S1 GUITAR

St Ambrose High School Music Department

INTRODUCTION TO THE GUITAR





READING CHORD DIAGRAMS E MINOR

The number 1 on the left side of the chart indicates the first fret.

This means that this chord chart starts on the first fret

The black circles with the numbers 2, and 3 are where you place your fingers to press down on the guitar's strings

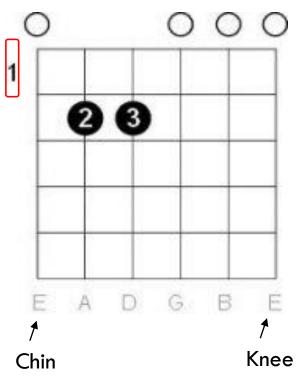
Finger 1 is your index finger.

Finger 2 is your middle finger.

Finger 3 is your ring finger.

Finger 4 is your pinkie.





The O means that you PLAY the string OPEN.

E MINOR: PRACTICE WITH AN 'ON-OFF' DRILL

- 1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the E minor shape.
- 2.Count to four, strumming down from the string closest to your chin on each beat.
- 3. Then, take your fingers off the strings for four beats.
- 4. Put your fingers back on, and repeat.

Taking your fingers off and on again in this way will help your brain memorize the shape, while the four beats give you time to place your fingers.

**Practice this until you are able to get your fingers back into the E minor shape with ease.

READING CHORD DIAGRAMS A SUS2

The number 1 on the left side of the chart indicates the first fret.

This means that this chord chart starts on the first fret

The black circles with the numbers ${\bf 2}$ and ${\bf 3}$ are where you place

your fingers to press down on the guitar's strings

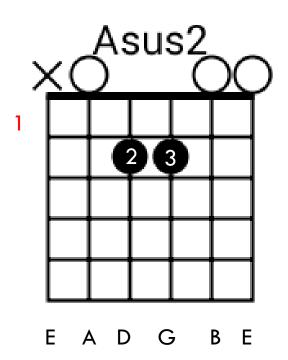
Finger 1 is your index finger.

Finger 2 is your middle finger.

Finger 3 is your ring finger.

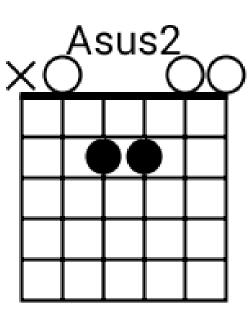
Finger 4 is your pinkie.





ASUS 2: PRACTICE WITH AN 'ON-OFF' DRILL

- 1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the Asus 2 shape.
- 2.Count to four, strumming down from the string closest to your chin on each beat.
- 3. Then, take your fingers off the strings for four beats.
- 4. Put your fingers back on, and repeat.



PRACTICE WITH AN 'ON-OFF' DRILL USING BOTH CHORDS

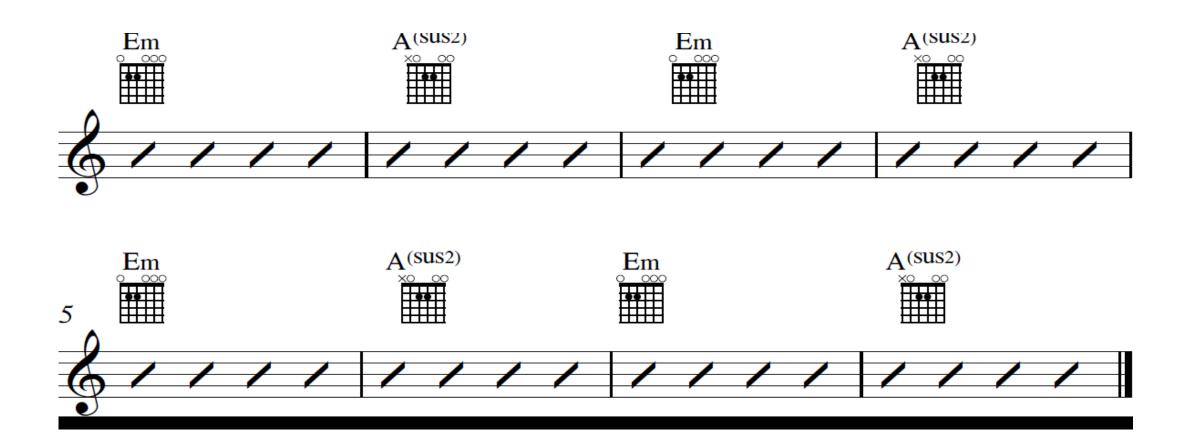
- 1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the E minor shape.
- 2. Strumming down once from the string closest to your chin and let the sound ring out for 4 beats .
- 3.Place your fingers on the strings in the Asus2 shape and again, strum down once from your chin and let the sound ring out for 4 beats.

Repeat this pattern 4 times

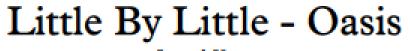
Once you are ready, try playing along with the video

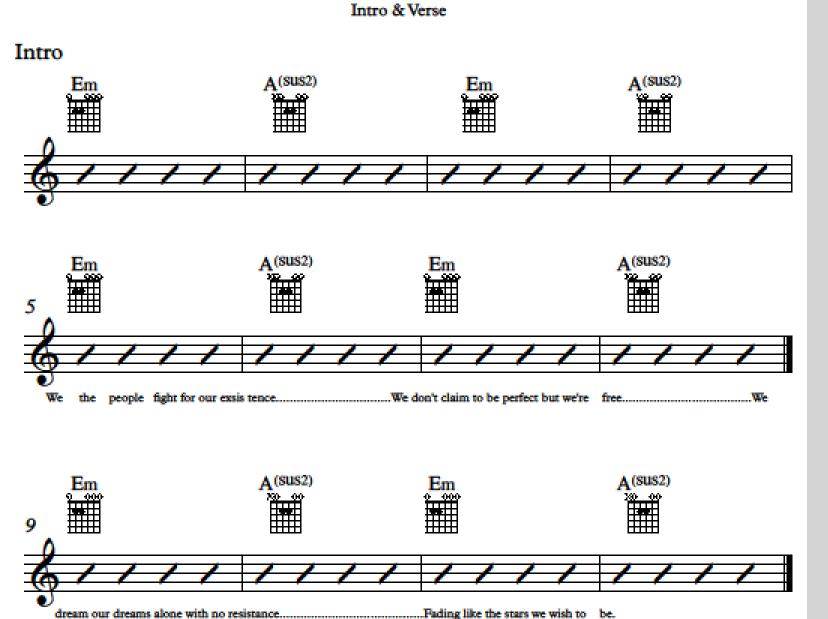
PUTTING BOTH CHORDS TOGETHER

Now we are going to practice playing each chord for 4 strums and changing straight to the next chord, playing for 4 strums. Take it nice and slow and then try to play along with the video.



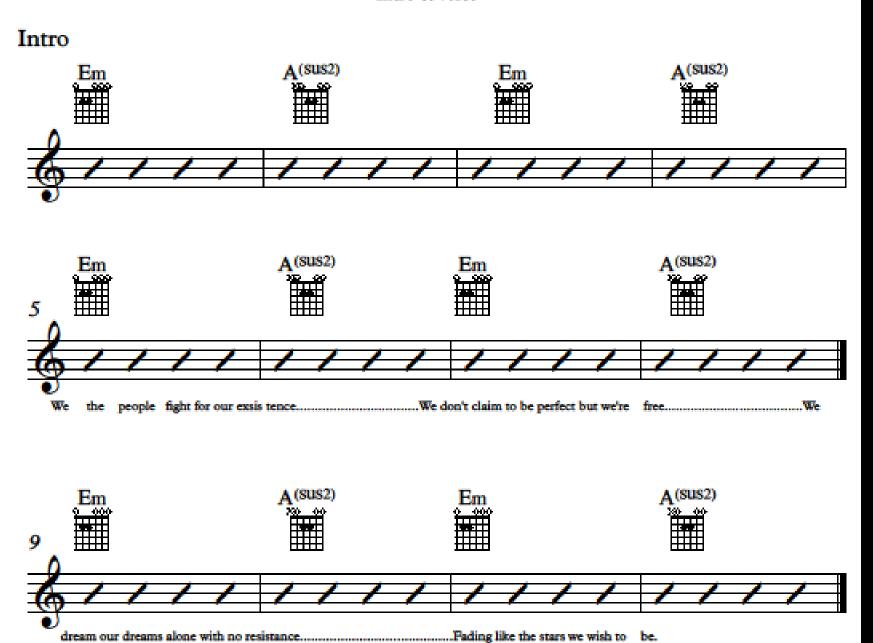
Using the chords we have learned so far, we are now going to play along to a song.





Little By Little - Oasis

Intro & Verse





Well done!

You are now ready to learn some new chords!!

READING CHORD DIAGRAMS A MINOR

The number 1 on the left side of the chart indicates the first fret.

This means that this chord chart starts on the first fret

The numbers 1, 2 and 3 are the fingers you are using to press down on the guitar's strings.

Finger 1 is your index finger.

Finger 2 is your middle finger.

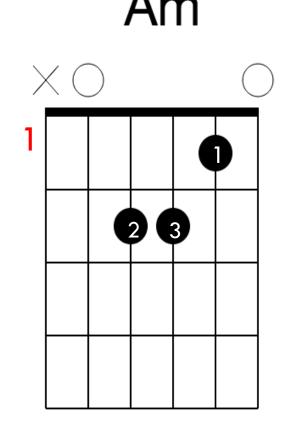
Finger 3 is your ring finger.

Finger 4 is your pinkie.

The O means that you PLAY the string OPEN.

The X means that you DO NOT play that string.

When strumming or picking this chord, leave the string with the X alone.



A D G

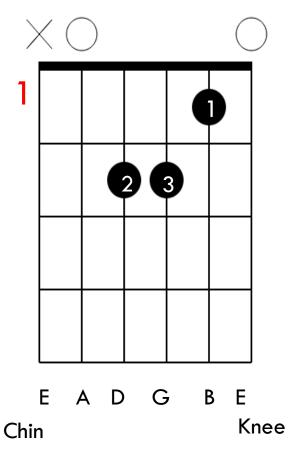
Chin

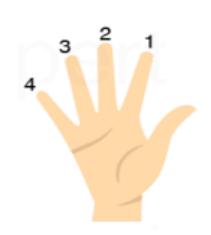
В

Knee

A MINOR 'ON/OFF DRILL

Am





- 1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the A minor shape.
- 2.Count to four, strumming down from the string closest to your chin on each beat.
- 3. Then, take your fingers off the strings for four beats.
- 4. Put your fingers back on, and repeat.

MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS AM AND ASUS2 — Am Asus2 A D G Knee Chin Chin

Practice strumming A minor for 4 counts and then changing to Asus 2 for 4 counts.

Continue this pattern until you are able to change the chords easily.

READING CHORD DIAGRAMS E MAJOR

The number 1 on the left side of the chart indicates the first fret.

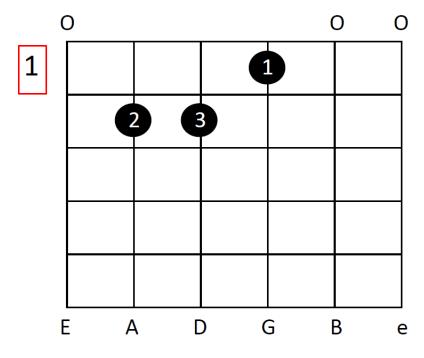
This means that this chord chart starts on the first fret

The numbers 1, 2 and 3 are the fingers you are using to press down on the guitar's strings.

Finger 1 is your index finger.
Finger 2 is your middle finger.
Finger 3 is your ring finger.
Finger 4 is your pinkie.

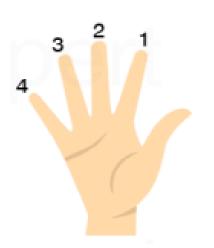


E Major

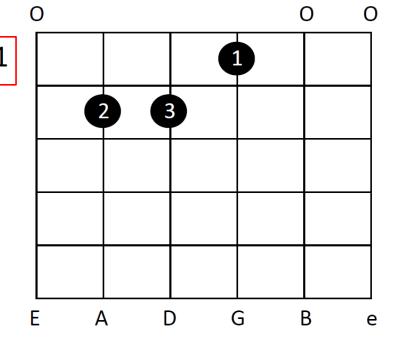


EMAJOR: PRACTICE WITH AN 'ON-OFF' DRILL

- 1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the Emaj shape.
- 2. Count to four, strumming down from the string closest to your chin
- 3. Then, take your fingers off the strings for four beats.
- 4. Put your fingers back on, and repeat.



E Major

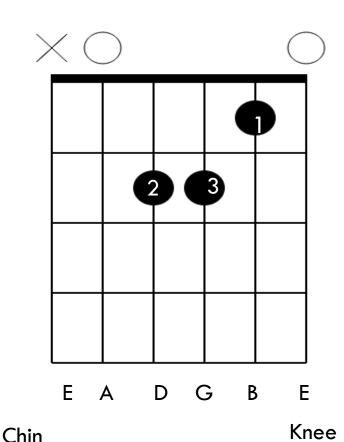


Knee

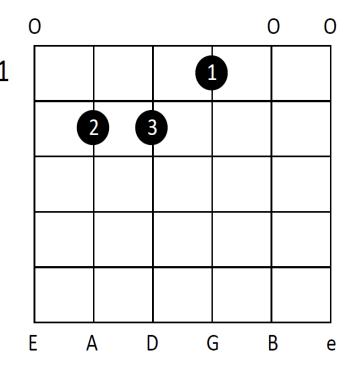
Chin

MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS AM AND EMAJOR —

Am



E Major

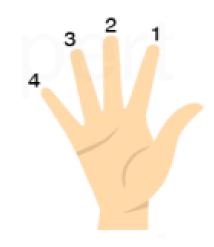


Knee

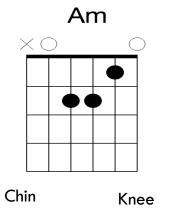
Chin

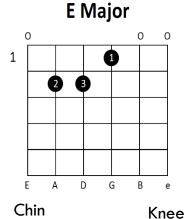
Practice strumming A minor for 4 counts and then changing to E major for 4 counts.

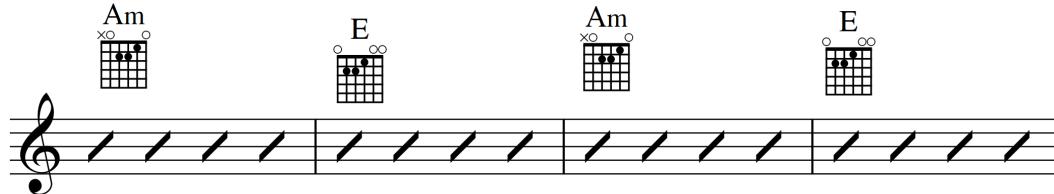
Continue this pattern until you are able to change the chords easily.

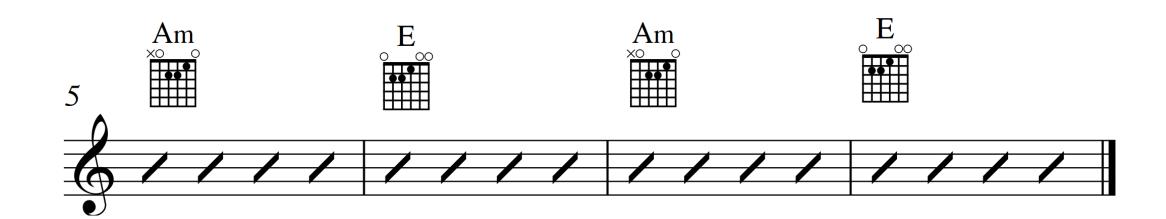


MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS-AM AND EMAJOR







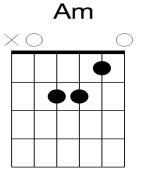


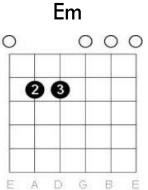
MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS-AM AND EM Am Em Knee Chin

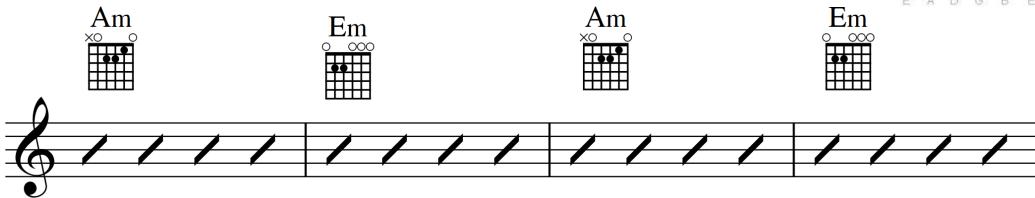
Practice strumming A minor for 4 counts and then changing to E minor for 4 counts.

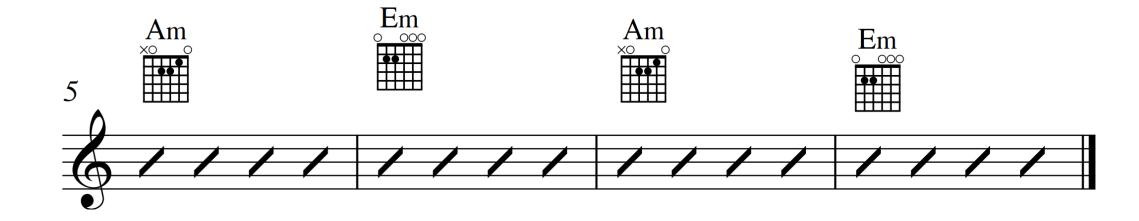
Continue this pattern until you are able to change the chords easily.

MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS-AM AND EM





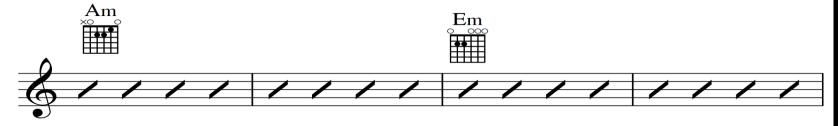


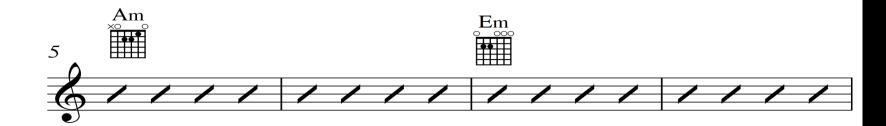


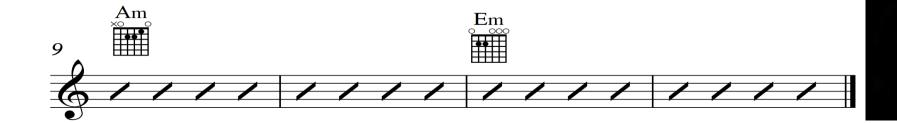
PLAY ALONG: REM

8 bar introduction

For this play along, you can either strum on each beat (as below) or strum each chord and hold for 4 counts or 2 counts.



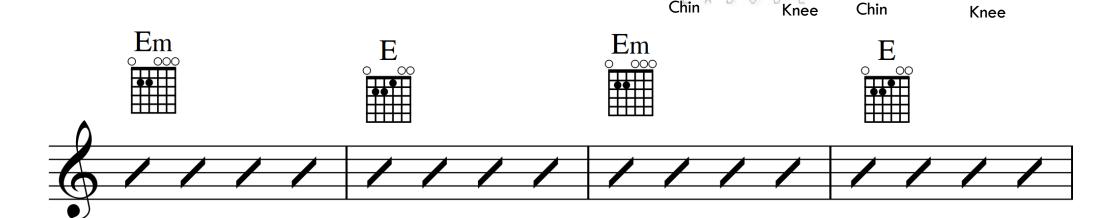




NOW THAT YOU KNOW SOME DIFFERENT CHORDS, YOU ARE GOING TO TRY PUTTING THEM TOGETHER IN DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS BEFORE WE TRY OUR **NEXT SONG!**



MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS-EMINOR AND EMAJOR



E Major

D

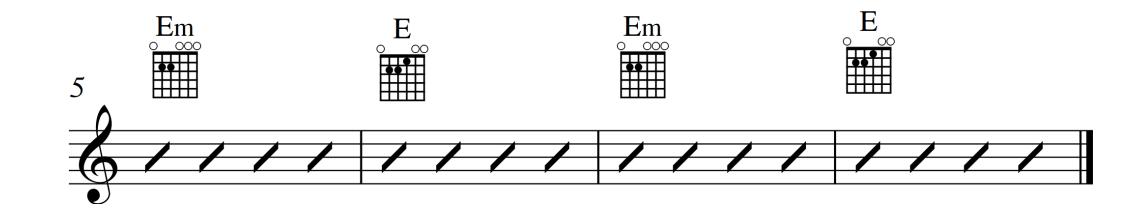
G

1

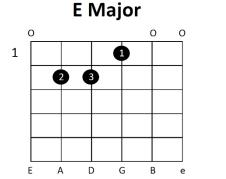
O

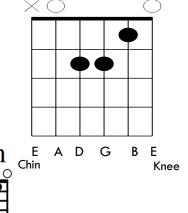
E Minor

00

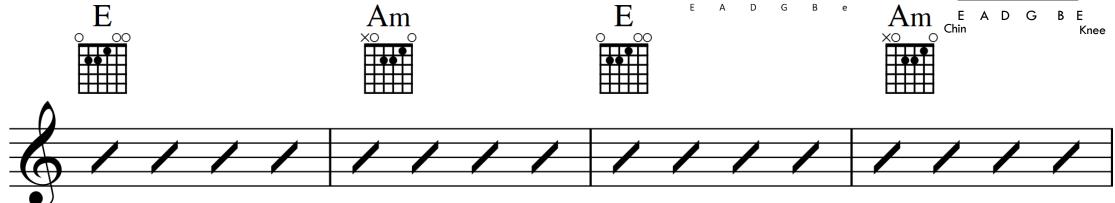


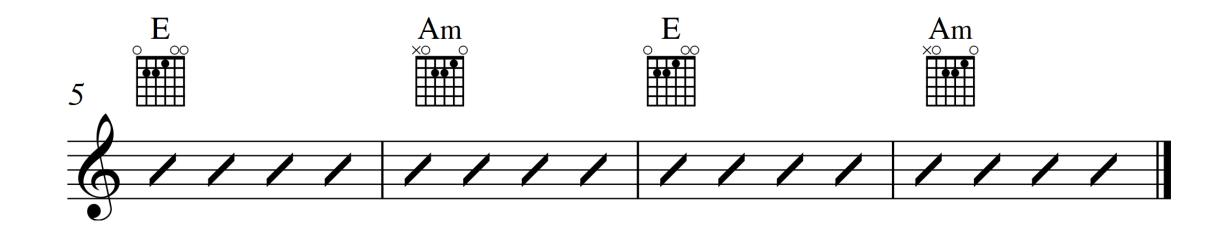
MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS-E MAJOR AND A MINOR





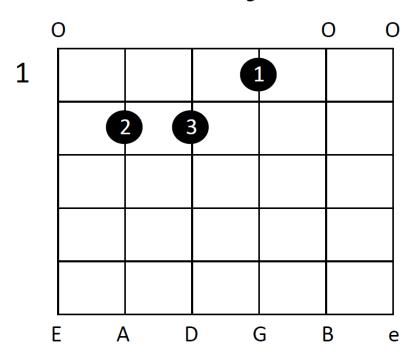
Am

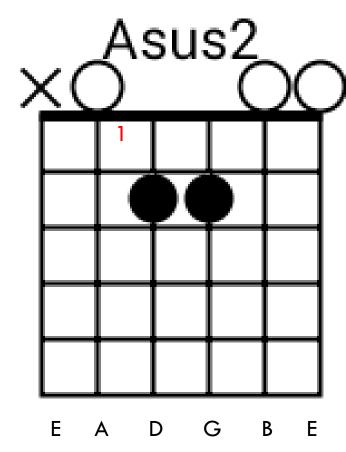




MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS: E MAJ AND ASUS2

E Major



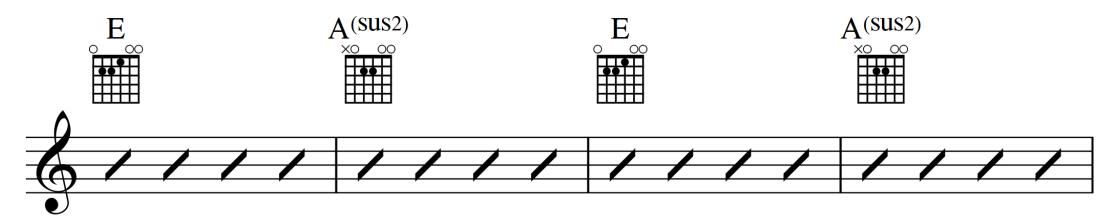


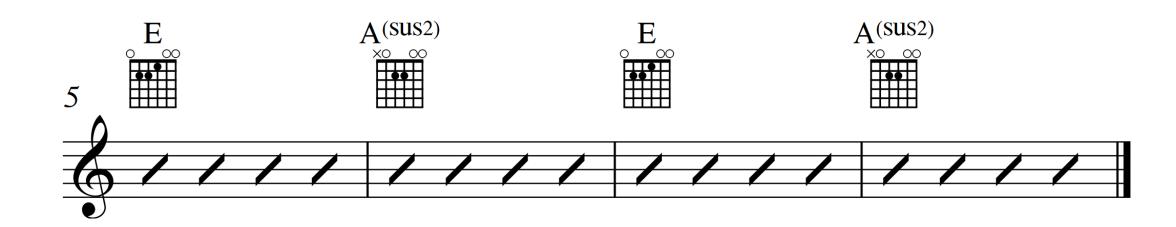
Practice strumming A minor for 4 counts and then changing to E major for 4 counts.

Continue this pattern until you are able to change the chords easily.

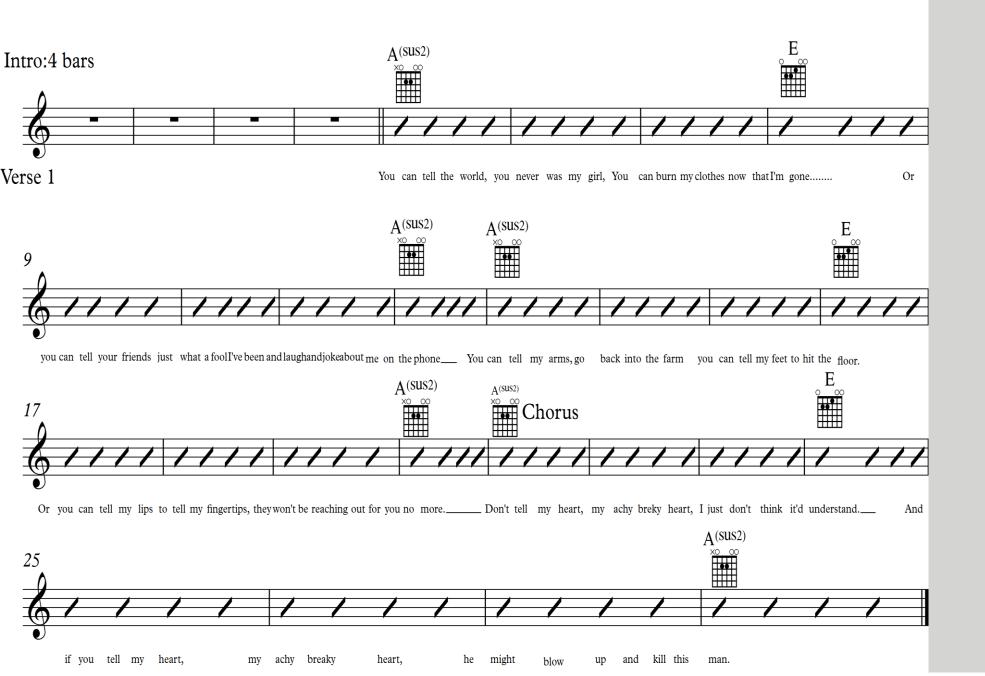
MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS

Now we are going to practice playing each chord for 4 strums and changing straight to the next chord, playing for 4 strums. Take it nice and slow.





Achy Breaky Heart



NEW CHORD ALERT!!

READING CHORD DIAGRAMS D MAJOR

The number 1 on the left side of the chart indicates the first fret.

(note that we are using frets 2 and 3 in this chord.)

This means that this chord chart starts on the first fret

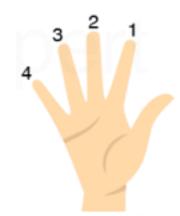
The black circles with the numbers 1,2, and 3 are where you place your fingers to press down on the guitar's strings

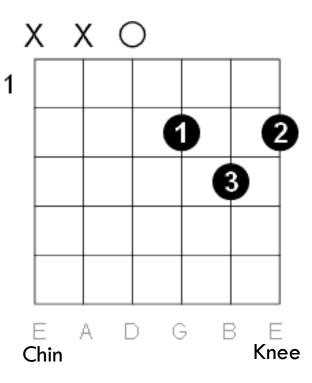
Finger 1 is your index finger.

Finger 2 is your middle finger.

Finger 3 is your ring finger.

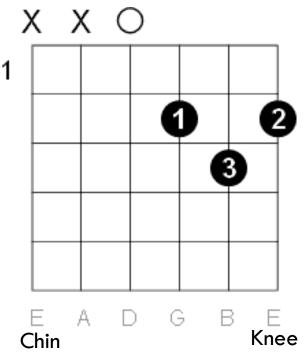
Finger 4 is your pinkie.





You **DO NOT** strum the E and A strings (the 2 strings closest to your chin)

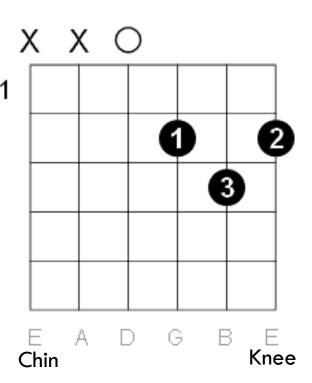
D MAJOR



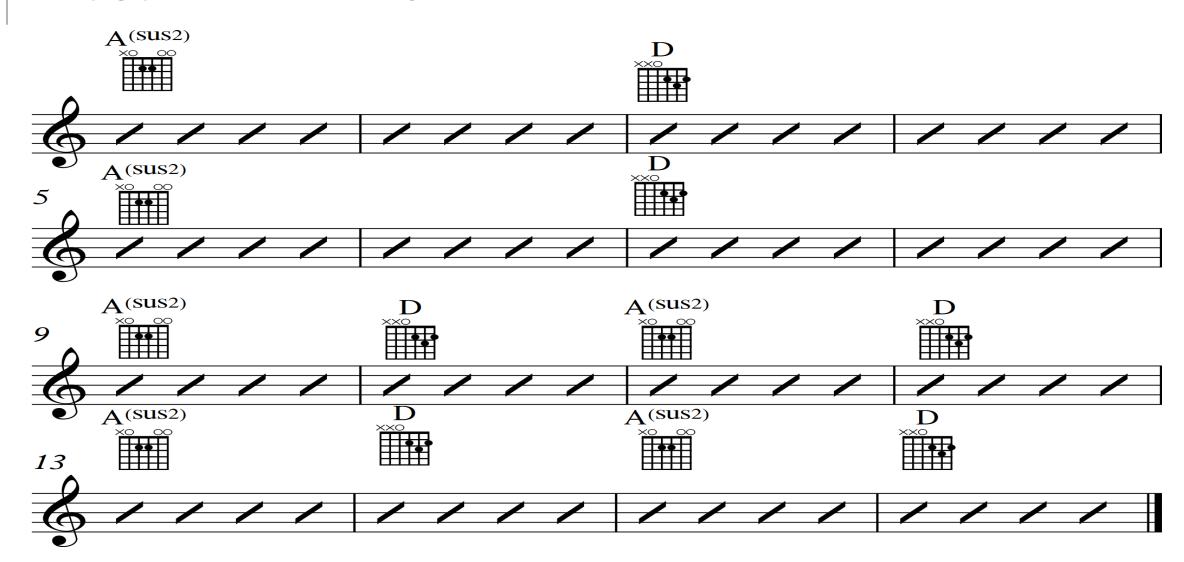


D MAJOR: PRACTICE WITH AN 'ON-OFF' DRILL

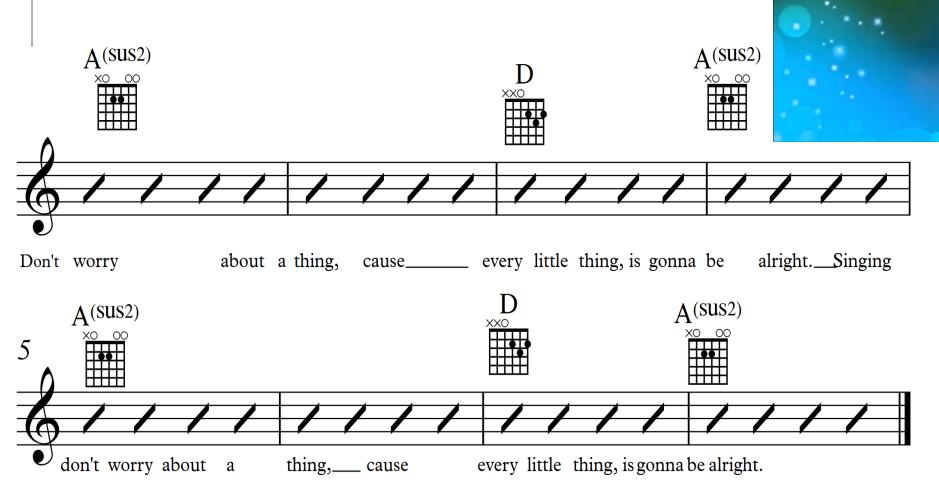
- 1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the D major shape.
- 2.Count to four, strumming down from the string closest to your chin on each
- 3. Then, take your fingers off the strings for four beats.
- 4. Put your fingers back on, and repeat.



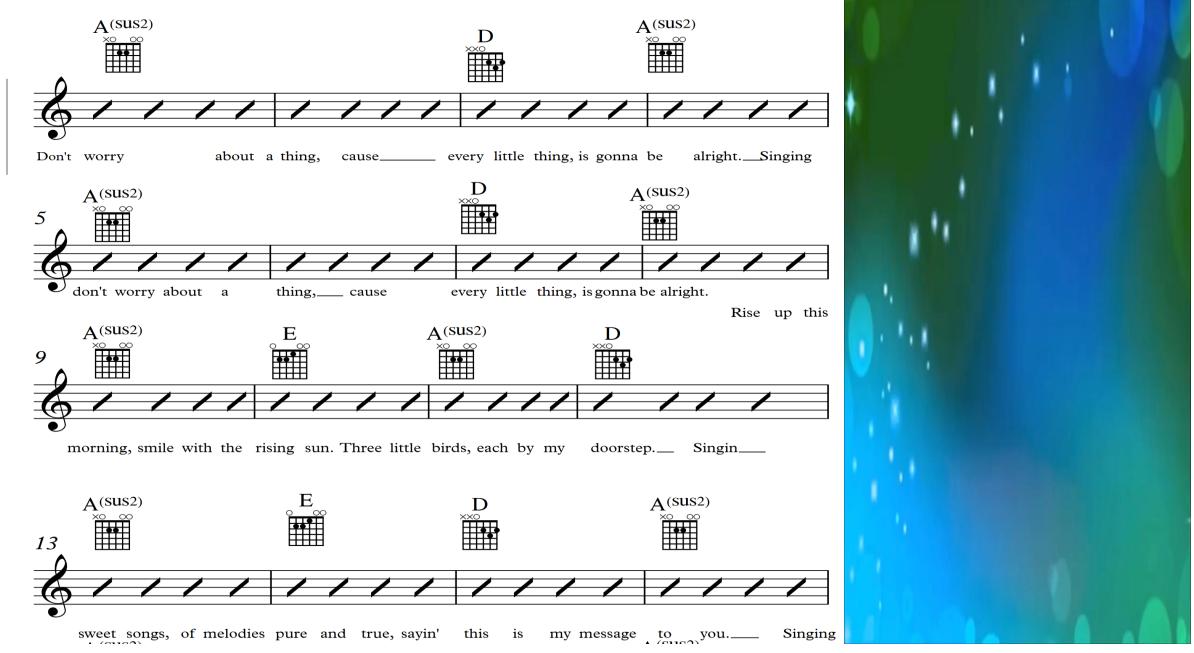
MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS-A SUS2 AND D MAJOR







3 Little Birds Extension Task: Asus2, Dmajor and Emajor



Back to the start

NEW CHORD ALERT!!

READING CHORD DIAGRAMS G MAJOR

The number 1 on the left side of the chart indicates the first fret.

(note that we are using frets 2 and 3 in this chord.)

This means that this chord chart starts on the first fret

The black circles with the numbers 1,2, and 3 are where you place your fingers to press down on the guitar's strings

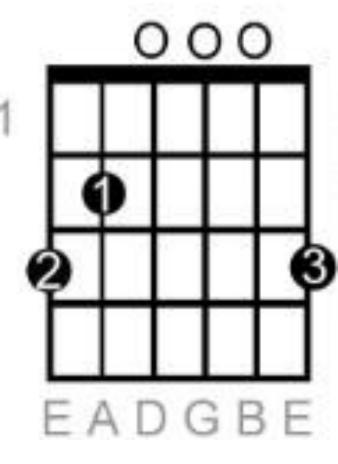
Finger 1 is your index finger.

Finger 2 is your middle finger.

Finger 3 is your ring finger.

Finger 4 is your pinkie.





Try playing this chord with the video on the next slide



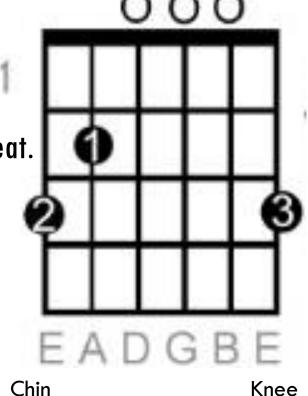
G MAJOR: PRACTICE WITH AN 'ON-OFF' DRILL

1.Start by placing your fingers on the strings, in the G major shape.

2.Count to four, strumming down from the string closest to your chin on each beat.

3. Then, take your fingers off the strings for four beats.

4. Put your fingers back on, and repeat.



MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS: GMAJ AND EMINOR

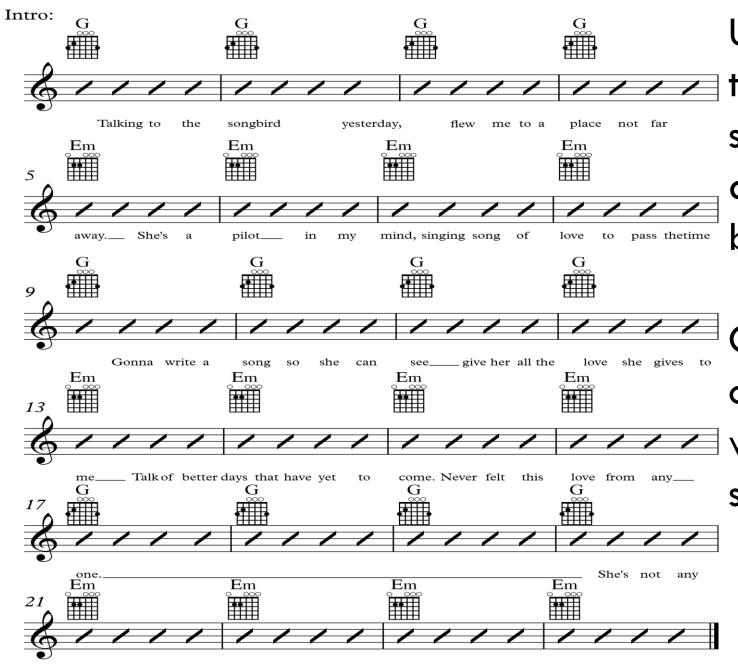
Gmajor Eminor Chin Chin

Practice strumming A minor for 4 counts and then changing to E major for 4 counts.

Continue this pattern until you are able to change the chords easily.

Knee

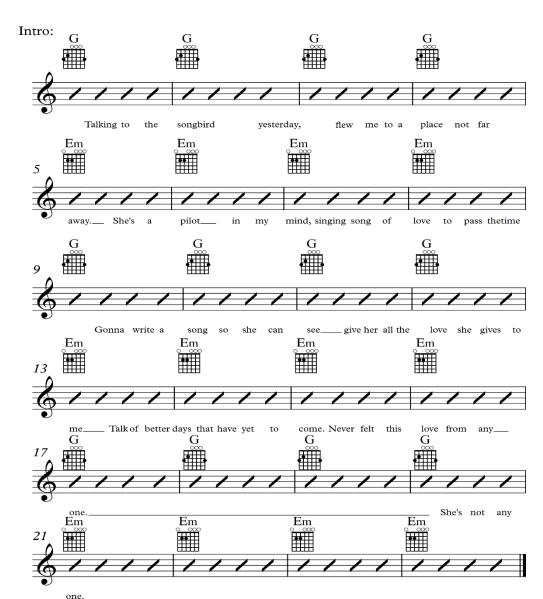
Songbird



Using Gmaj and Eminor, try playing this piece, strumming each chord and counting for 4 beats before the next strum.

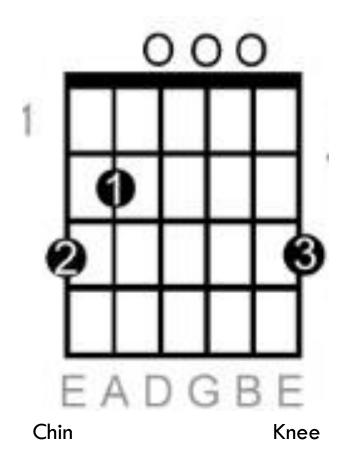
Once you have the hang of this, try playing along with the song on the next slide.

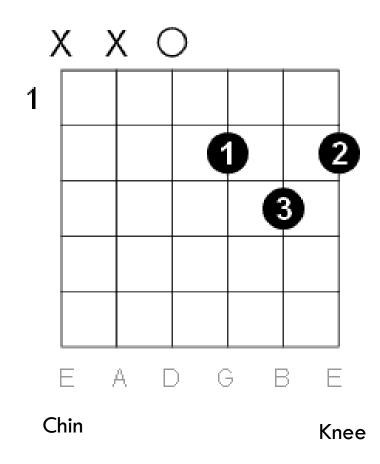
SONGBIRD PLAY ALONG Songbird





MOVING BETWEEN CHORDS: G MAJ AND D MAJ





Practice strumming G major and counting for 4 beats and then changing to D major, strum and count for 4 counts.

Continue this pattern until you are able to change the chords easily.

Then try strumming every 2 beats and once you are confident with this, strum on every beat, changing chords every 4 beats.