

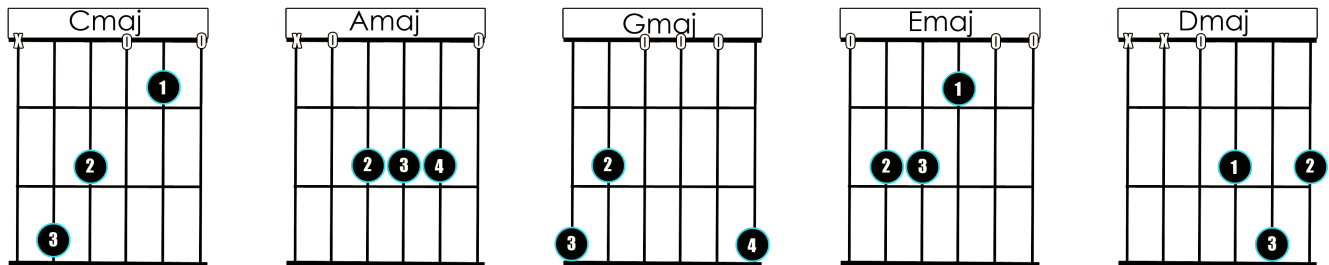


Hello friends,

And welcome to another music theory guitar lesson. In today's session we will learn about the CAGED system, and how it can be used to find all the positions of a basic chord across the fretboard. Let's get started!

Section #1 - What is the CAGED System?

The CAGED system derives its name from the five basic open chord shapes: C, A, G, E, and D. The basic concept is that any major chord can be performed in five positions on the fretboard, using these five shapes. In this lesson, we will discover the five different ways of playing a C major triad, which consist of the notes C, E, and G, the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of the C major scale. Let's review our CAGED shapes in the open position using the chord diagrams below.



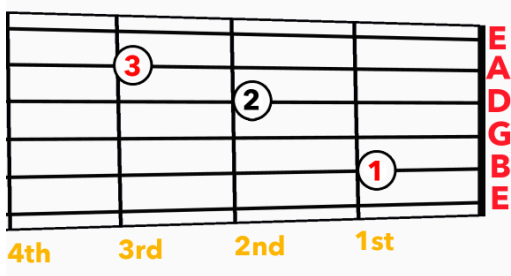
Section #2 - Transposing Our Basic Major Shapes to the Key of C

Now that you have reviewed our basic major shapes in the open position, we can begin to transpose each of them to the key of C. To do this, we will need to move them to the fret position in which their root note would become C. We will also need to convert them into barred shapes by changing our finger positions so that our index finger is free to barre across the strings.

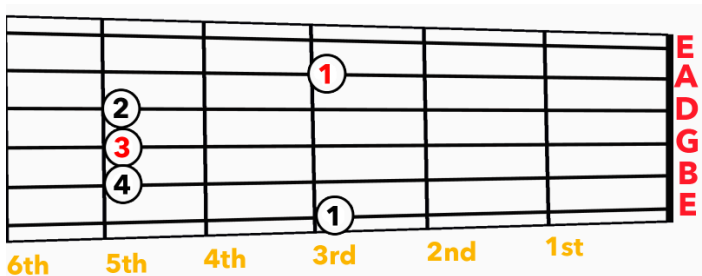
Section #3 - The Five CAGED Positions of the C Major Triad

Numbers = Fingers, Red = Root Note (C), audience perspective of the instrument.

The C Position



The A Position

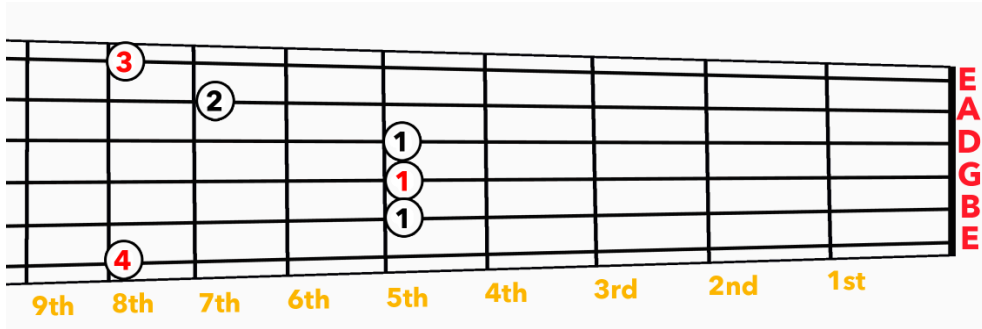


Swift Guitar Lessons

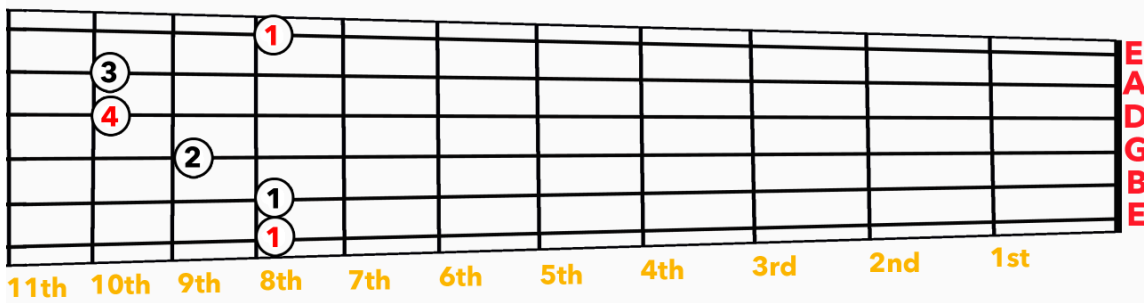
The "CAGED" System Explained | Finding C Major Across the Fretboard



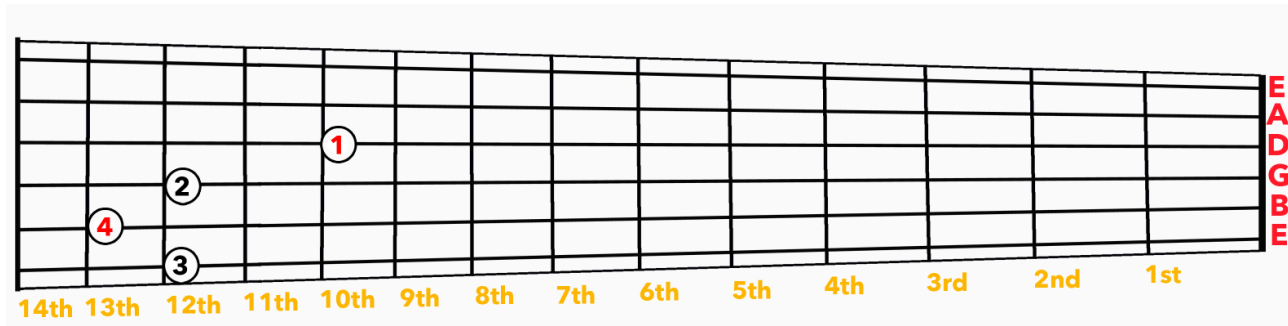
The G Position



The E Position



The D Position



Section #4 - Memorizing the Notes in Each Position

In order to achieve a firm understanding of the guitar, particularly the CAGED system, it's absolutely necessary to have the notes on the fretboard memorized. Our final diagram shows each of the five repetitions of our Cmaj chord, but this time includes the names of our fretted notes.

