# Guitar Chord Workshop

A simple guide to choosing, playing and understanding chords

Learn a chord, see where its notes sit on the guitar, and explore other ways to play it. You do not need to know CAGED to begin.

## Start here

1. **Choose a chord letter and type**, such as E and Major. Leave CAGED shape family on **All positions** to start.
2. **Follow the fingering.** Yellow marks fretted finger positions. Numbers 1-4 mean index, middle, ring and little finger.
3. **Hear it.** Press **Play chord**, or sweep the mouse across the strings below their fingered positions, toward the guitar body. Left to right is a downstroke.
4. **Compare a position.** Choose another playable position or diagram, then play it. A diagram's **Strum** button selects and plays that position.

## What CAGED means

CAGED groups finger patterns into C, A, G, E and D families. A shape name is not necessarily the chord name: an A shape can play E Major. Only available shapes are listed.

## What you can learn

Recognise the notes within a chord, locate them along the neck, practise alternative fingerings and compare voicings (different arrangements of chord notes). Some positions share notes and can sound similar.

## Useful symbols and controls

○ means an open string at the nut or capo. × means omit that string. Changing the full-neck/chord-only view does not change your chosen chord.

## A comparison to try

Try E Major with the E shape: play its open position, then its fret-12 position. The chord name stays E Major, while the fret-12 version uses higher notes.

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