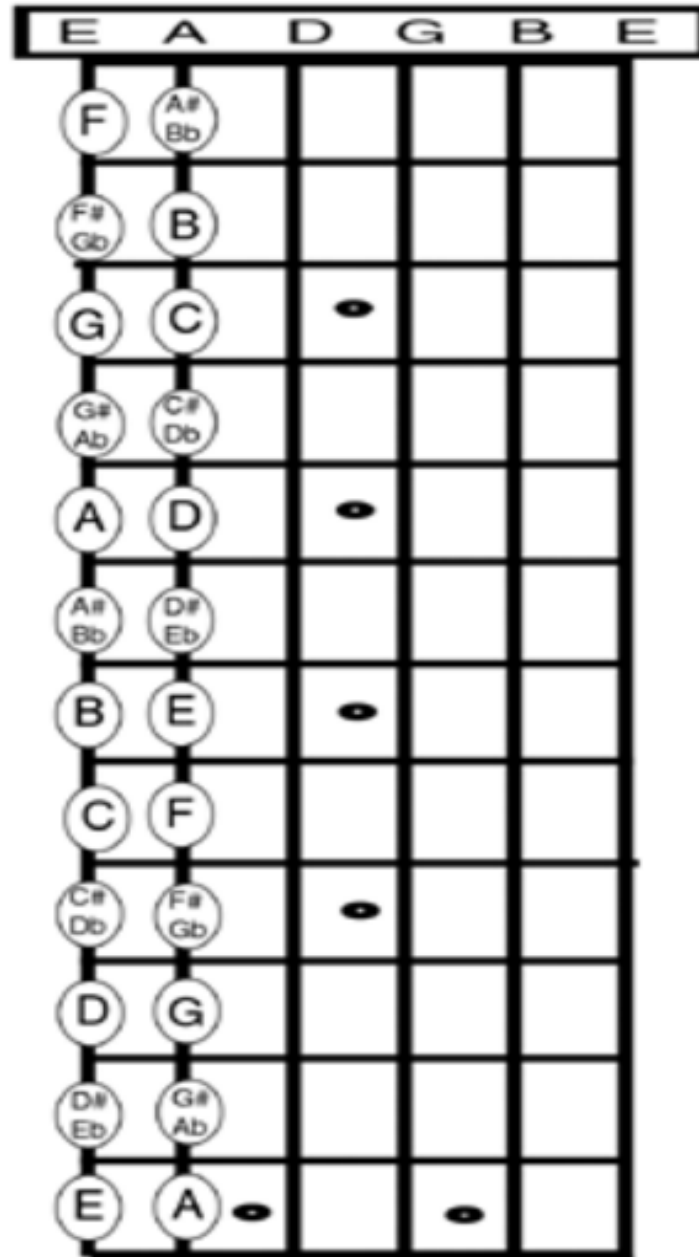




# So, where do we get the name for our Barre Chord?

- Barre chords have essentially a “first” and “last” name.
- The “first name” (ABCDEFG) comes from wherever we place our INDEX finger, or the barre, on the fingerboard.
- The “last name” is “Major” – “minor” – “7” – “minor 7”
  - Ex: Fm7 – C7 – G – Dm
    - Again – we don’t need an M next to our G to let us know it’s Major.

The neck of the guitar – and the 6<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Strings



- Our 6<sup>th</sup> string is E
- Our 5<sup>th</sup> string is A
- On these strings we have a series of notes in alphabetical order moving up the neck of the guitar.
- The musical alphabet is only ABCDEFG – and then it repeats using only these 7 letters.

# The E String and the A String

- 0=E

- 1=F

- 3=G

- 5=A

- 0=A

- 2=B

- 3=C

- 5=D

- These are the natural notes on a guitar – ones not using sharps (#) or flats (b).
- Notice that between E/F and B/C there is no room for another note.
- 0=open, 1=first fret, etc...
- (These are the white notes on the piano.)

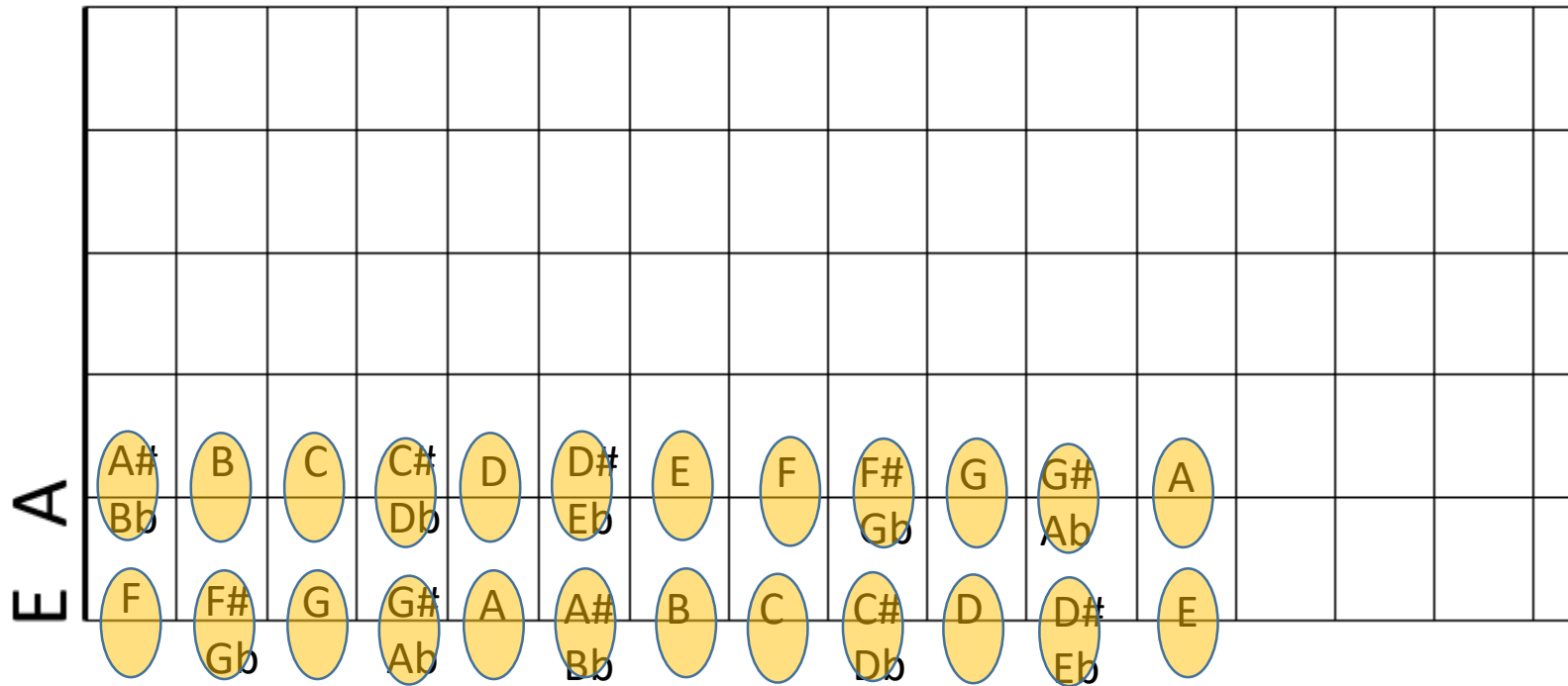
# The E String and the A String

- 0=E
- 1=F
- 2=F#/Gb
- 3=G
- 4=G#/Ab
- 5=A

- 0=A
- 1=A#/Bb
- 2=B
- 3=C
- 4=C#/Db
- 5=D

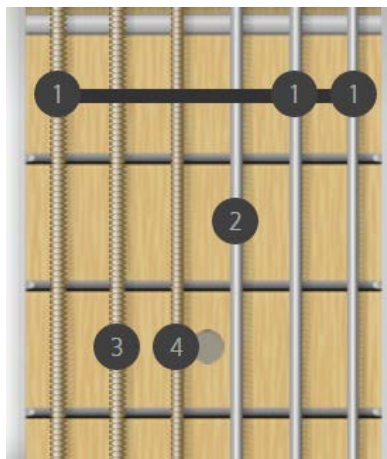
- In between we have notes that use an accidental – ones using sharps (#) or flats (b).
- Each one has 2 names. A sharp name and a flat name. They get this from the natural notes on either side.
- (These are also the black notes on the piano.)

Take a couple minutes - fill in our fretboard with note names to the 12<sup>th</sup> fret:



# Making barre chords with an E (major) pattern

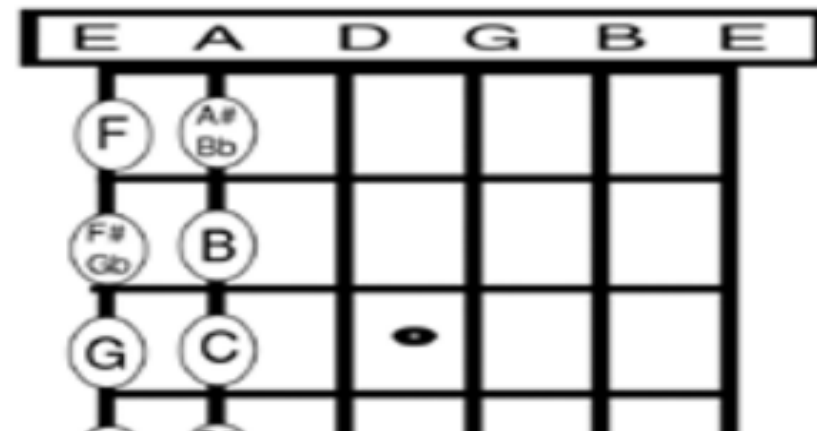
F



F#



G

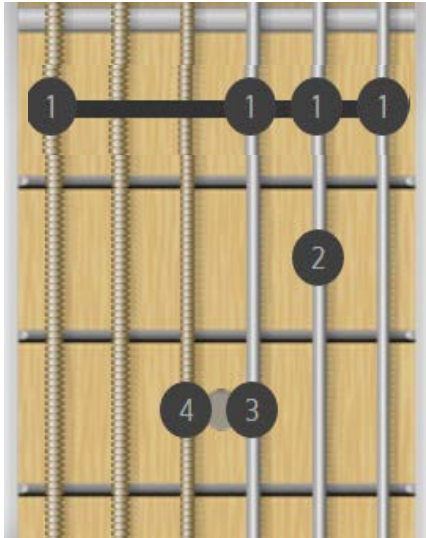


The pattern stays the same – it just slides up the neck of the guitar.

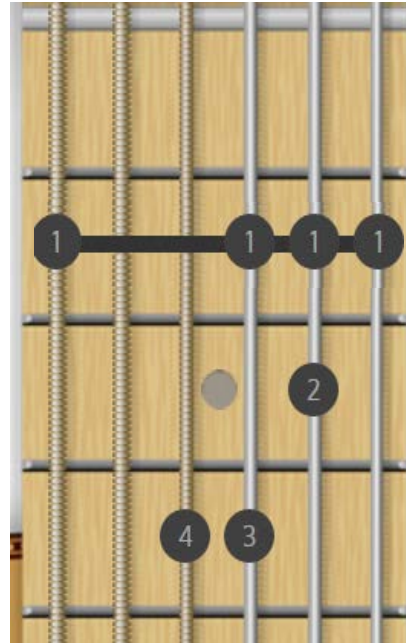
The chord name gets its name from where the index finger falls on the E STRING!

# Making barre chords with an Am pattern

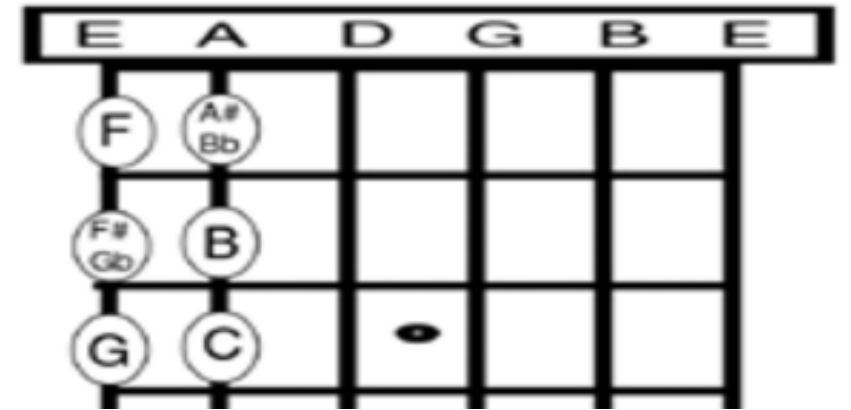
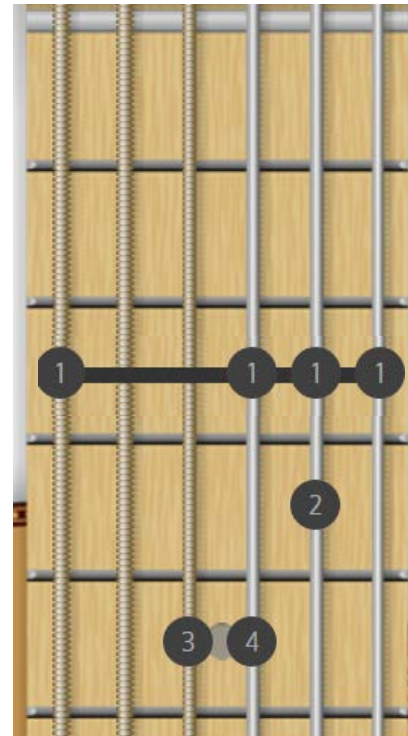
Bbm



Cm



C#m



Again, the pattern stays the same – it just slides up the neck of the guitar.

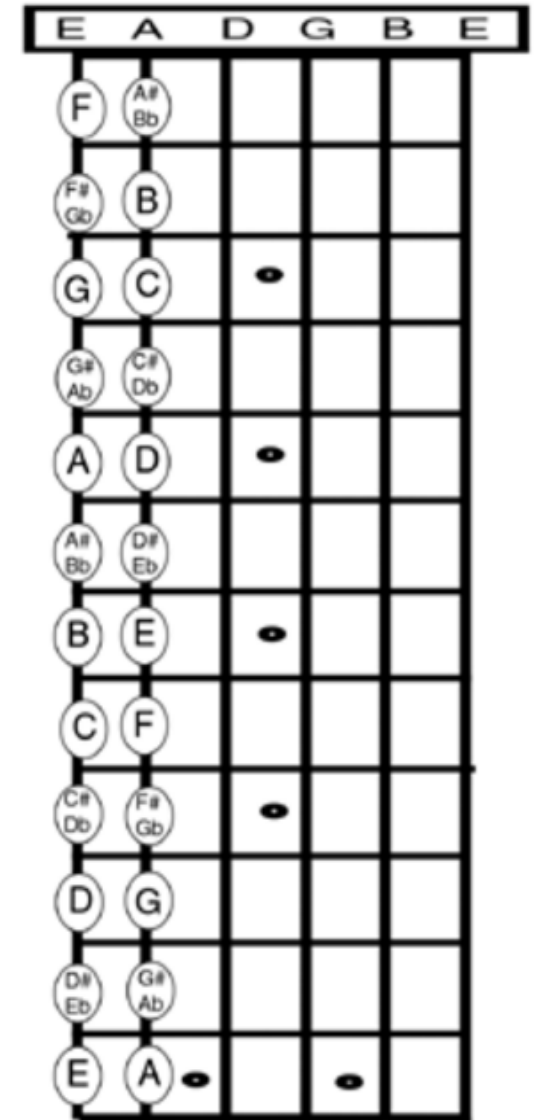
Again, the chord name gets it's name from where the index finger falls but on the A STRING.

# Starting to see the connection?

- So to make other E pattern chords you use the E pattern and place the index finger anywhere on the fretboard and get the name from the E string and that's its name...

If I place it on the:

- 5<sup>th</sup> fret, it's now an A chord
  - 9<sup>th</sup> fret = C#/Db
  - 6<sup>th</sup> fret = A#/Bb
  - 11<sup>th</sup> fret = D#/Eb
- 
- Same pattern stays in your hand.



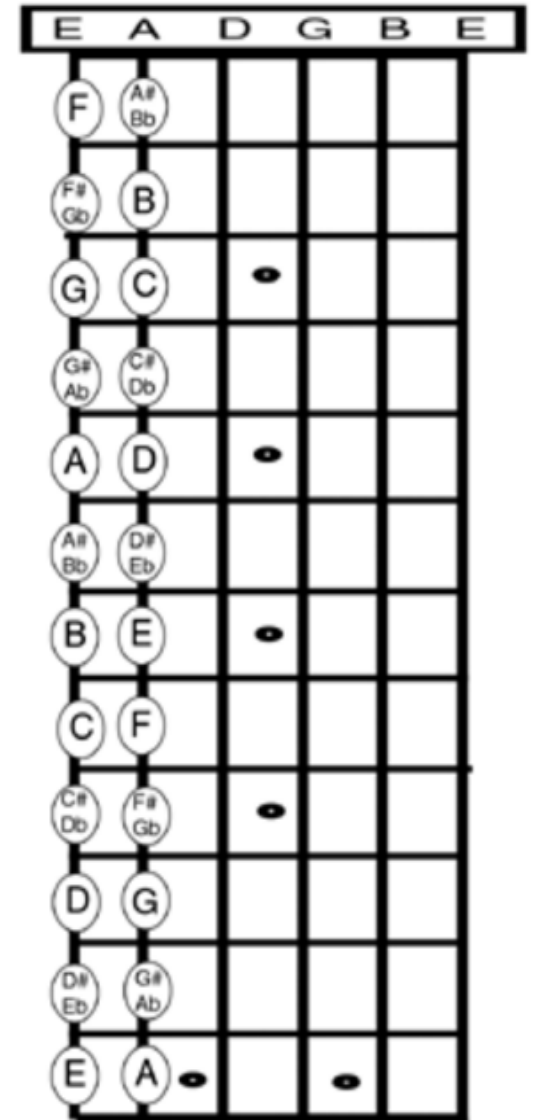


# See the connection?

- And to make other Am pattern chords you use the Am pattern and place the index finger anywhere on the fretboard and get the name from the A string (because it's an A pattern) and that's its name...

If I place it on the:

- 5<sup>th</sup> fret, it's now a Dm chord
  - 9<sup>th</sup> fret = F#m/Gbm
  - 6<sup>th</sup> fret = A#m/Bbm
  - 11<sup>th</sup> fret = D#m/Ebm
- 
- Why is it "m" – because you've used an A "m" pattern.



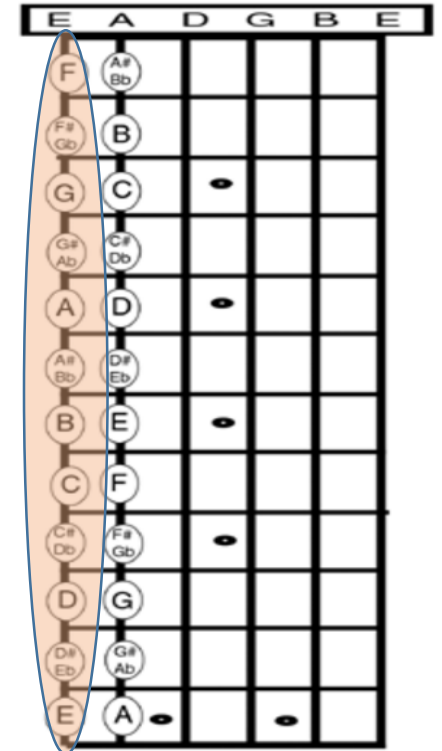
# E chords from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> fret

• E chord patterns make:

1. F
2. F#
3. G
4. G#/Ab
5. A
6. A#/Bb
7. B
8. C

• Em chord patterns make:

1. Fm
2. F#m
3. Gm
4. G#m/Abm
5. Am
6. A#m/Bbm
7. Bm
8. Cm



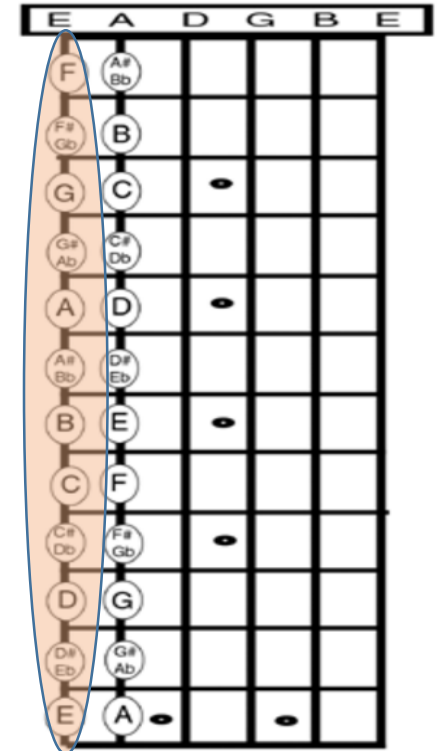
# E chords from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> fret

• E7 chord patterns make:

1. F7
2. F#7
3. G7
4. G#7/Ab7
5. A7
6. A#7/Bb7
7. B7
8. C7

• Em7 chord patterns make:

1. Fm7
2. F#m7
3. Gm7
4. G#m7/Abm7
5. Am7
6. A#m7/Bbm7
7. Bm7
8. Cm7



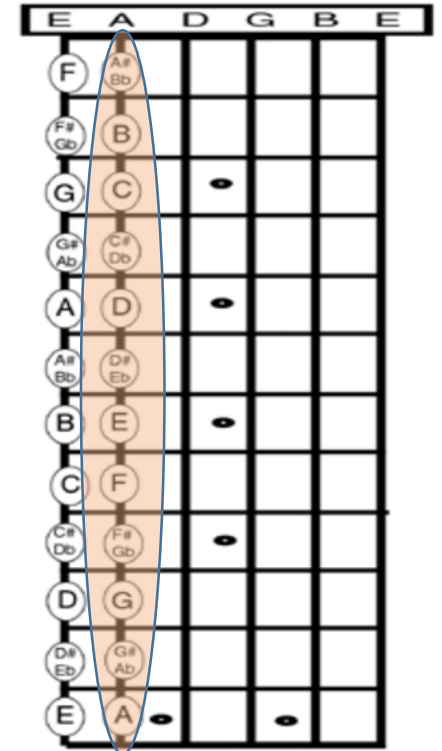
# A chords from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> fret

- A chord patterns make:

1. A#/Bb
2. B
3. C
4. C#/Db
5. E
6. F
7. F#/Gb
8. G

- Am chord patterns make:

1. A#m/Bbm
2. Bm
3. Cm
4. C#m/Dbm
5. Em
6. Fm
7. F#m/Gbm
8. Gm



# A chords from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> fret

- A7 chord patterns make:

- A#7/Bb7

- B7

- C7

- C#7/Db7

- E7

- F7

- F#7/Gb7

- G7

- Am7 chord patterns make:

- A#m7/Bbm7

- Bm7

- Cm7

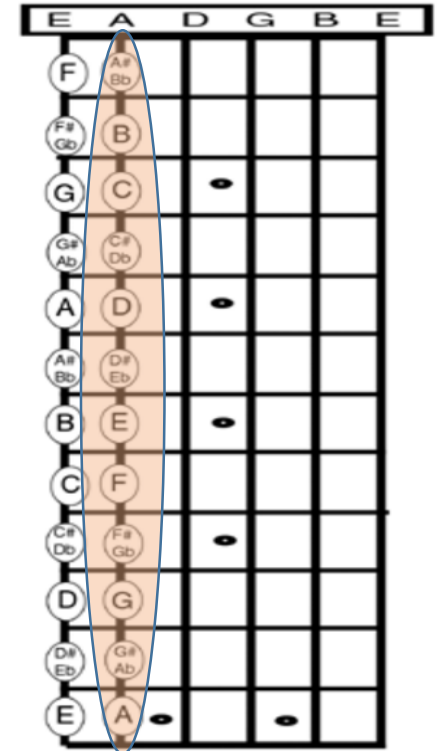
- C#m7/Dbm7

- Em7

- Fm7

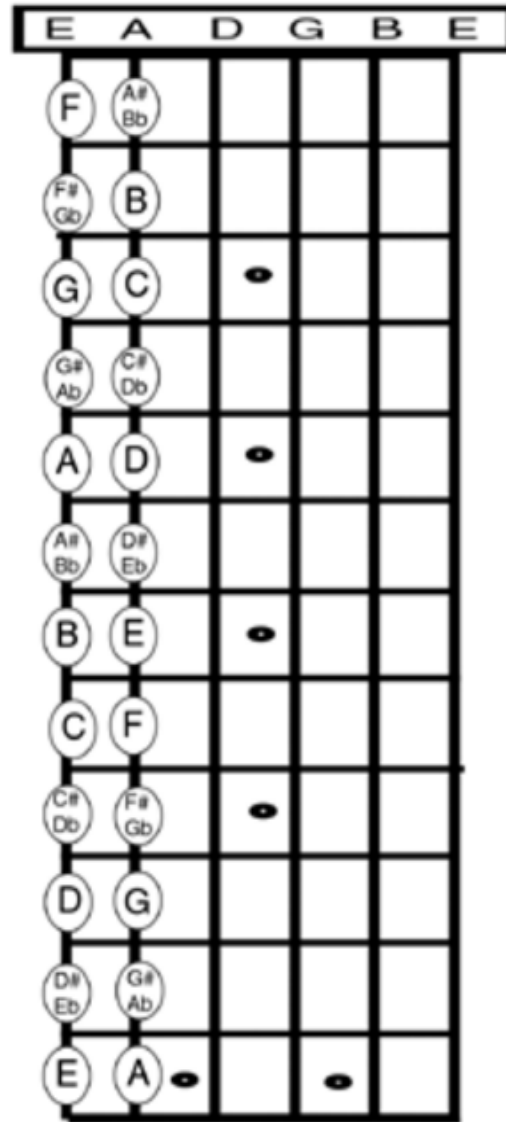
- F#m7/Gbm7

- Gm7



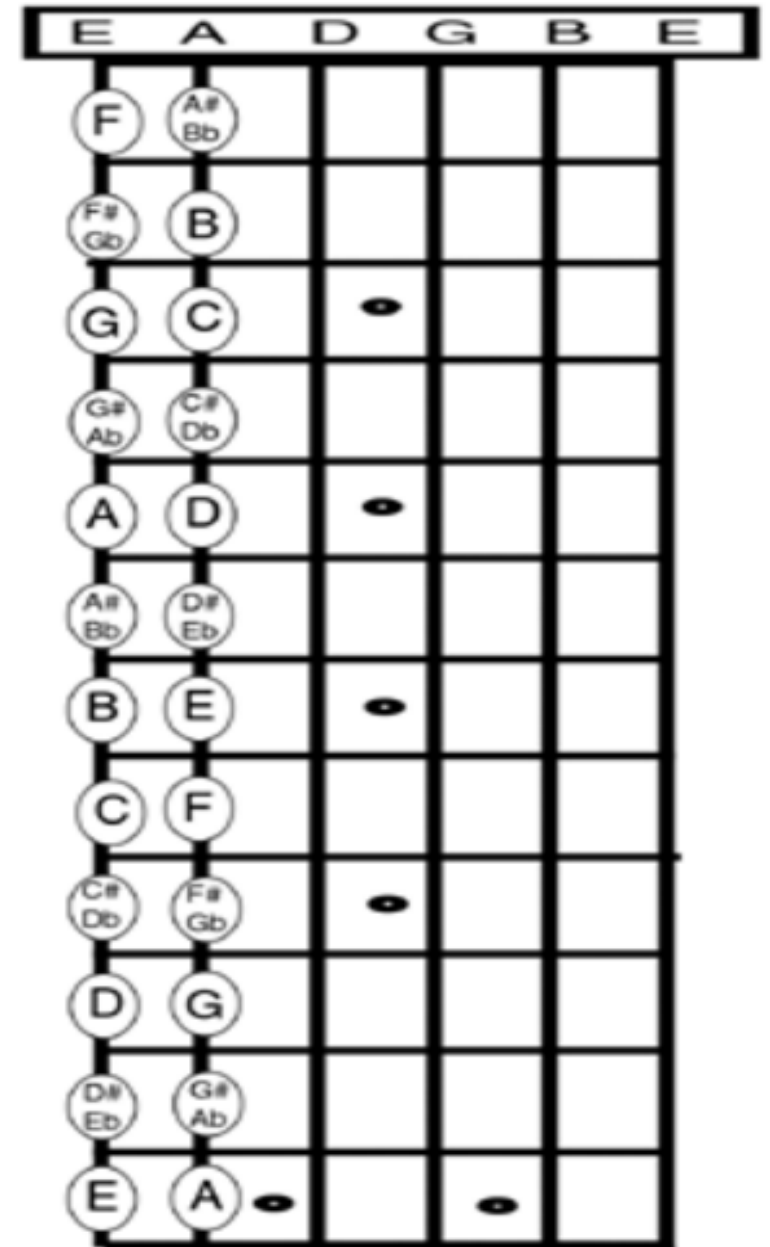
The pattern continues up and beyond the 12<sup>th</sup> fret on the guitar

Memorize this chart you filled in and you can play just about any standard chord.



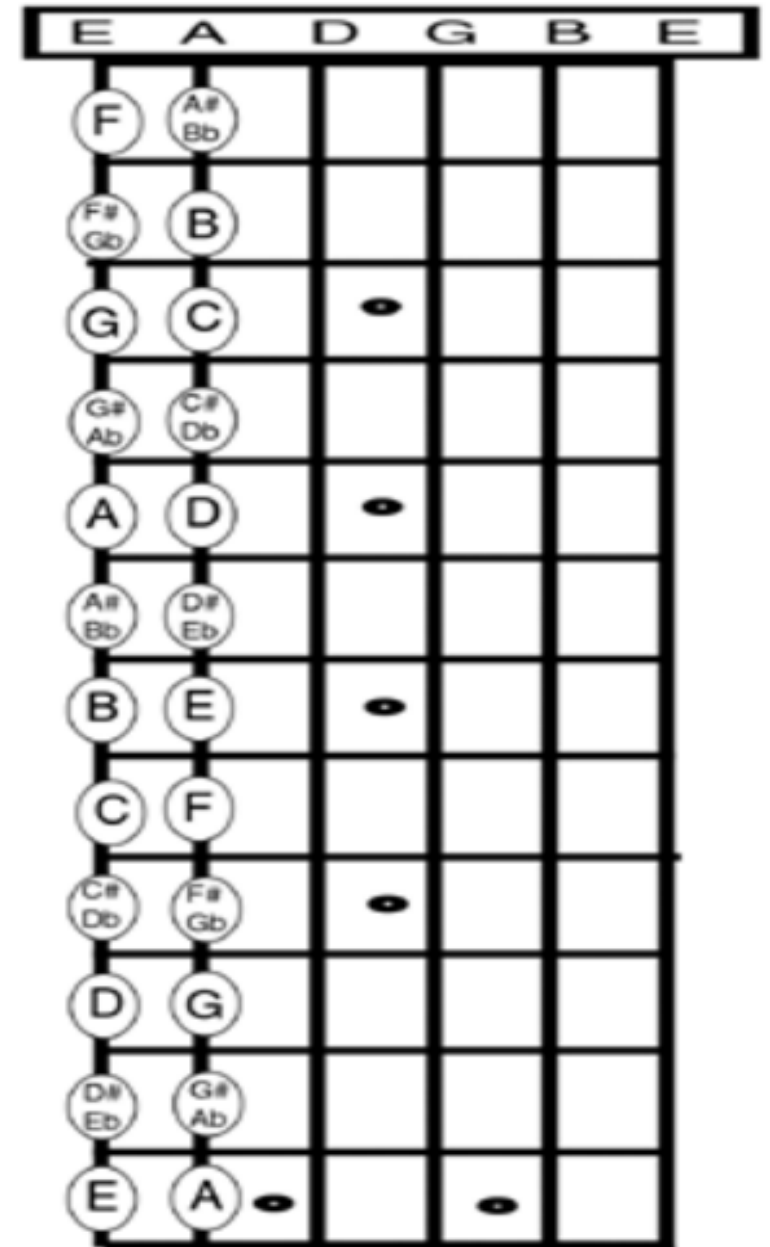
# Choosing our barre chord

- When you just have to use a barre chord for a song, we try to pick a barre chord that is closest to the nut and also where we are playing our “home position” or normal chords.
- I would choose to play an F# chord using the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret (and an E chord pattern) before I would use the F# at the 9<sup>th</sup> fret (where I then have to use an A chord pattern.) Just too big of a jump.



# Choosing our barre chord

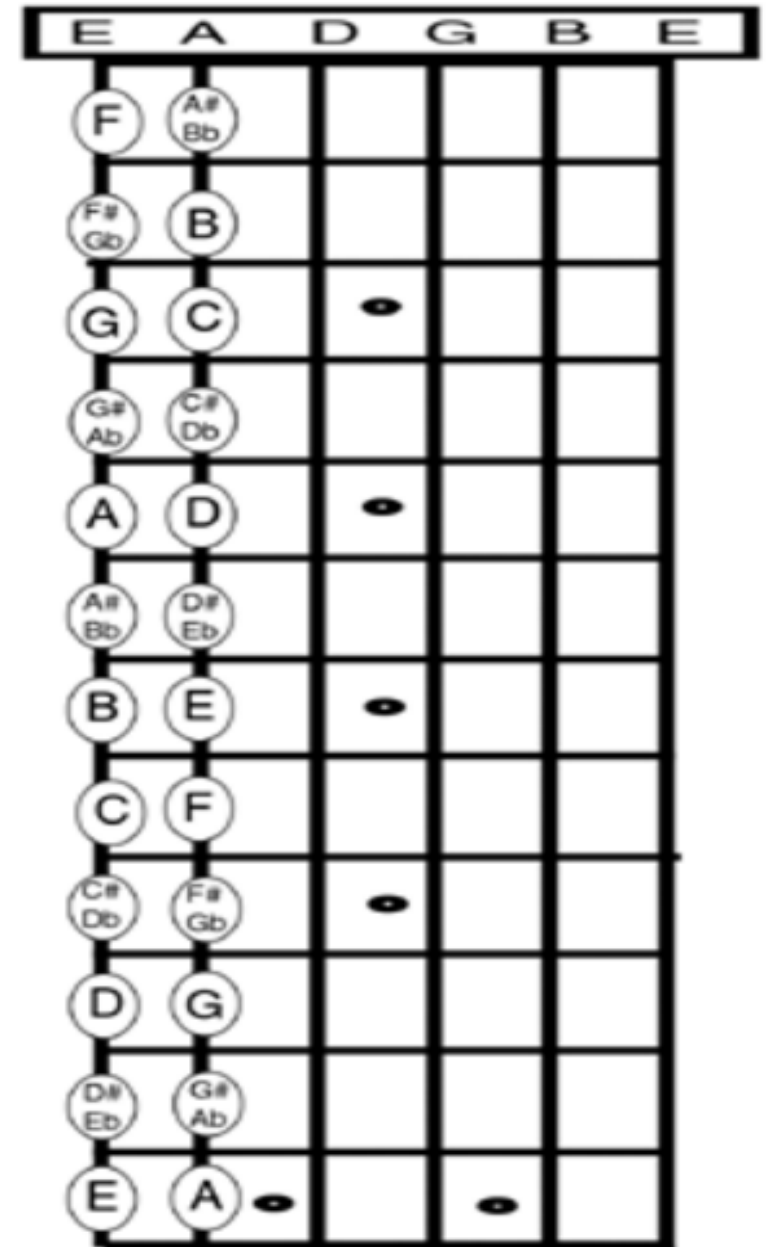
- If you choose your note/chord and it falls on the 6<sup>th</sup>/E string you MUST use an E chord pattern of some kind.
- If you choose your note/chord and it's found on the A string you MUST use an A chord pattern of some kind.





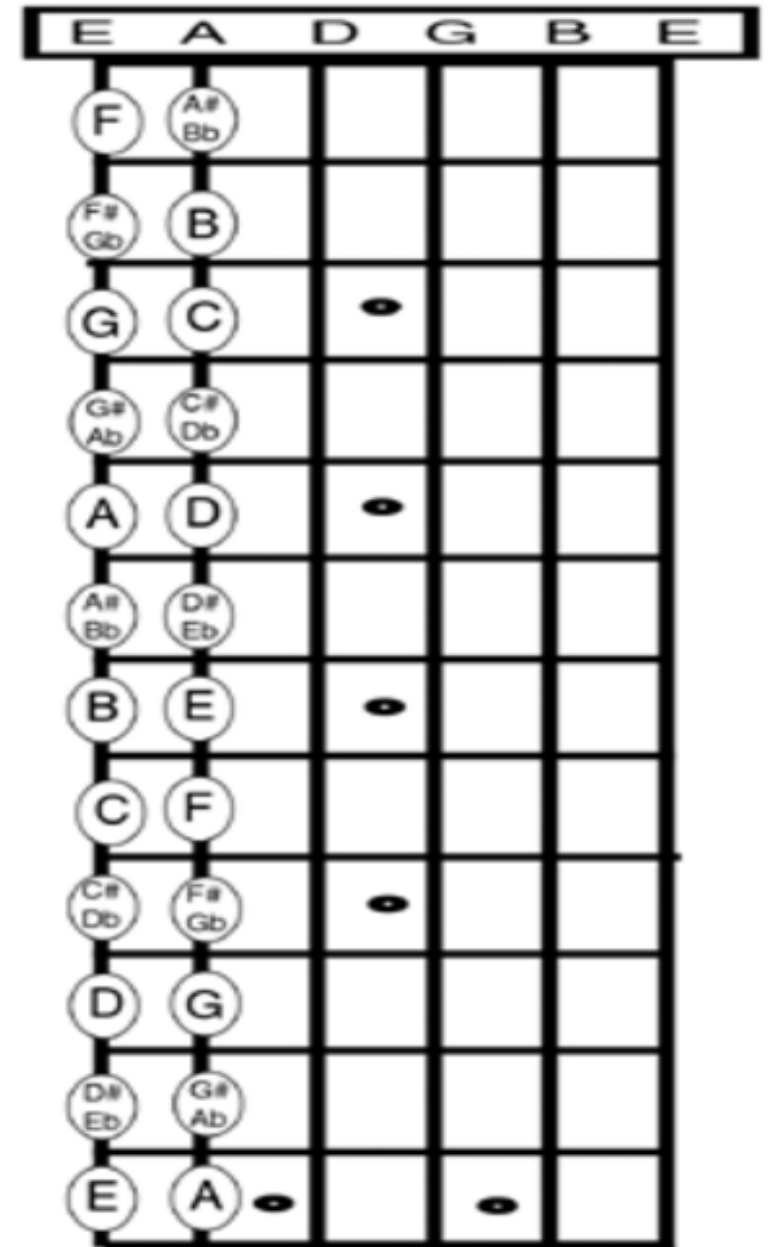
# Choosing our barre chord

- You can play Fm in the 1<sup>st</sup> fret (Em pattern)
- You can play Fm in the 8<sup>th</sup> fret (Am pattern)
  
- You can play G# in the 4<sup>th</sup> fret (E pattern)
- You can play G# in the 11<sup>th</sup> fret (A pattern)
  
- You can play Bm7 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret (Am7 pattern)
- You can play Bm7 in the 7<sup>th</sup> fret (Em7 pattern)



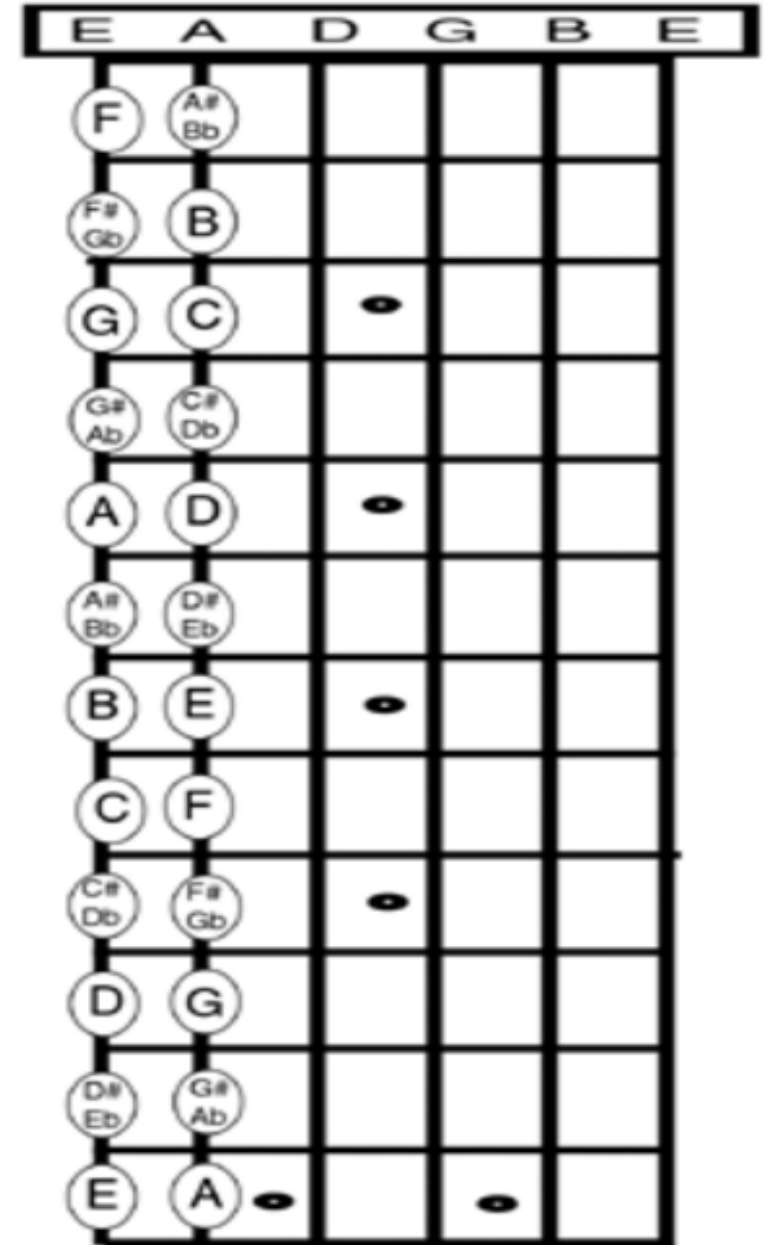
# Choosing our barre chord

- You can play Fm in the 1<sup>st</sup> fret (Em pattern)
- You can play Fm in the 8<sup>th</sup> fret (Am pattern)
  
- You can play G# in the 4<sup>th</sup> fret (E pattern)
- You can play G# in the 11<sup>th</sup> fret (A pattern)
  
- You can play Bm7 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret (Am7 pattern)
- You can play Bm7 in the 7<sup>th</sup> fret (Em7 pattern)



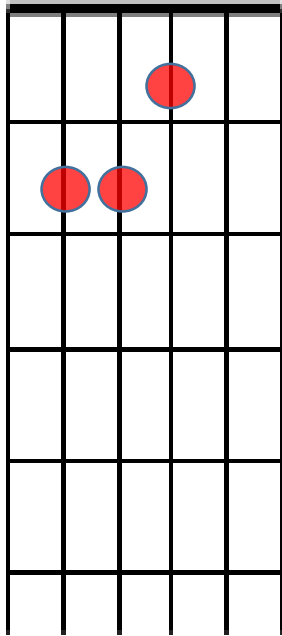
# Choosing our barre chord

- Sometimes where you play your barre chord is based on what chord you previously played or what chord comes next. You want to pick the one closest to where your hands currently are – usually without getting too far from “home position” and close to the nut.
- You ideally will use “regular” chords as often as possible.

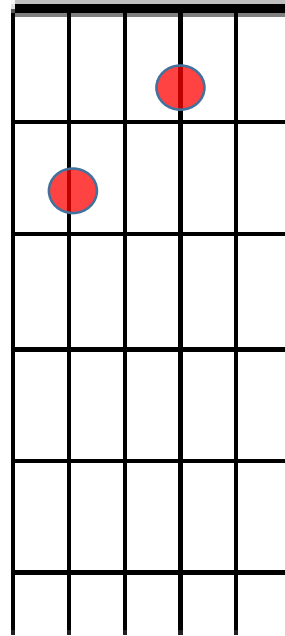


# Draw your 4 E Chords

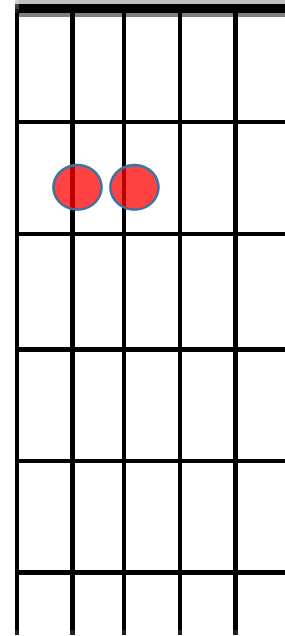
E



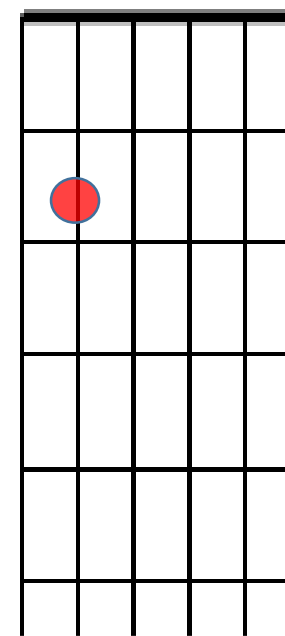
E7



Em

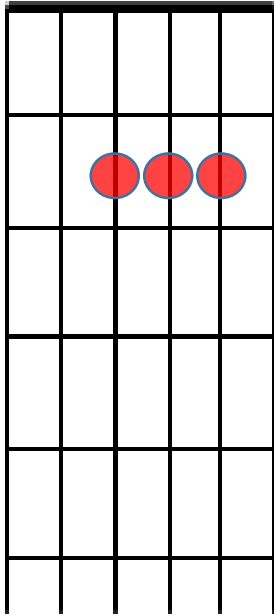


Em7

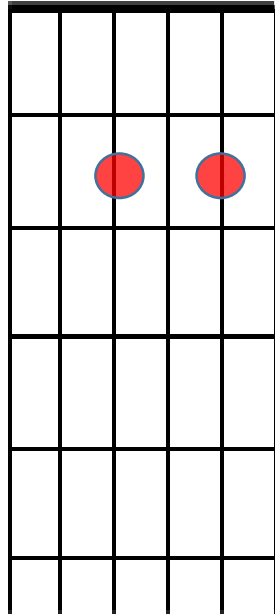


# Draw your 4 A Chords

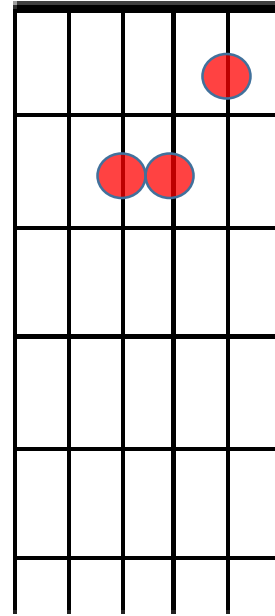
A



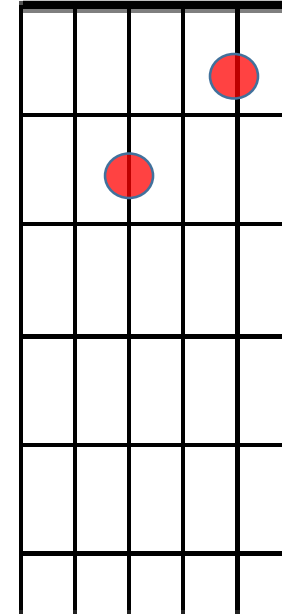
A7



Am

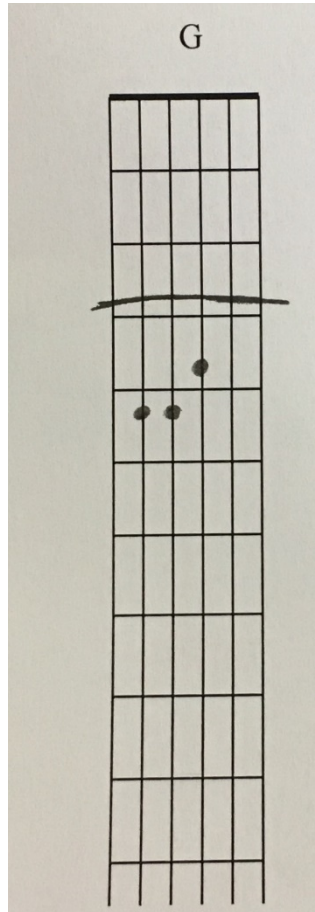


Am7

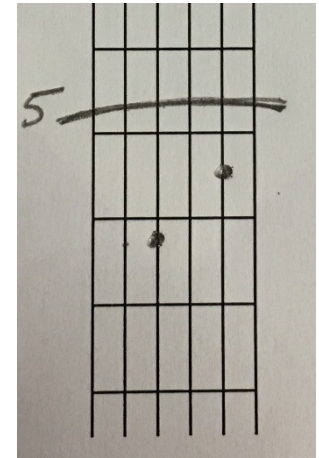


# Hand drawn chords often look like:

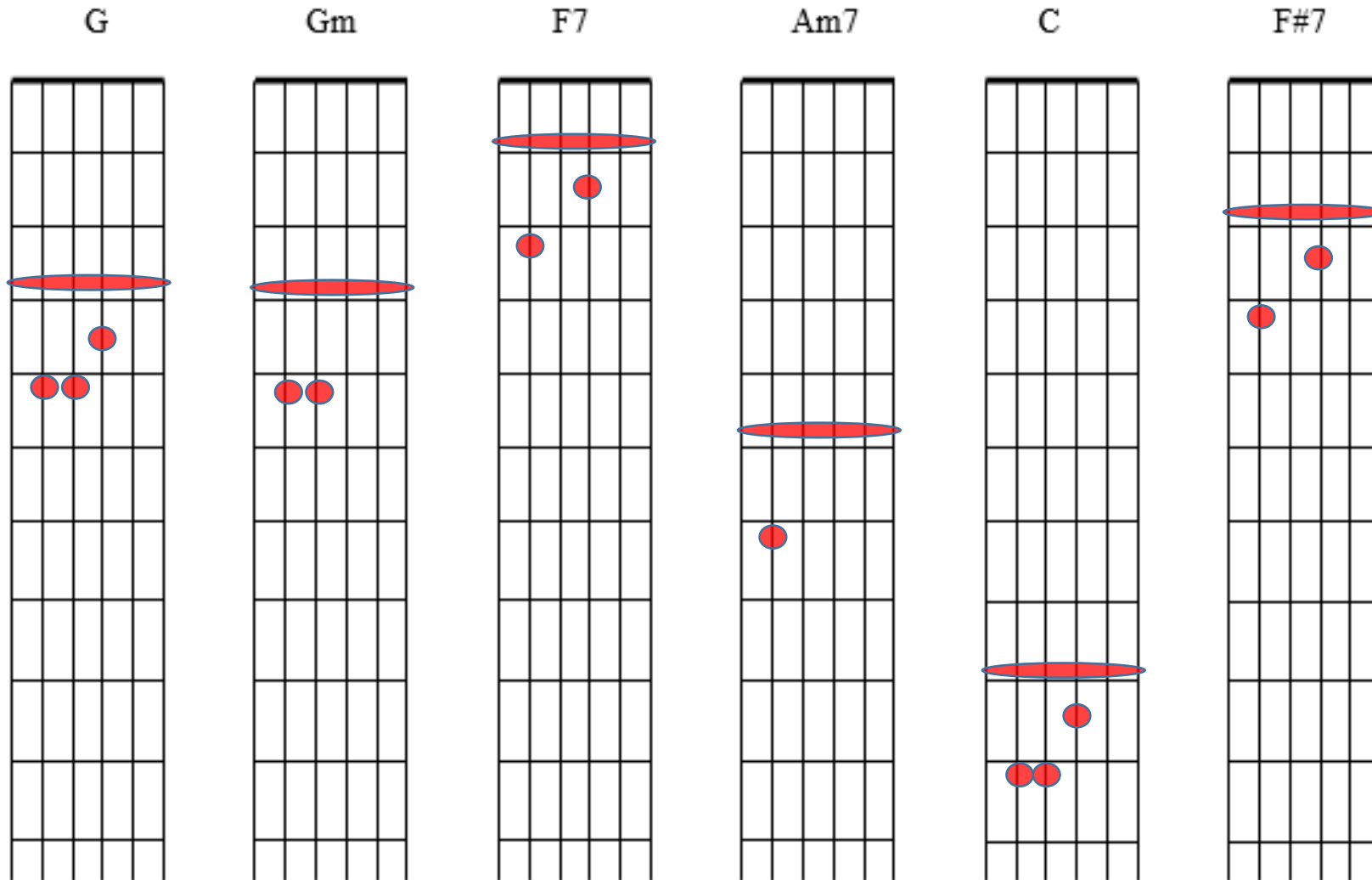
- The line across is the Barre. Dots are fingers.



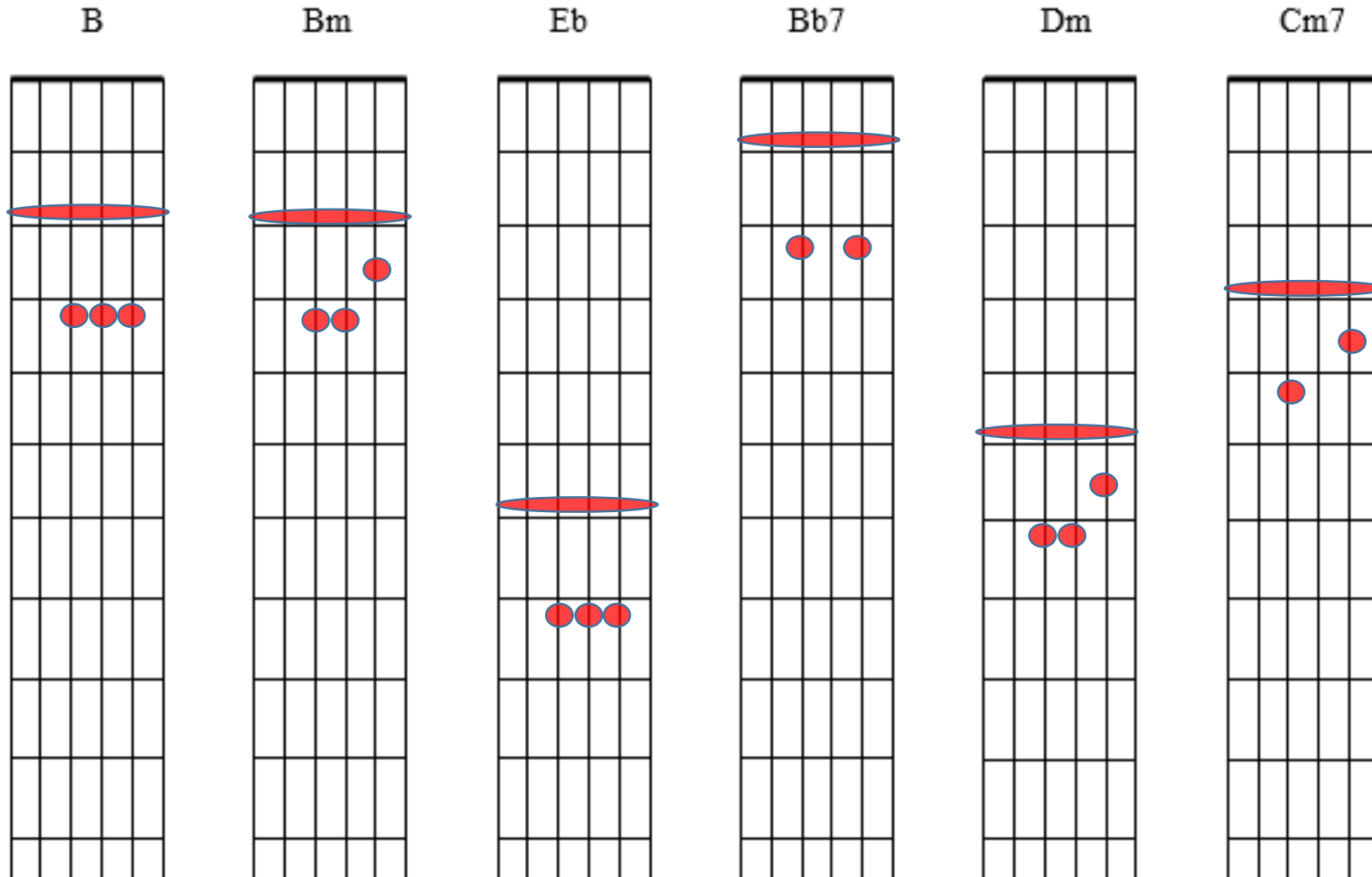
- If there isn't enough room they sometimes shorten the picture, draw the barre-line and then put a number next to the figure to indicate the fret – then the dots for the fingers. This one tells me it's a barre chord starting at the 5<sup>th</sup> fret. Also an Am7 pattern. The name of the actual chord is Dm7.



# Draw chords based on E CHORD PATTERNS



# Draw chords based on A CHORD PATTERNS

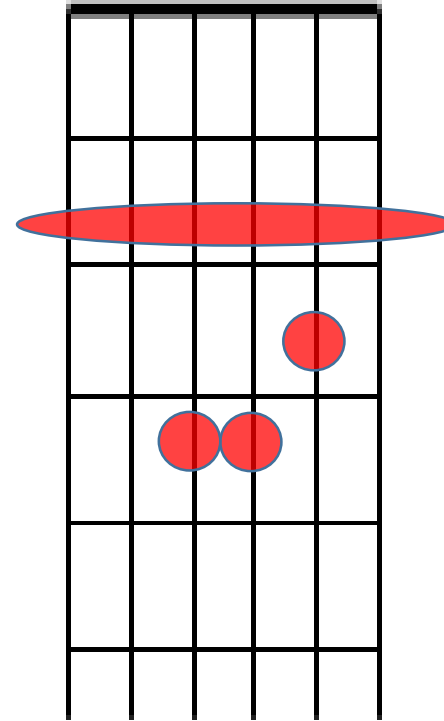




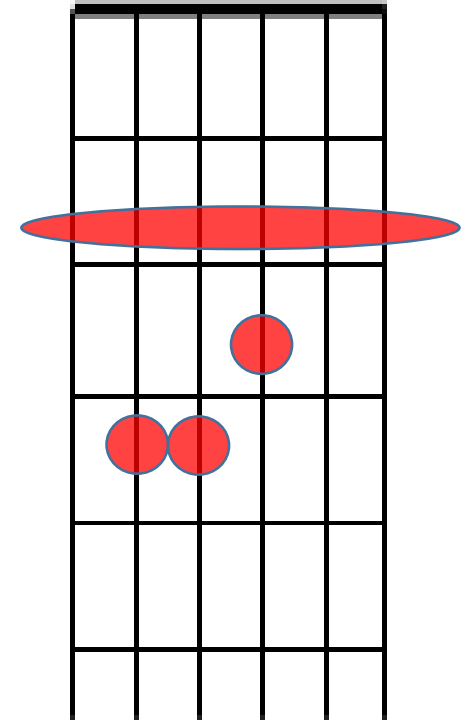
# Hotel California

- This song uses a Bm and F# chord to start the song (and appears regularly throughout).
- The Bm is an Am chord pattern in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret.
- The F# is an E chord pattern – also in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret.
- Instead of sliding up and down to change the chord – you move all of your fingers up/down the strings, staying in the same, 2<sup>nd</sup> fret.

Bm



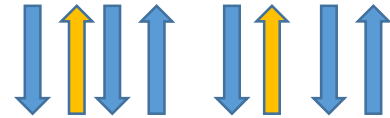
F#



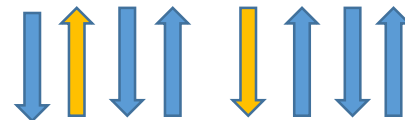
# Strumming pattern

- Minimum strumming pattern is D DU D DU (that equals 4 beats.)

- Double it to make 8 beats.



- A more interesting pattern is D DU UDU (also equaling 4 beats.)



- The “blue” arrows are where you are making contact with the strings. Yellow – you move the arm/hand but make no sound.

# Matrix of some basic strumming patterns

- Depending on the style of the song, you may want to choose a strumming pattern that works for you or for the song.

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
D U	D U	D U	D U	D U	D U	D U	D U
D	D U	D	D U	D	D U	D	D U
D U	D	D U	D	D U	D	D U	D
D	D U	U	D U	D	D U	U	D U
D	DDU	D	DDU	D	DDU	D	DDU
DUDU	UDU	DUDU	UDU	DUDU	UDU	DUDU	UDU
D	D	D U	D	D	D	D U	D
D	U	D U	D	D	U	D U	D
D U	D U	U	D U	D U	D U	U	D U

ETC...