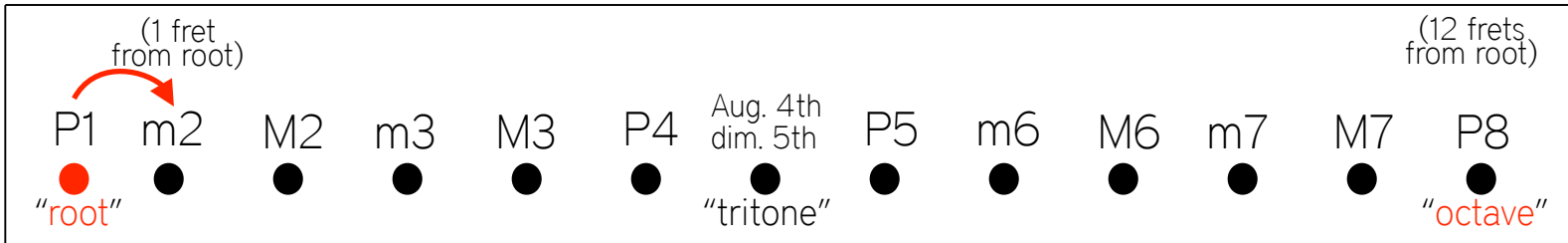


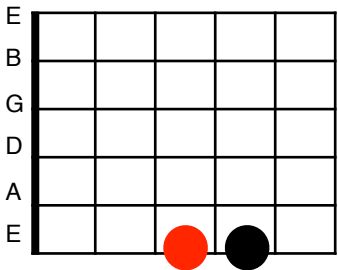
Intervals

In music, an interval is the **distance in pitch between two notes**, either between two tones sounded simultaneously (harmonic interval) or between two tones sounded successively (melodic interval). We get a mixture of **major, minor, and perfect intervals**. Eventually, you'll want to be able to identify these intervals on your instrument **as well as by ear**. Be sure to sing the interval name as you play them on your instrument.

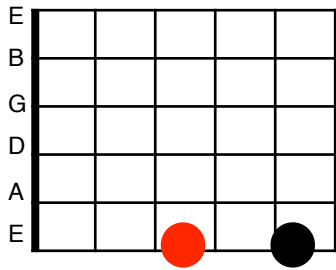


The **major scale** is a fast way to get your interval shapes down as it uses all (and only) **major and perfect intervals**. Lower all major intervals a 1/2 step (1 fret) to create a **minor interval**

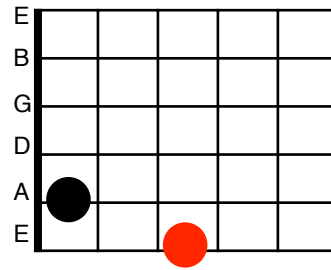
m2



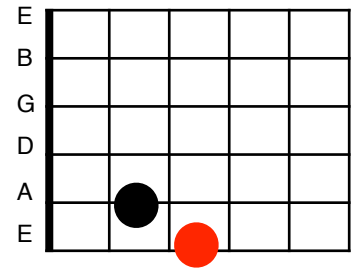
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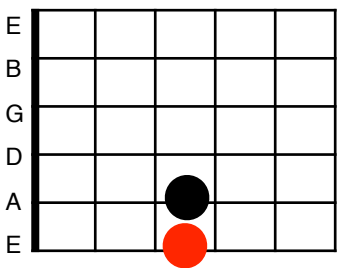
m3



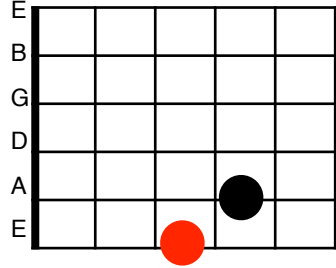
M3



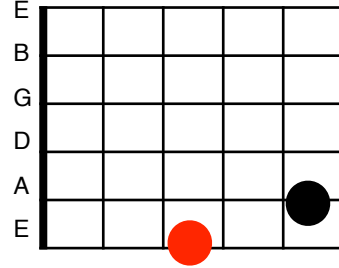
P4



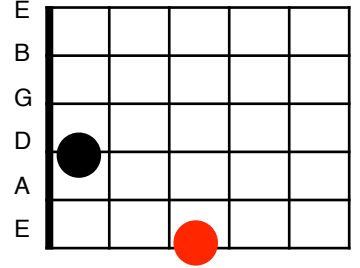
Tritone Aug. 4th dim. 5th



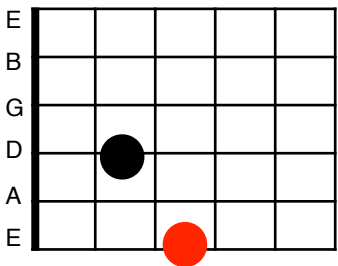
P5



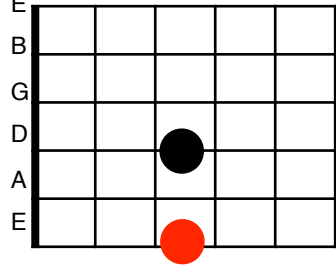
m6



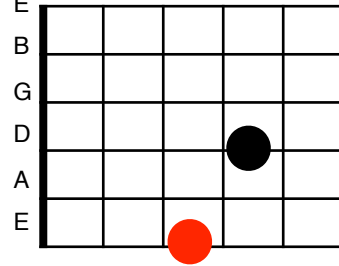
M6



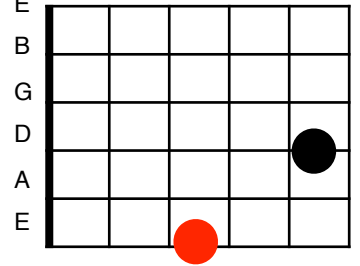
m7



M7



P8



Quick Memorization of Intervals

Intervals are the distance between notes. Begin by playing through the G major scale, following these steps:

1. Ascend and descend through the G major scale
2. Say the numbers 1 - 8 aloud as you play each note in the scale (these are the scale degrees). Start ascending, continue with descending,
3. See if you can call out the scale degrees while playing the notes in an improvised fashion (create a melody)

G major scale

(M=Major m=minor P=Perfect)

This gives us all of the major and perfect intervals. What a great shortcut!

Lower all Major intervals a 1/2 step (1 fret) to create a minor interval!

How Are Intervals Used?

So, **what are intervals** and **why do they matter**? Intervals are an essential part of unlocking music theory challenges in general. When you've learned the notes on the neck as well as intervals, there's **no theory problem you can't solve**.

How could any theory challenge be unlocked through knowledge and understanding of intervals? Because **all chords and scales** can be explained **intervallically**. For example, a major chord has a **root, major 3rd and perfect 5th**. Not just a G or D chord, but every major chord. Minor chords have a **root, minor 3rd and perfect 5th**. This is a widely known system which all Western music can be catalogued and analyzed under. We see it most often used in its abbreviated form, listed below:

1 - root	4 - Perfect 4th	$\flat 6$ - minor 6th
$\flat 2$ - minor 2nd	$\sharp 4/\flat 5$ - Tritone	6 - Major 6th
2 - Major 2nd	augmented 4th/ diminished 5th	$\flat 7$ - minor 7th
$\flat 3$ - minor 3rd	5 - Perfect 5th	7 - Major 7th
3 - Major 3rd		8 - Perfect 8th

Intervals are the distance between notes. When we say a major chord has a root, 3rd, and 5th, we're saying that in addition to the **root note** there are also two notes above it; specifically one that's a 3rd above and one that's a 5th above. As chords get more complex, **this system stays consistent**. Below are a few examples of the many **chord and scale formulas** that exist...

Major - 1 3 5	Maj6 - 1 3 5 6	min7 - 1 $\flat 3$ 5 $\flat 7$	$7^{\sharp 5}$ - 1 3 $\sharp 5$ $\flat 7$
minor - 1 $\flat 3$ 5	min6 - 1 $\flat 3$ 5 6	Dom7 - 1 3 5 $\flat 7$	$7^{(b5)}$ - 1 3 $\flat 5$ $\flat 7$
diminished - 1 $\flat 3$ $\flat 5$	min $\flat 6$ - 1 $\flat 3$ 5 $\flat 6$	min7($\flat 5$) - 1 $\flat 3$ $\flat 5$ $\flat 7$	sus2 - 1 2 5
Augmented - 1 3 $\sharp 5$	Maj7 - 1 3 5 7	Maj7($\sharp 5$) - 1 3 $\sharp 5$ 7	sus4 - 1 4 5

Major Pentatonic - 1 2 3 5 6	Major scale - 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Harmonic minor scale - 1 2 $\flat 3$ 4 5 $\flat 6$ 7
Minor pentatonic - 1 $\flat 3$ 4 5 $\flat 7$	Minor scale - 1 2 $\flat 3$ 4 5 $\flat 6$ $\flat 7$	Melodic minor scale - 1 2 $\flat 3$ 4 5 6 7
Blues scale - 1 $\flat 3$ 4 $\flat 5$ 5 $\flat 7$		

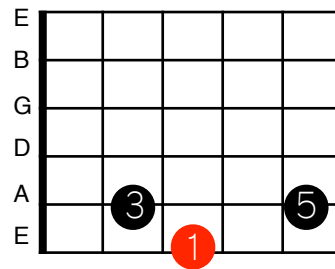
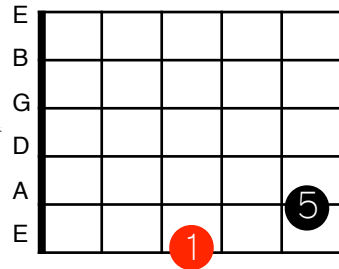
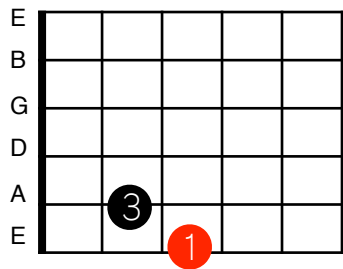
How Intervals Are Used To Build Chords

Intervals are the building blocks of music and give us the tools to find the notes in every chord and scale. Let's start with major chords. They consist of a **root**, **major 3rd** and **perfect 5th** (1 3 5). As long as we know the **notes on the neck**, we can now quickly spell **any and every** major chord. Start by getting comfortable spelling chords with the **root** on the **6th string**.

M3

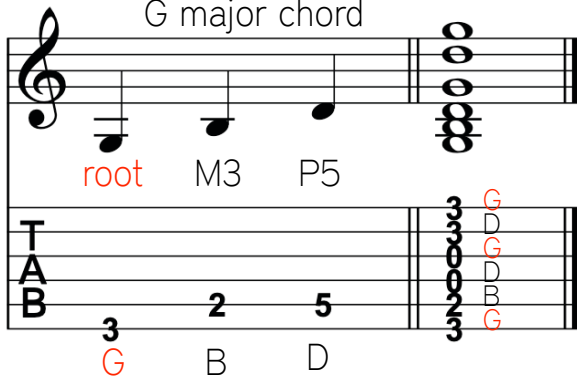
P5

Major Chord



● = root
 fingers
 root = middle finger
 major 3rd = index finger
 perfect 5th = pinkie

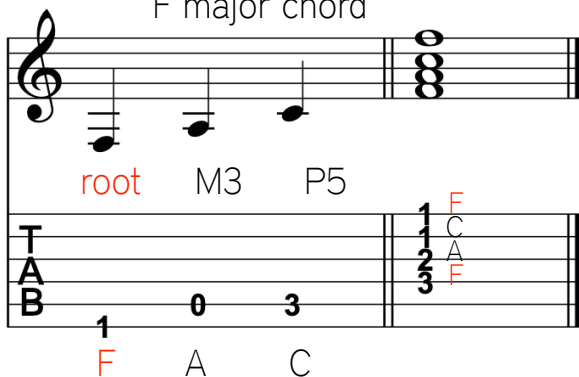
G major chord



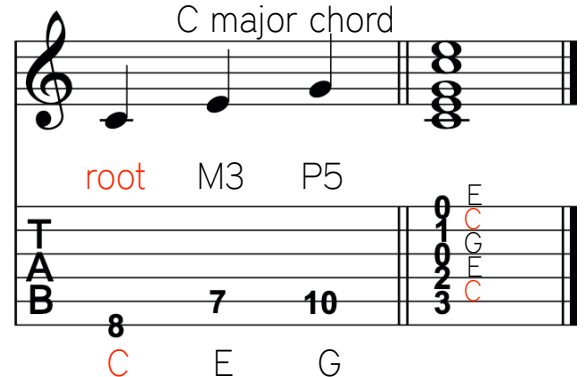
How is a 6 string chord 3 notes?

Major and minor chords are **triads**, which are 3 note chords. Even though an open G chord on the guitar uses all 6 strings, we're actually only playing **3 unique notes**. The root (G) is on 3 strings, the 3rd (B) shows up on 1 string, and the 5th is repeated on 2 strings.

F major chord



C major chord



What about **sharps** and **flats**?

Major and minor chords are built using **every other letter**. If the root is A, Ab or A#, then the 3rd and 5th is some type of C and E. Use your guitar to determine if they're **natural, sharp, or flat**.

A major chord

D major chord

F# major chord

