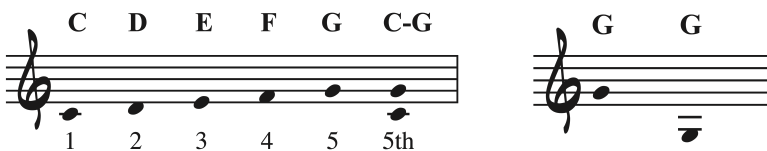


# Finding Root and 5ths in Moveable Chords

There is an easy way to find the root and 5<sup>th</sup> in moveable guitar chords and then use that information to play alternating bass notes in your strumming and fingerstyle patterns. First, a VERY brief theory lesson.



Most chords are made of notes stacked in 3<sup>rds</sup>. C to E is a 3<sup>rd</sup>, and E to G is a 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you stack C, E, and G on top of each other, you have C-E-G – a C major chord.

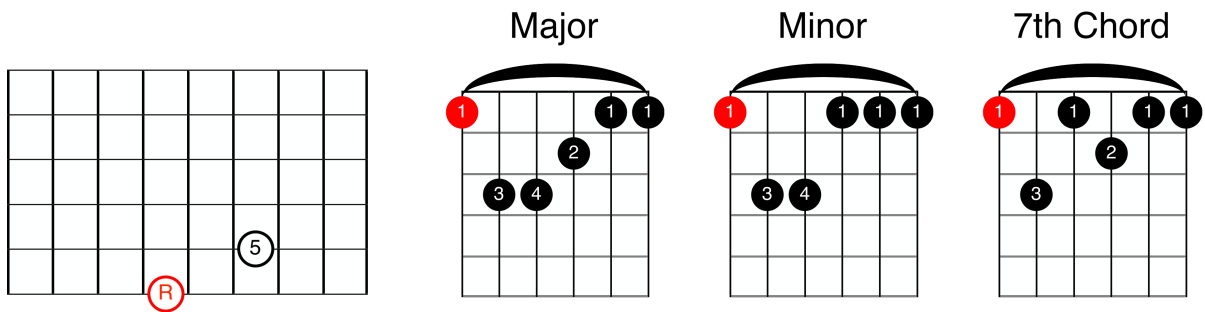


C up to G is a 5<sup>th</sup>, and G is the 5<sup>th</sup> of a C major chord. It doesn't matter which octave. As long as the note is a G, it's the 5<sup>th</sup> of a C major chord.

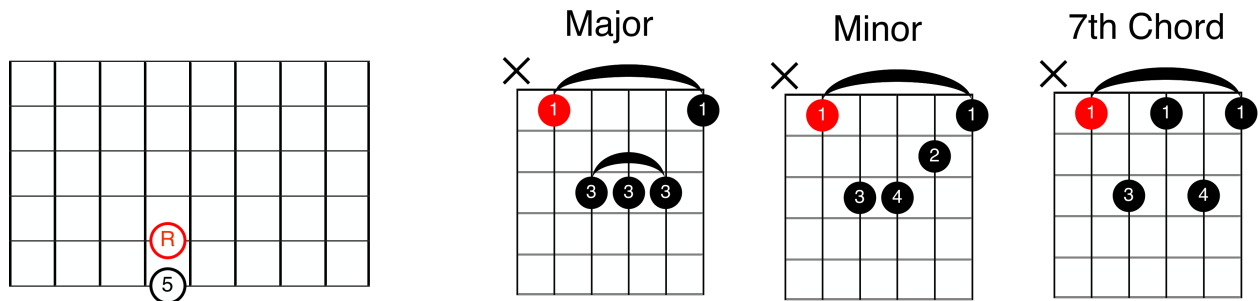
You can make your moveable chords more interesting by alternating bass notes between the root and the 5<sup>th</sup>.

[Click here](#) to watch the video.

## Finding Root and 5<sup>th</sup>



The root is the note a chord is built on. If you have a moveable chord shape with the root on the 6<sup>th</sup> string, the 5<sup>th</sup> of the chord will be on the 5<sup>th</sup> string, two frets to the right.



If you have a moveable chord shape with the root on the 5<sup>th</sup> string, the 5<sup>th</sup> of the chord will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> string, same fret as the root.

When you play strumming or fingerstyle patterns, you don't always have to play the root as your bass note. You can alternate bass notes between the root and the 5<sup>th</sup> of the chord. [Click here](#) for a demonstration.

For more on playing moveable chords, check out my books ***First Moveable Guitar Chords***, ***Three-Note Jazz Guitar Chords***, or ***Rhythm Guitar Book 3***. [Click here](#) for more information.