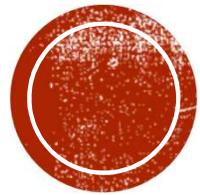


CHORD BASICS - 1

Ukulele Tuesdays – Evergreen Library

January 15, 2019





PLAYING MUSIC IS MORE THAN JUST MEMORIZING A BUNCH OF CHORDS ON YOUR INSTRUMENT.

That's difficult. And takes a long time.

WHAT IS A CHORD?

- A chord is 3 or more notes played at the same time (or in rapid succession as in strumming a uke).
- The wavelengths of the pitches meld together (harmonize) to create the unique sound of the chord
- 3 main types of chords:
 - Major Chords - Happy, simple, cheerful, confident, bright, satisfying
 - Minor Chords - Sad, serious, dark, sullen, apprehensive, melancholy, depressed, mysterious
 - Seventh (7th) Chords - Jazzy, bluesy, romantic, serene, tranquil, exhilarant, strong, relentless, funky, soulful, moderate edginess
- All other chords can be generally classified as derivatives of these 3 types



WHY DO WE PLAY CHORDS?

- Chords support the melody
- Add additional musical interest beyond the melody
- Provide harmonies
- Can also provide musical tension
- Show how amazing of a musician you are



WHICH NOTES MAKE UP A CHORD?

- There is a *lot* of music theory that determines the notes that define a chord
- All chords have a “root” note (or pitch)
 - This note is used in the chord’s name: C Major [C], D Minor [Dm], A# Dominant 7th [A#7]
 - With respect to a song, this note is usually (but not always) the song’s melodic note
- The other notes are chosen by their “distance” (or interval) from the root note
- The other notes of the chord are harmony notes to the root and, when combined with themselves and the root, provide the timbre (aka the color or “sound”) of the chord.
- Learning the notes in these chords will cover 95% of music you are likely to play
 - Major
 - Minor
 - 7th chords



MAJOR CHORDS

- Happy, simple, cheerful, confident, bright, satisfying
- There are exactly 3 notes in a Major Chord:
 - Count to 5 starting at the note in the chord's name
 - Notes 1, 3 and 5 are the notes in that chord
- According to the music theory, those notes are:
 1. The root note
 2. A Major 3rd above it (on a piano that's 4 physical keys away from the root key)
 3. And the Perfect 5th (on a piano that's 7 physical keys away from the root key)

Examples:

C Major [C]

Notes

1 – C

2 – D

3 – E

4 – F

5 – G

G Major [G]

Notes

1 – G

2 – A

3 – B

4 – C

5 – D

F Major [F]

Notes

1 – F

2 – G

3 – A

4 – B_b

5 – C

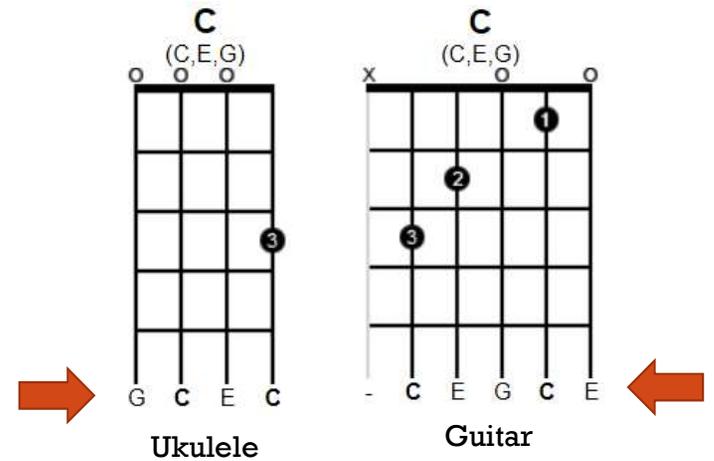
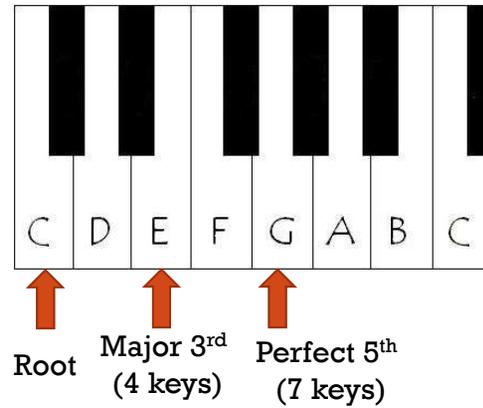


MAJOR CHORDS

C Major [C]

Notes

C
E
G

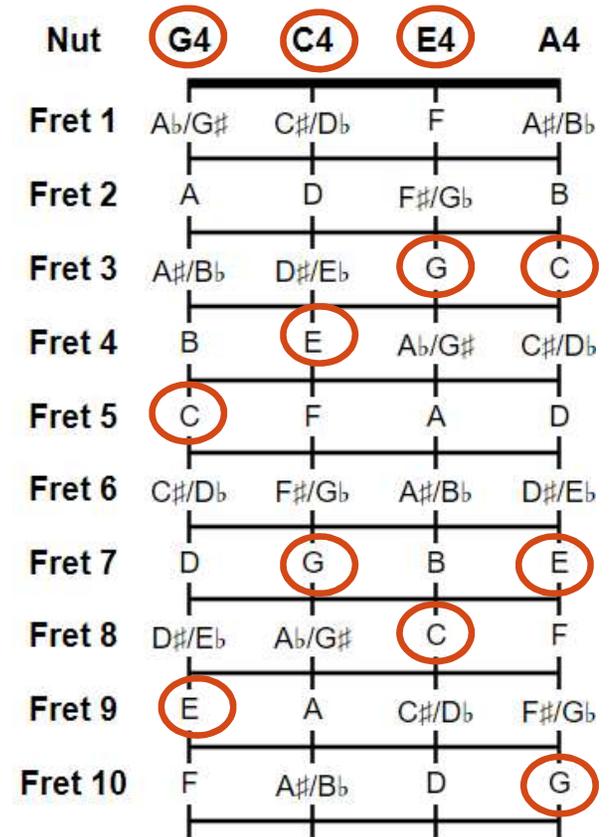
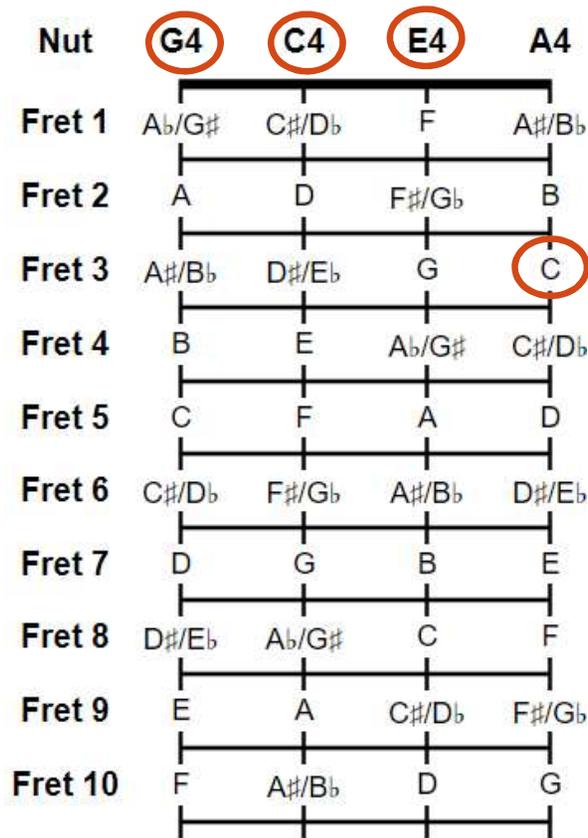


FINDING MAJOR CHORDS ON YOUR UKE

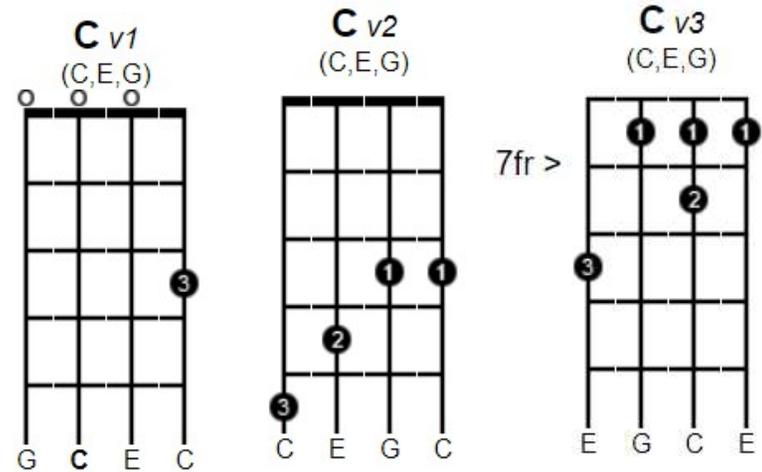
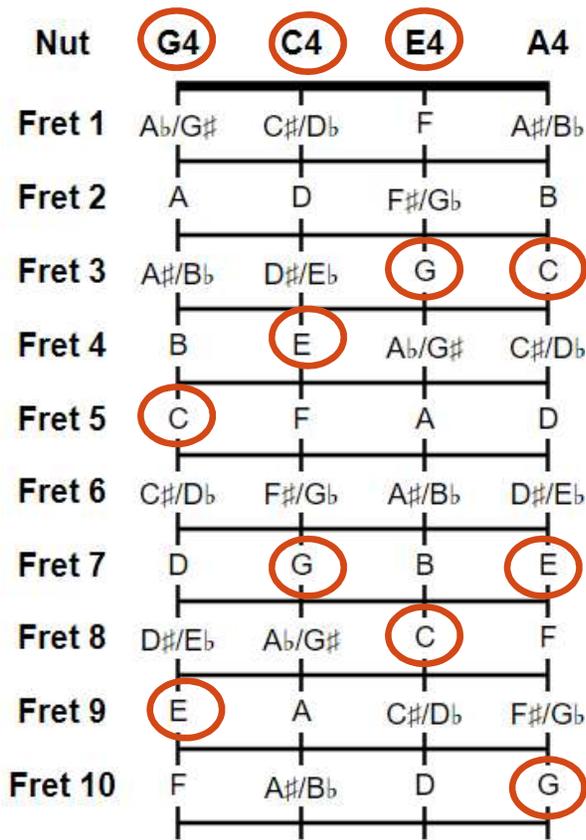
C Major [C]

Notes

C
E
G



FINDING MAJOR CHORDS ON YOUR UKE



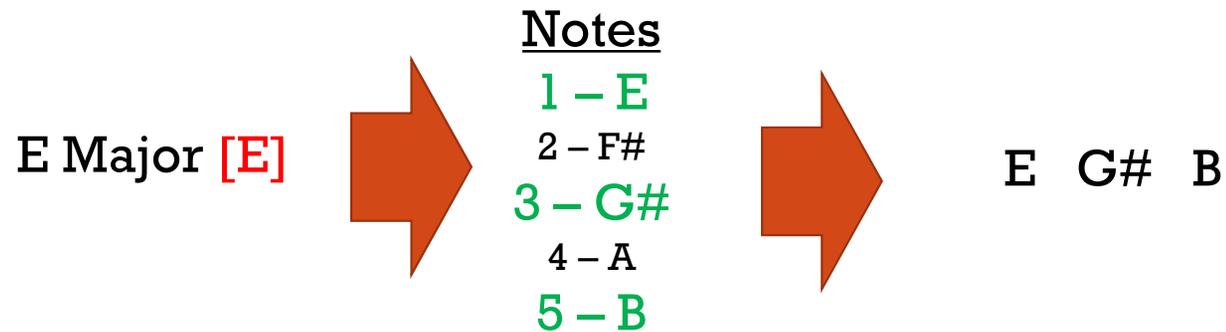
EXERCISE – E MAJOR

- What are the notes in a E Major Chord?



EXERCISE – E MAJOR

- What are the notes in a E Major Chord?



EXERCISE — E MAJOR

Find the notes
E G# B

	Nut	G4	C4	E4	A4
Fret 1	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat	F	A \sharp /B \flat	
Fret 2	A	D	F \sharp /G \flat	B	
Fret 3	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat	G	C	
Fret 4	B	E	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat	
Fret 5	C	F	A	D	
Fret 6	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat	
Fret 7	D	G	B	E	
Fret 8	D \sharp /E \flat	A \flat /G \sharp	C	F	
Fret 9	E	A	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat	
Fret 10	F	A \sharp /B \flat	D	G	



EXERCISE — E MAJOR

Find the notes
E G# B

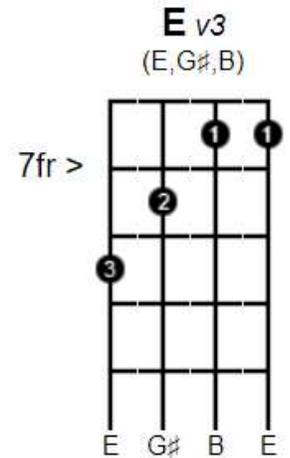
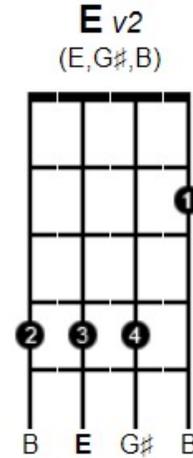
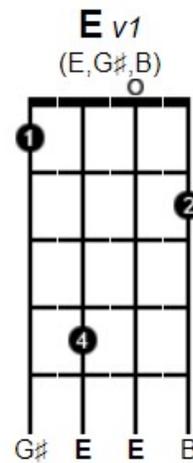
Nut	G4	C4	E4	A4
Fret 1	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat	F	A \sharp /B \flat
Fret 2	A	D	F \sharp /G \flat	B
Fret 3	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat	G	C
Fret 4	B	E	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat
Fret 5	C	F	A	D
Fret 6	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat
Fret 7	D	G	B	E
Fret 8	D \sharp /E \flat	A \flat /G \sharp	C	F
Fret 9	E	A	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat
Fret 10	F	A \sharp /B \flat	D	G



EXERCISE – E MAJOR

Find some shapes

Nut	G4	C4	E4	A4
Fret 1	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat	F	A \sharp /B \flat
Fret 2	A	D	F \sharp /G \flat	B
Fret 3	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat	G	C
Fret 4	B	E	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat
Fret 5	C	F	A	D
Fret 6	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat
Fret 7	D	G	B	E
Fret 8	D \sharp /E \flat	A \flat /G \sharp	C	F
Fret 9	E	A	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat
Fret 10	F	A \sharp /B \flat	D	G





QUESTIONS?