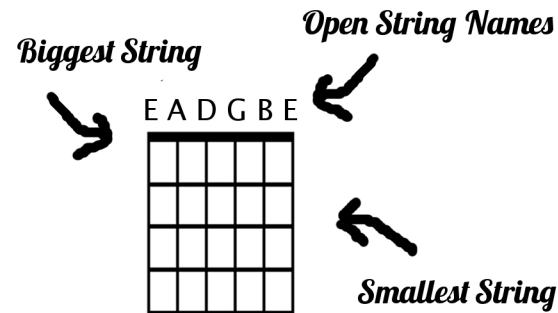


GUITAR GENIUS BOOT CAMP

Power Chords Cheat Sheet



Power Chords make the Heavy Metal and Hard Rock world go around. These are really the best sounding chords to play when you use any kind of distortion because they are so open. They only have 2 notes in them--the "root" also known as the 1st note of the major scale, and the "5th" which is the 5th note of the major scale. Major and minor chords sound too muddy with distortion, so they are only used sparingly with distortion.

1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave (Octopus has 8 legs, Octave is the 8th note)
C D E F G A B C

(Example: C Power Chord = C and G)

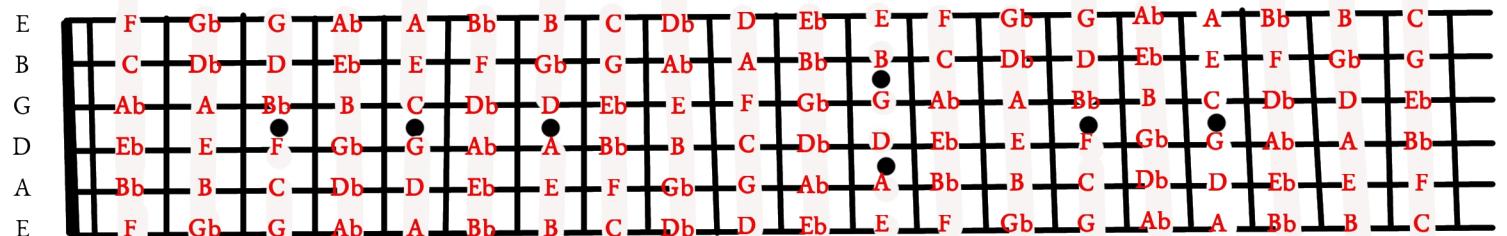
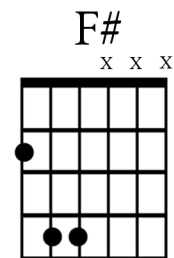
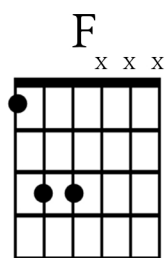
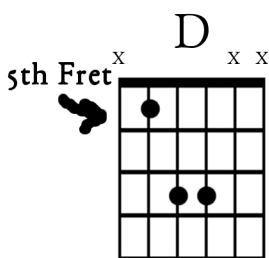
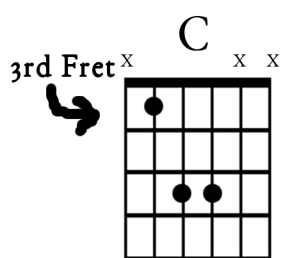
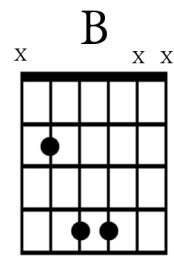
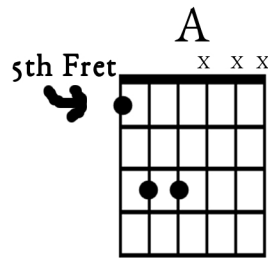
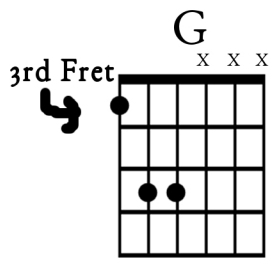
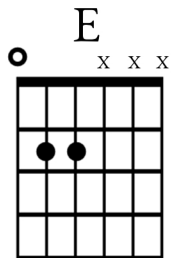
The name of the chord will be played by your pointer finger in all of the chords you'll see on this Cheat Sheet. The other notes will be played by the ring and pinky fingers. Any time you play the root and 5th up and down the neck together on your guitar, the chord can be considered a Power Chord though. Leave off your pinky finger on any of these examples and you've still got a nice chunky Power Chord.

Enjoy!

Michael Firkins
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GUITAR GENIUS BOOT CAMP

Power Chords Cheat Sheet



Any flats (b) can also be called sharp (#) if you just use the previous letter name in the alphabet instead:

Examples: Gb=F#, Bb=A#, Db=C#

These are called "Enharmonic Spellings." F# is the "enharmonic" of Gb.

Slide your pointer finger anywhere up and down the neck. If you use this same shape, wherever your pointer finger lands is the name of the power chord!

Power chords can be used instead of any major or minor chords that you run across in a song. A lot of guys use these when they run across a chord they aren't used to playing--Bb Major for example. They will just play the Bb power chord and it sounds great with the rest of the band!

Anywhere you play the 1st and 5th is a power chord so play around and see where else you can play these chords. Have a blast!