

Fingerstyle Guitar *In a Flash*: Module 2 – Beyond The Basics

Fluency In Forms

This lesson shows you how to "look ahead" during an overall progression to determine what form of a given fingerstyle arrangement suits you best. When you look ahead and find common ground in a song, it levels the playing field. It starts you off on the right track and completely eliminates any of the guess work that comes from moving around the fretboard.

While we are working with fingerstyle, everything you are about to learn here works VERY well with strumming just the same. At this point you already know the blueprints (or templates, if you will) that can be used across all 3 basic groups. You are also aware that there are basically subcategories within each group – but the picking hand won't have to change.

Thus, what we REALLY need to do here is examine all the basic groups (as seen in "Marrying Style and Shape") to determine the best plan of action in a given chord progression. We can do this through the chord shapes alone.

I will be listing chord progressions below and offer my suggestions on how to look ahead to determine which forms would likely be your best option in terms of playability. Some of the suggestions will be explained on the video itself. Odds are you will run into these specific progressions frequently.

I – V – vi – IV

C	G	Am	F	D	A	Bm	G
	0 3 0 1 1 3 1 1 0 0 2 2 2 0 2 3 3 2 0 3 3 1	3 3 5 1 5 3 5 1 5 4 5 2 5 5 7 3 3 5 7 3 3 5 1		2 0 2 3 3 2 3 3 2 2 4 0 0 2 4 0 0 2 2 3	5 5 7 3 7 5 7 3 7 6 7 4 7 7 9 5 5 7 9 5 5 7 3		
E	B	C#m	A	F	C	Dm	A# (Bb)
	0 2 4 5 0 4 5 5 1 4 6 6 2 4 6 7 2 2 4 7 0 5	7 7 4 5 9 7 5 5 9 8 6 6 9 9 6 7 7 9 4 7 7 5		1 0 1 1 1 1 3 3 2 0 2 3 3 2 0 3 3 3 1 1	1 3 5 6 1 5 6 6 2 5 7 7 3 5 7 8 3 3 5 8 1 6		
G	D	Em	C	A	E	F#m	D
	3 2 0 0 3 3 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2 3 3 0	3 5 7 8 3 7 8 8 4 7 9 9 5 7 9 10 5 5 7 10 3 8		0 0 2 2 2 0 2 3 2 1 2 2 2 2 4 0 0 2 4 0 2	5 0 2 2 5 0 2 3 6 1 2 2 7 2 4 0 7 2 4 5 0 2		
B	F#	G#m	E	*If you played any of the “I” chords as sharps/flats, the entire progression will result in barre chords as shown below:			
	2 2 4 0 4 2 4 0 4 3 4 1 4 4 6 2 2 4 6 2 2 4 0	7 2 4 7 7 2 4 9 8 3 4 9 9 4 6 9 9 4 6 7 7 2 4					

C# - G# - A#m - F#

D# - A# - **Cm** - G# ← the Bm in the key of D becomes Cm in the key of D# as there is no B#m (Cbm)

F# - C# - D#m - B

G# - D# - Fm - C#

A# - **F** - Gm - D# ← the E in the key of A becomes an F in the key of A# as there is no E# (Fb)

I - IV - V

C	F	G	D	G	A	E	A	B
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<pre> 0 1 3 3 1 3 1 1 3 5 1 3 0 2 0 5 2 4 2 3 0 5 3 5 3 3 2 3 3 5 1 3 1 3 </pre>			<pre> 2 3 0 5 3 5 3 3 2 7 3 5 2 0 2 7 4 6 0 0 2 7 5 7 2 0 5 5 7 3 3 5 </pre>			<pre> 0 0 2 7 5 7 0 2 4 9 5 7 1 2 4 9 6 8 2 2 4 9 7 9 2 0 2 7 7 9 0 2 5 7 </pre>		
F	A#(Bb)	C	G	C	D	A	D	E
<pre> 1 1 0 8 6 8 1 3 1 10 6 8 2 3 0 10 7 9 3 3 2 10 8 10 3 1 3 8 8 10 1 6 8 </pre>			<pre> 3 0 2 3 3 5 3 1 3 3 5 7 0 0 2 4 5 7 0 2 0 5 5 7 2 3 5 3 5 3 3 </pre>			<pre> 0 2 0 5 5 7 2 3 0 5 7 9 2 2 1 6 7 9 2 0 2 7 7 9 0 2 7 5 7 0 5 </pre>		
B	E	F#(Gb)	<p>*If you played any of the “I” chords as sharps/flats, the entire progression will result in barre chords:</p> <p>C# - F# - G# D# - G# - A# F# - B - C# G# - C# - D# A# - D# - F</p>					
<pre> 2 0 2 7 7 9 4 0 2 7 9 11 4 1 3 8 9 11 4 2 4 9 9 11 2 2 4 9 7 9 0 2 7 </pre>								

I - vi - IV - V

C	Am	F	G	D	Bm	G	A
<pre> 0 0 1 3 3 5 1 3 1 1 1 3 5 5 1 3 0 2 2 0 5 5 2 4 2 2 3 0 5 7 3 5 3 0 3 2 3 7 3 5 1 3 5 1 3 </pre>				<pre> 2 2 3 0 5 7 3 5 3 3 3 2 7 7 3 5 2 4 0 2 7 7 4 6 0 4 0 2 7 9 5 7 2 2 0 5 9 5 7 3 7 3 5 </pre>			
E	C#m	A	B	F	Dm	A#(Bb)	C
<pre> 0 4 5 7 7 4 5 7 0 5 5 7 9 5 5 7 1 6 6 8 9 6 6 8 2 6 7 9 9 6 7 9 2 4 7 9 7 4 7 9 0 5 7 5 7 </pre>				<pre> 1 1 1 0 8 5 6 8 1 3 3 1 10 6 6 8 2 2 3 0 10 7 7 9 3 0 3 2 10 7 8 10 3 1 3 8 5 8 10 1 6 8 </pre>			
G	Em	C	D	A	F#m	D	E
<pre> 3 0 0 2 3 7 8 5 3 0 1 3 3 8 8 7 0 0 0 2 4 9 9 7 0 2 2 0 5 9 10 7 2 2 3 5 7 10 5 3 0 3 8 </pre>				<pre> 0 2 2 0 5 2 5 7 2 2 3 0 5 2 7 9 2 2 2 1 6 2 7 9 2 4 0 2 7 4 7 9 0 4 2 7 4 5 7 2 0 5 2 </pre>			
B	G#m	E	F#				

2	4	0	2	11	7	4	6
4	4	0	2	12	9	5	7
4	4	1	3	11	8	4	6
4	6	2	4				
2	6	2	4				
4	0	2					

*If you played any of the “I” chords as sharps/flats, the entire progression will result in barre chords:

- C# - A#m - F# - G#
- D# - Cm - G# - A#
- F# - D#m - B - C#
- G# - Fm - C# - D#
- A# - Gm - D# - F