

## Episode-4

### Harmony

There are 7 chords we get from C major scale. Each note forms its chord combined with 2 other notes which are a 3rd and 5th away from the main note which is also known as the root note. Based on the root note we name the Chord.

Notice that 1st, 4th, and 5th chords are major. 2nd, 3rd and 6th chords are minor and the 7th chord is diminished, understanding why a chord is major, minor, or diminished is beyond the scope of this lesson.

#### C MAJOR - 1st

We Play only the bottom 5 strings and avoid playing the 6th string. This is because in this shape the Root of the chord which is C is the lowest in Pitch. i.e. the Bass note in this chord is Root which is a C note which is on the 5th string 3rd fret.



(Diagram: C Major)

#### D minor – 2nd

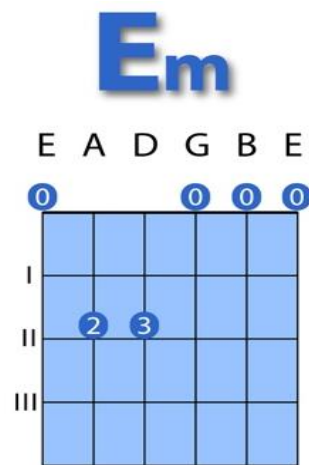
We play bottom 4 strings because the lowest note is D which is 4<sup>th</sup> string open fret.



(Diagram: D minor)

### E minor – 3rd

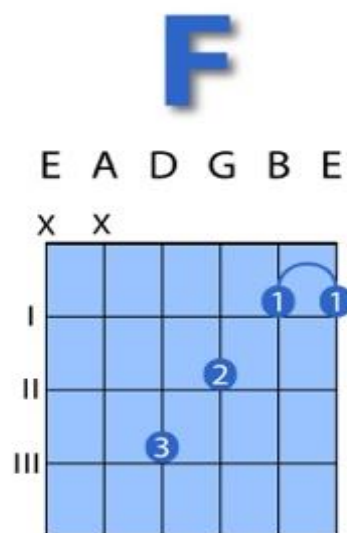
Let's play all strings here because the 6th string at the top is E open fret.



### **F Major – 4th**

Here we need to add a bar with the first finger on the 1st and 2nd strings. This means that we hold down the 1st and 2nd strings with our 1st finger only. This creates a bar. This chord can be the most difficult one out of the lot so, be patient and practice consistently.

We play only first 4 strings here, again because the lowest note which is an 'F' note can be found on 4th string.



### **G Major – 5th**

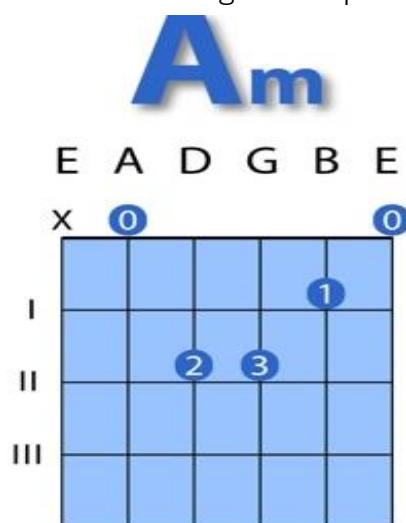
We play all 6 strings here. Can you guess why, based on previous explanations?  
Because the root note is the lowest note found on the 6th string.



(Diagram: G Major)

### **A minor – 6th**

We play the first 5 strings as the 5th string is an open “A” note.



(Diagram: A minor)

### **B diminished – 7th**

We play the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th strings here. Try to mute the 1st string with the palm of your left hand so that, even if you strike that string with your right hand, it won't make any sound.

Learning all chords is essential to your music learning. Some chords will be more difficult than others. Do not worry, practise difficult chords more, and in no time you will be able to shift between all chords.

To start playing chords in songs you must be able to shift between chords swiftly. So, take your time and get a good grip on these essential chords before going further.

Just like every note in C major scale has a function. Chords also have functions and sets of rules which they adhere to in a musical composition also known as songs.