

Suspended Chords

There are two types of suspended chords:

Suspended 2nd

The suspended 2nd is often labeled as “sus2”. The extra note in this chord is the 2nd (2nd step of the major scale).

Suspended 4th

The suspended 4th is labeled as “sus4” (or sometimes just “sus”). The extra note (you guessed it) is the 4th.

A suspended chord creates a little tension that makes it sound like it wants to resolve back to the regular chord. As an example, an Esus chord resolves back to E. As a general rule you should always please the ear by resolving the suspended chord back to the original chord.

How To Play Suspended Chords

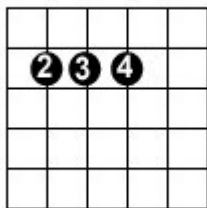
Open Position Suspended Chords

You should practice the chords below by resolving them back to the original chord. For example, the Esus resolves back to E, the E7sus back to E7 and so on...

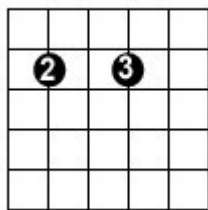
You'll quickly catch on to their possibilities. They can add a lot of harmonic flavor to an otherwise boring chord progression.

You cannot suspend a minor chord in this fashion.

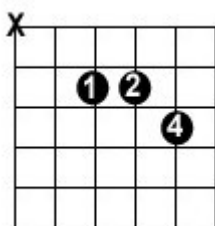
Esus



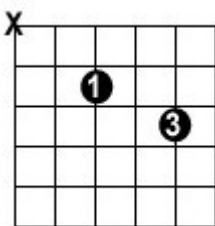
E7sus



Asus

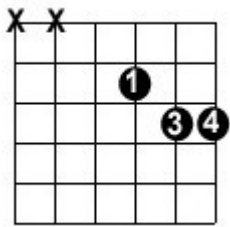


A7sus

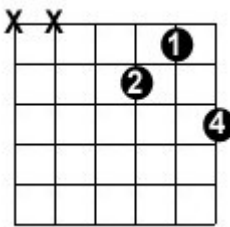


More Suspended Fourth Chords

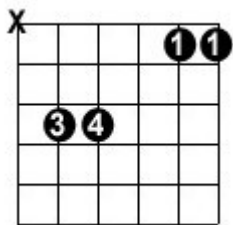
Dsus



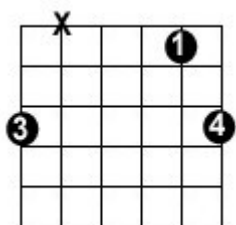
D7sus



Csus

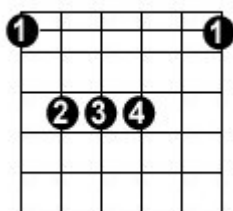


Gsus



Barre Chords Suspended

E Style Barre Chord Suspended



A Style Barre Chord Suspended

