

Learn How to Play Easy Guitar Songs

First of all, congratulations for downloading my free ebook on how to play easy guitar songs. You are about to say goodbye to all of the confusing things you may have heard about playing guitar, and how hard it is to play anything that sounds cool.

If you are anything like most of my students, you want to get results quickly from playing guitar. What you are about to learn in this taster ebook is part of the system I have taught to thousands of guitar players all over the world. Both privately and online, I have been lucky enough to reach out to guitarists and push them in the right direction, time and time again.

‘Learn How to Play Easy Guitar Songs’ is not just about playing songs that are super easy. It is about being able to play songs on the guitar with ease. Be able to play 1000s of songs with a small selection of chords. Of course there some things to learn before you can just play anything you hear on the radio, YouTube or Spotify, but once that’s out of the way, the fun really begins!

I have learnt literally thousands of songs since I started playing guitar, but when I was starting out it took me weeks to learn anything. I had no method and I relied on online tabs, which were either inaccurate, or even when accurate, taught me little about why it worked. This meant that nothing made sense, and that although I could play a song, it would take me just as long to learn the next one.

As I heard more and more music I started to recognise the sounds from one hit song to another. I could hear the same chords in the number one song of one week and another week. I thought that there must be a more simple way to learn guitar than learning hundreds of chords, years of playing scales and a lot of frustration. What if you just want to be able to play along to songs on the guitar and be able to get it right every time? Well this was my mindset at the time, so I began searching for a method. I began listening to the chords in as many songs as possible and working them out, slowly but surely. After a while it just clicked and I realised that the majority of songs use just a few chord progressions (series of chords one after another) and the chords could become higher in pitch by using a capo.

This meant that if you could learn the chords that are being used, and you could learn to strum, then you could learn as many songs as you like.

If you decided you wanted to learn more than this after being able to play songs using the method then there is always branching out from the method onto scales, more complex chords and soloing.

So what do you need to get started?

- **You will need to buy a capo** – not sure what a capo is? Head over and collect [Complete Beginner Guitarist](#) for all the info.

- **You will need a guitar tuner-** learn how to tune your guitar and which tuner to get with *Complete Beginner Guitarist*.
- **You will need a plectrum** – I recommend a nice thin one with grip.
- **And you will need your guitar-** If you don't have one yet, see my guide on buying your first guitar in *Complete Beginner Guitarist*.

There are two families of chords you need to learn to play on the guitar.

You will need to learn the C family chords, and the G family chords.

With these two sets of chords you can use a small device known as a capo, to play the same shapes you have learnt here, and move them up the neck with the capo. This allows you to play along to a lifetime of songs with as little as 8 chords! All you have to do is learn both families of chords and be able to switch from chord to chord.

The C Family Chords

In my beginner method I get guitar players having fun quickly by using a capo and learning just a handful of chords, before learning how to move between them.

The first family of chords I teach is the C family chords, because this is easier than the equally important G family, and you can begin making progress quickly and start learning a song.

The C Family chords are as follows:

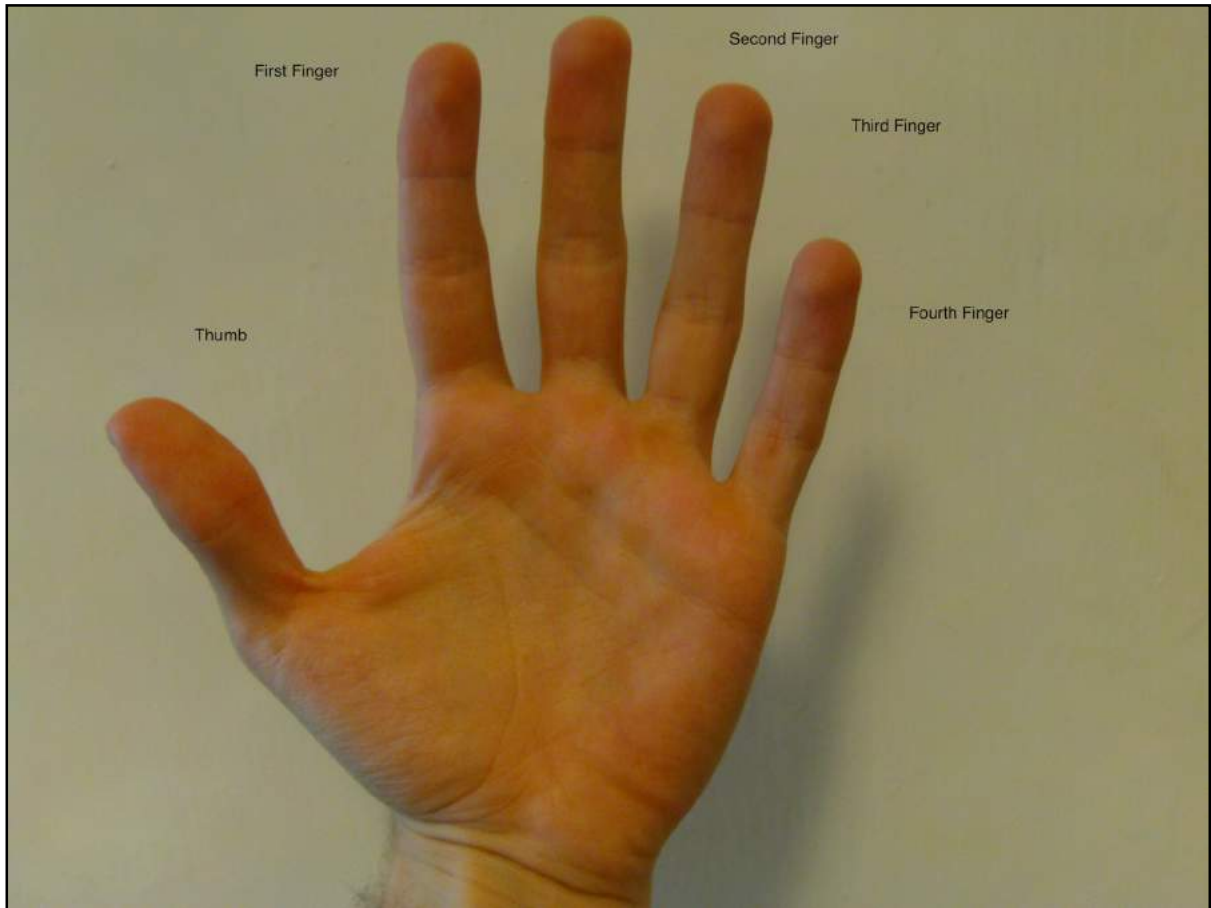
C – D minor – E minor – F – G – A minor

With this small set of chords you will be amazed how many songs you could learn.

Below are chord diagrams for the C family of chords, taken from the Complete Beginner Guitarists ebook available at <http://www.yourguitartutor.co.uk>. In Complete Beginner Guitarist you learn all about the notes on the fretboard, how to strum along to songs, how to hold your plectrum, buying your first guitar, tuning your guitar, how to progress into the intermediate and advanced guitar levels, plus much more. You will also understand what the strings are called and the various parts of the guitar.

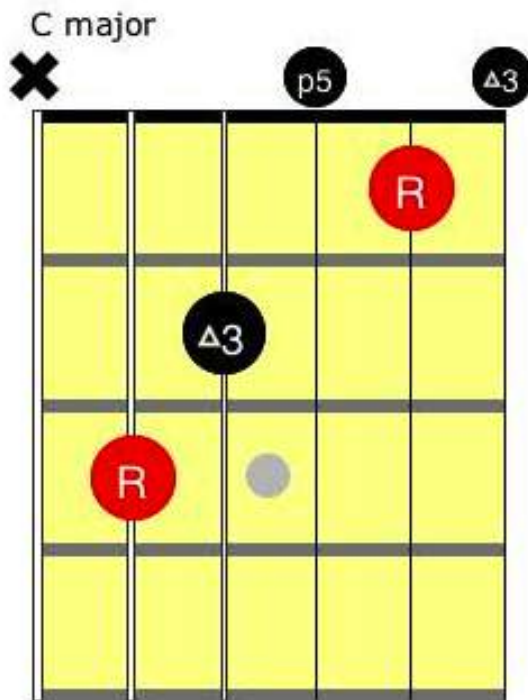
At this stage I want you to ignore the labeling of the notes on the fretboard diagrams shown further down, and instead focus on getting the right finger on the right fret and string (as the description and picture below chord diagram outlines).

Here is a picture of my hand with the names of each finger and thumb labeled so that you can refer to this when learning the chords.



C Major Chord

So to play a C chord you need to place your third finger on the A string 3rd fret, second finger on the D string 2nd fret and first finger on the B string 1st fret. You will also notice the diagram shows dots on the G and high E strings and this means those strings are played open (do not press the string down, instead let it ring out without fretting a note).



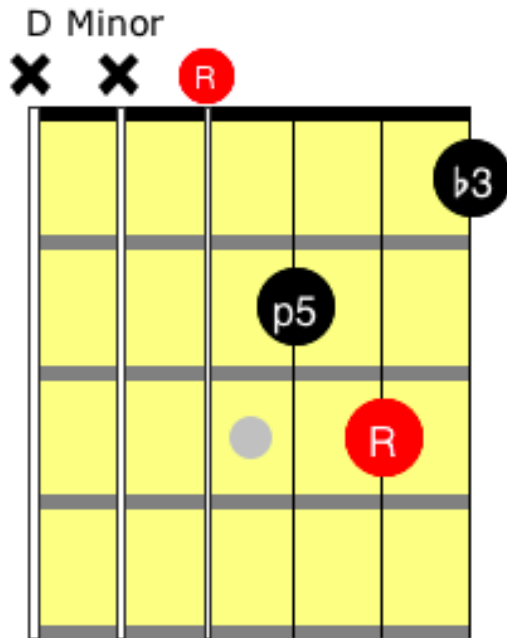
You should aim for your fingers to be on their tips, so you do not stop the string above or below from vibrating freely. If you long nail you may find this hinders you from pressing your finger down on the tips.

Notice my thumb is coming around the top and gently resting against the low E string to mute it out.



D Minor Chord

To play your final open minor chord, place your second finger on the 2nd fret G string, third finger on the 3rd fret B string, and your first finger on the 1st fret high E string.

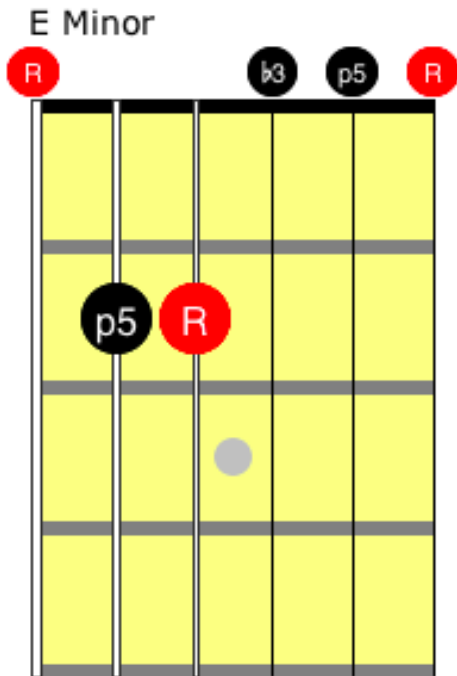


Ensure your D string is ringing as an open string and both the low E and A string are not played, or are muted with your thumb.



E Minor Chord

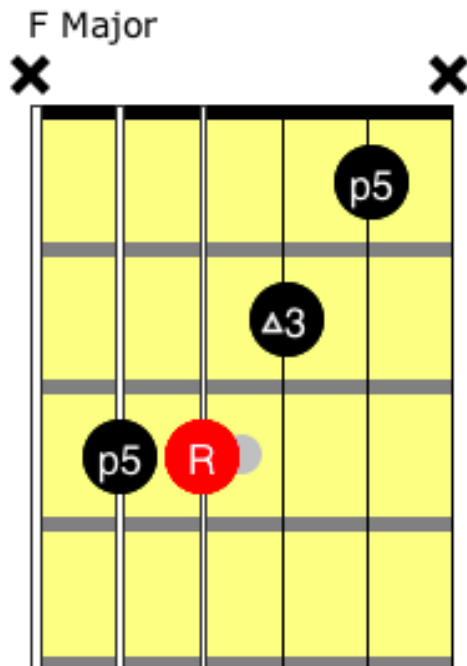
This chord is easier than the rest of your open minor chords as you simply need to place your first finger on the 2nd fret A string, and your second finger on the 2nd fret D string. All of the other strings need to ring out freely to play this chord properly.



F Major Chord

To play the F chord you need to first place your third finger on the 3rd fret A string, then fourth finger on the 3rd fret D string, followed by second finger 2nd fret G string and finally first finger 1st fret B string. Your first finger can be 'lazy' for this chord because the high E string should be muted by the underside of the first finger. You also need to bring your

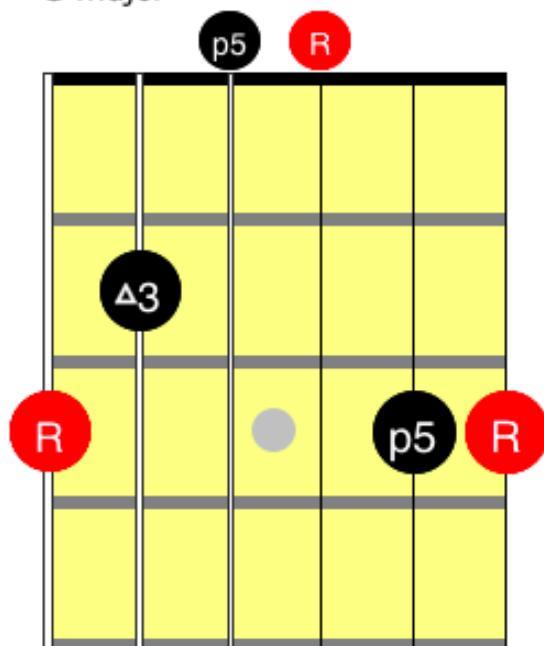
thumb over the top of the neck to mute the low E string as the low E note does not sound good with the F chord.





G Major Chord

G major

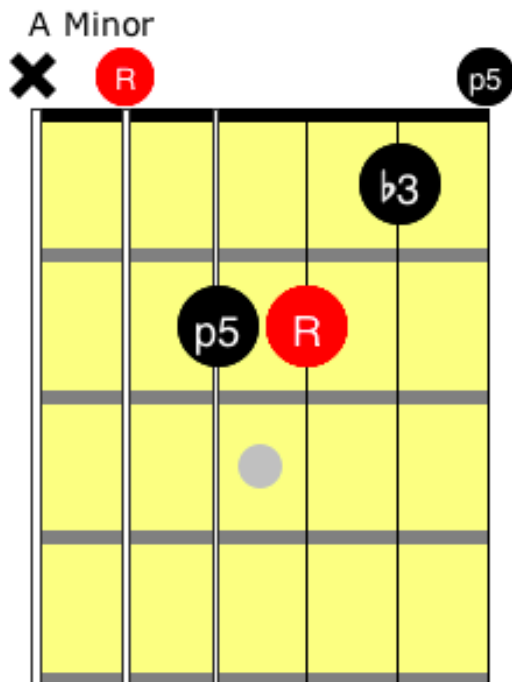


To play the G chord put your second finger on the 3rd fret low E string, first finger 2nd fret A string, third finger 3rd fret B string and finally fourth finger 3rd fret high E string.

Make sure your D and G strings can ring out freely without any accidental muting from your surrounding fingers.



A Minor Chord



Place your second finger on the 2nd fret D string, third finger on the 2nd fret G string and your first finger on the 1st fret B string. Play your A string as an open string as well as your high E string.



Where Do You Go From Here?

From here you need to learn to play each of the chords as cleanly as possible, making sure that over the course of the next couple of days you can gradually press the strings down hard enough to sound each note of the chord.

You should be aiming to learn one of the chords every couple of days and once you have learnt these six, you will need to move onto learning the G family chords. When you feel ready to learn the G family chords, head over to <http://www.yourguitartutor.co.uk> and get yourself *Complete Beginner Guitarist*.

When you get *Complete Beginner Guitarist* you will understand everything you need to know to play guitar along to your favourite songs, write songs and even understand the construction of hit songs that we hear every day on the radio.

With all the knowledge you will gain, you will be ready to start learning guitar with my YouTube channel, where I will be regularly teaching you hit songs, and walking you step by step to working out songs by ear. But before you are ready to breeze through song after song, you have a few more things to learn.

In the *Complete Beginner Guitarist* you will get to grips with strumming, which will allow you to follow the patterns I am calling out in my videos. You are also going to learn a lot of fundamentals that will allow you to progress fast, such as;

- **Holding your plectrum**- it may seem obvious, but the way you hold your plectrum will change how you play forever. Learn the most reliable method and avoid dropping your pick half way through a song. The method I will teach you will also allow you to go from strumming chords to breaking out a solo without changing your plectrum's position.
- **How to tune your guitar**- No one sounds good with an out of tune guitar, so learn how to tune your guitar and sound great every time.
- **Know the notes on the fretboard** and the string names- this allows you to progress out of the beginner stage of guitar if you wish to become advanced in the near future.
- **Learn some additional chords** to spice up your guitar playing- Be able to adapt your initial chords to create a wider variety of sounds.
- **Learn how to play single notes on the guitar**- This is the beginning of playing solos and creating melodies.

If you have enjoyed this introduction to my tried and tested beginner guitar method then you are half way to fast tracking your playing and being able to play songs easily.

All you need to do now is get yourself a copy of *Complete Beginner Guitarist* to learn my full method and start having fun!

One last thing

I understand that some of you will breeze through beginner guitar, so I have created a 'Master Guitar' set of ebooks. In this pack you will find everything you need to know about unlocking the rest of the fretboard. You can learn about playing chords in multiple positions, soloing with a wide variety of scales and much more.

But first things first, its time to tackle my beginner method!

To Your Success,

Tom Clark