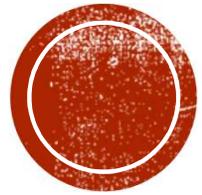


CHORD BASICS - 2

Ukulele Tuesdays – Evergreen Library

February 12, 2019





PLAYING MUSIC IS MORE THAN JUST MEMORIZING A BUNCH OF CHORDS ON YOUR INSTRUMENT.

That's difficult. And takes a long time.

WHAT IS A CHORD?

- A chord is 3 or more notes played at the same time (or in rapid succession as in strumming a uke).
- The wavelengths of the pitches meld together (harmonize) to create the unique sound of the chord
- 3 main types of chords:
 - Major Chords - Happy, simple, cheerful, confident, bright, satisfying
 - Minor Chords - Sad, serious, dark, sullen, apprehensive, melancholy, depressed, mysterious
 - Seventh (7th) Chords - Jazzy, bluesy, romantic, serene, tranquil, exhilarant, strong, relentless, funky, soulful, moderate edginess
- All other chords can be generally classified as derivatives of these 3 types



WHICH NOTES MAKE UP A CHORD?

- There is a *lot* of music theory that determines the notes that define a chord
- All chords have a “root” note (or pitch)
 - This note is used in the chord’s name: C Major [**C**], D Minor [**Dm**], A# Dominant 7th [**A#7**]
 - With respect to a song, this note is usually (but not always) the song’s melodic note
- The other notes are chosen by their “distance” (or interval) from the root note
- The other notes of the chord are harmony notes to the root and, when combined with themselves and the root, provide the timbre (aka the color or “sound”) of the chord.
- Learning the notes in these chords will cover 95% of music you are likely to play
 - Major
 - Minor
 - 7th chords



MAJOR CHORDS

- Happy, simple, cheerful, confident, bright, satisfying
- There are exactly 3 notes in a Major Chord:
 - Count to 5 starting at the note in the chord's name
 - Notes 1, 3 and 5 are the notes in that chord
- According to the music theory, those notes are:
 1. The root note
 2. A Major 3rd above it (on a piano that's 4 physical keys away from the root key)
 3. And the Perfect 5th (on a piano that's 7 physical keys away from the root key)

Examples:

C Major [C]

Notes

1 – C

2 – D

3 – E

4 – F

5 – G

G Major [G]

Notes

1 – G

2 – A

3 – B

4 – C

5 – D

F Major [F]

Notes

1 – F

2 – G

3 – A

4 – B_b

5 – C

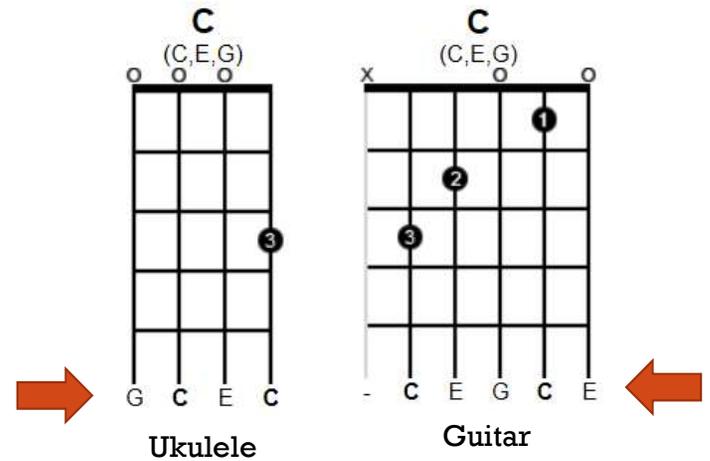
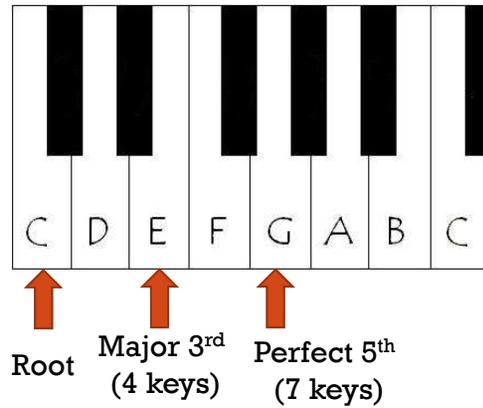


MAJOR CHORDS

C Major [C]

Notes

C
E
G



MINOR CHORDS

- Sad, serious, dark, sullen, apprehensive, melancholy, depressed, mysterious
- Notes in a Minor Chord
 1. The root note
 2. A Minor 3rd above it (on a piano that's 3 physical keys away from the root key)
 3. And the Perfect 5th (on a piano that's 7 physical keys away from the root key)

Example:

C Minor [Cm]

Notes

1 – C

2 – D

3 – E^b

4 – F

5 – G



MINOR CHORDS

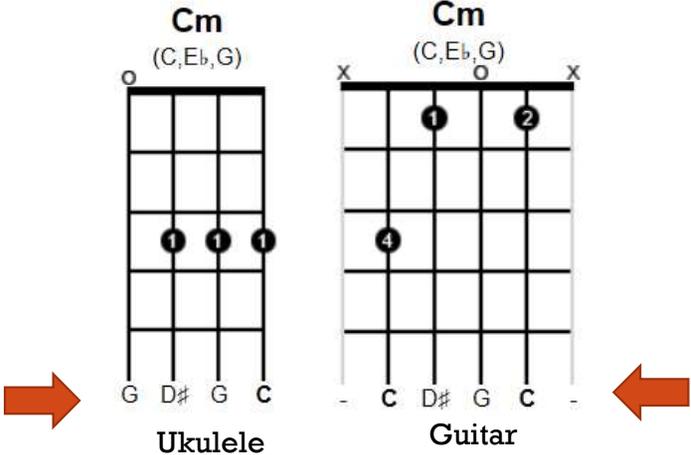
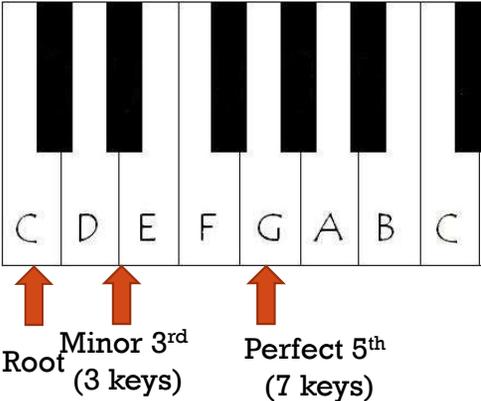
C Minor [Cm]

Notes

C

E_b

G

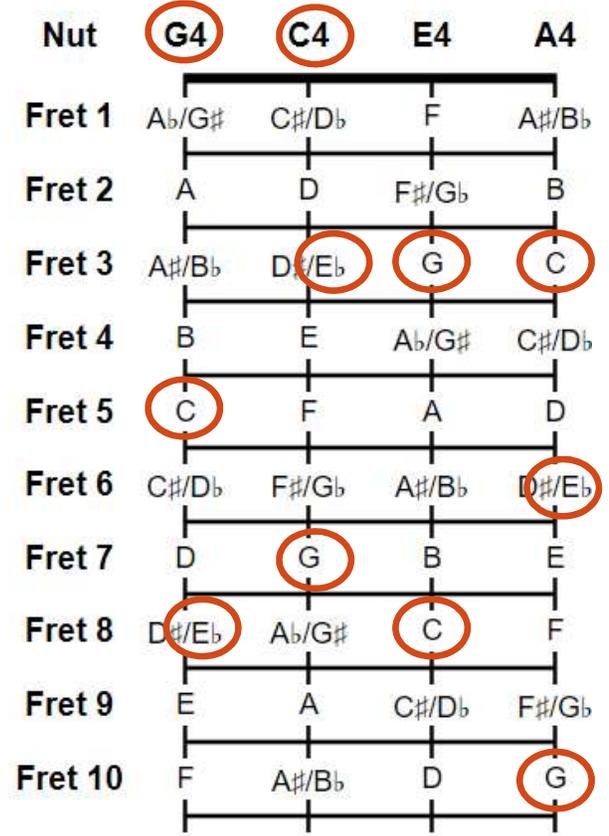
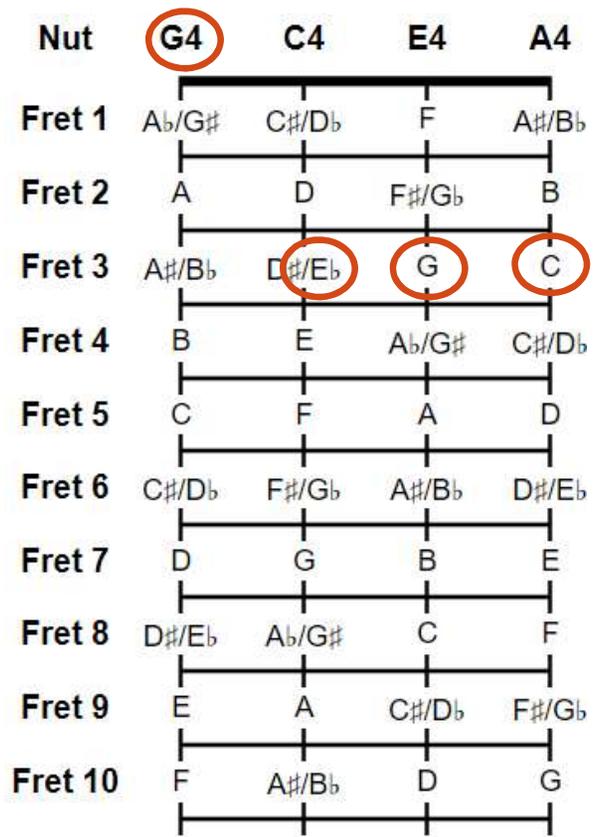


FINDING MINOR CHORDS ON YOUR UKE

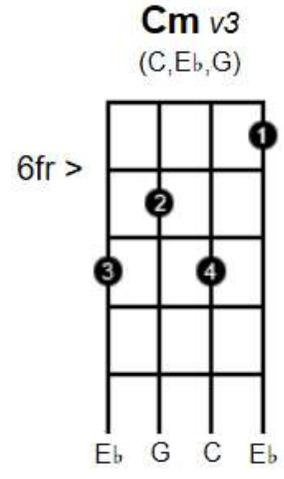
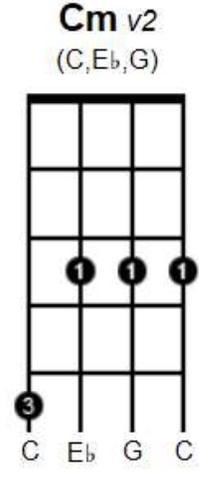
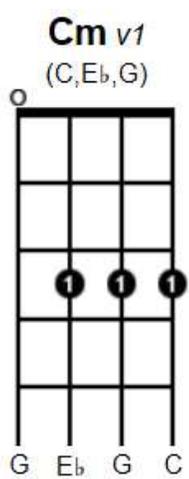
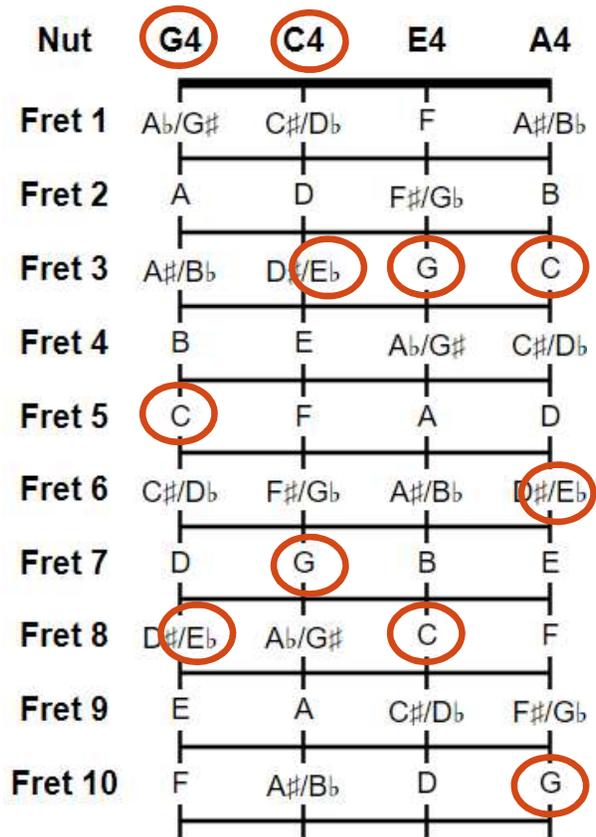
C Minor [Cm]

Notes

- C
- E_b
- G



FINDING MINOR CHORDS ON YOUR UKE



SEVENTH (7TH) CHORDS

- Jazzy, bluesy, romantic, serene, tranquil, exhilarant, strong, relentless, funky, soulful, moderate edginess
- Notes in a 7th Chord
 1. The root note
 2. A *Major* 3rd above it (on a piano that's 4 physical keys away from the root key)
 3. And the Perfect 5th (on a piano that's 7 physical keys away from the root key)
 4. And either the *Minor* 7th or the *Major* 7th depending on which type of 7th you're looking for (on a piano that's 10 or 11 physical keys away from the root key)
- There are many, many types of 7th chords
 - Many with 5+ notes
 - Most only used in Jazz
 - We mostly use the Dominant 7th and sometimes the Major 7th



SEVENTH (7TH) CHORDS

Dominant 7th Chords use a Minor 7th

Example:

G Dominant 7th [G7]

Notes

1 - G
2 - A
3 - B
4 - C
5 - D
6 - E
7 - F

Major 7th Chords use a Major 7th

Example:

G Major 7th [Gmaj7]

Notes

1 - G
2 - A
3 - B
4 - C
5 - D
6 - E
7 - F#

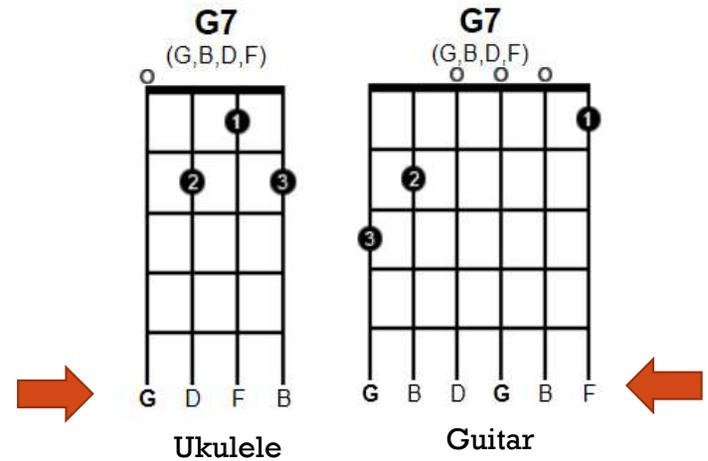
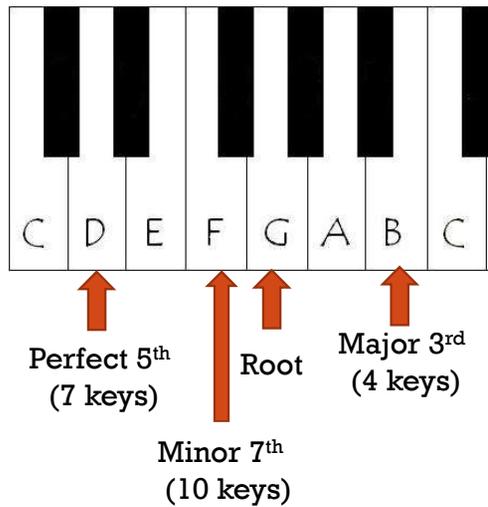


DOMINANT SEVENTH (7TH) CHORD

G Dominant 7th [G7]

Notes

G
B
D
F

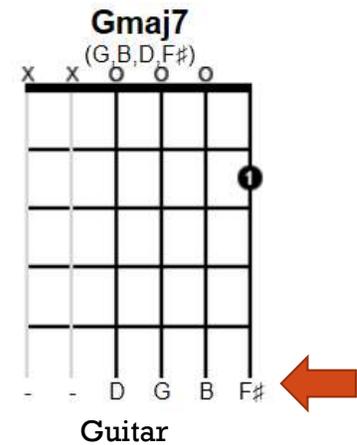
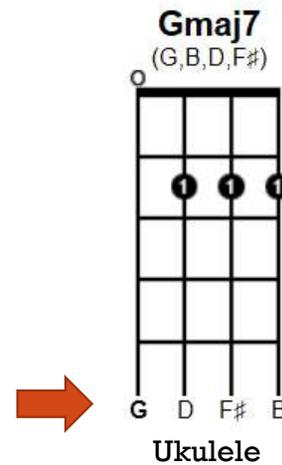
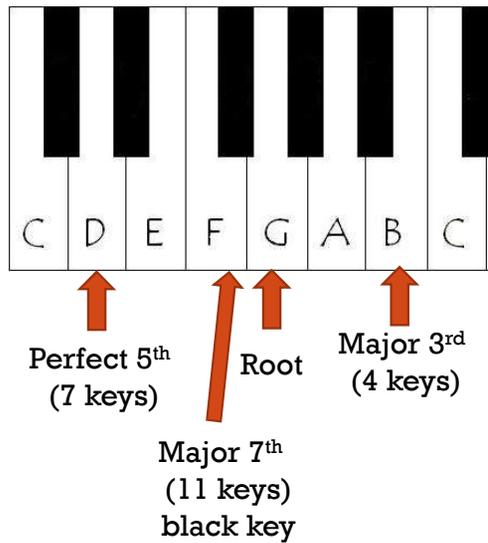


MAJOR SEVENTH (7TH) CHORD

G Major 7th [Gmaj7]

Notes

G
B
D
F#

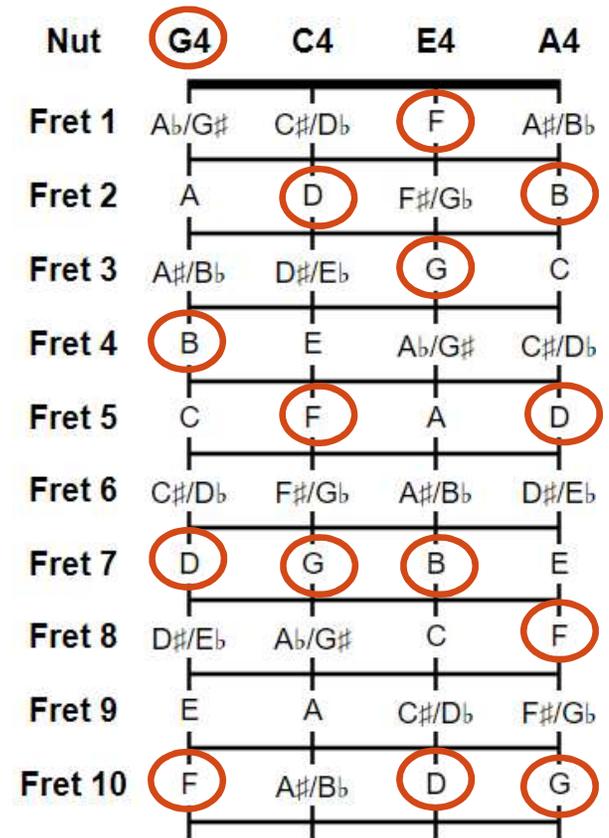
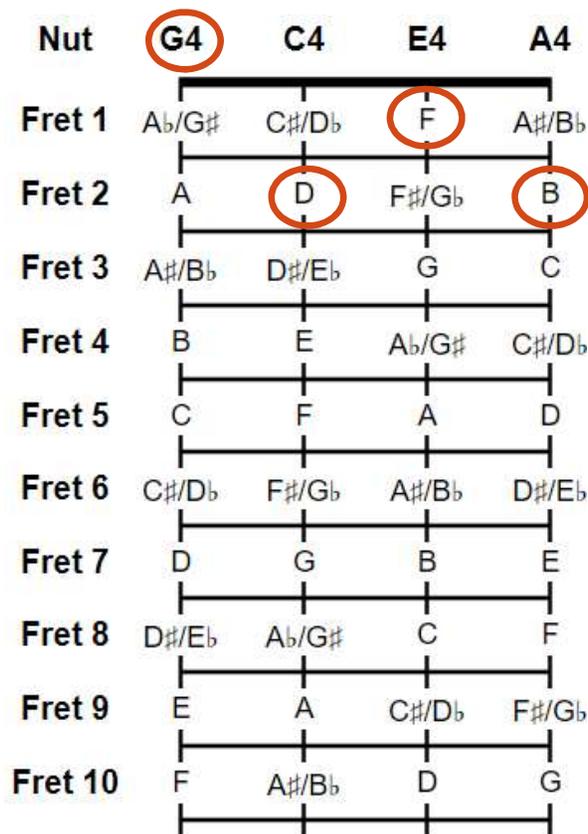


FINDING DOMINANT 7TH ON YOUR UKE

G Dominant 7th
[G7]

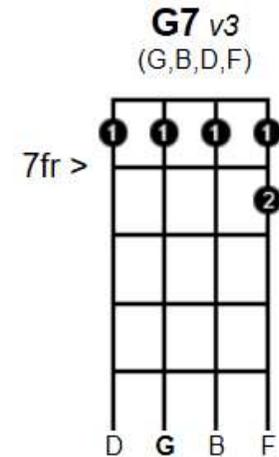
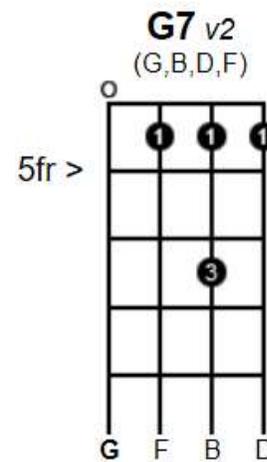
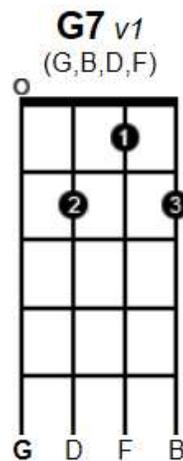
Notes

- G
- B
- D
- F



FINDING DOMINANT 7TH ON YOUR UKE

Nut	G4	C4	E4	A4
Fret 1	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat	F	A \sharp /B \flat
Fret 2	A	D	F \sharp /G \flat	B
Fret 3	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat	G	C
Fret 4	B	E	A \flat /G \sharp	C \sharp /D \flat
Fret 5	C	F	A	D
Fret 6	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat	A \sharp /B \flat	D \sharp /E \flat
Fret 7	D	G	B	E
Fret 8	D \sharp /E \flat	A \flat /G \sharp	C	F
Fret 9	E	A	C \sharp /D \flat	F \sharp /G \flat
Fret 10	F	A \sharp /B \flat	D	G





QUESTIONS?

