

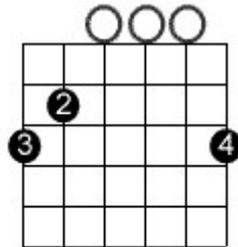
How To Play G, C, and D Chords

Meet The Chords

G

Here's how to form the G chord:

- Place your 3rd finger on the 3rd fret of the low E string
- Place your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret of the A string
- Leave the D, G, and B strings open
- Place your 4th finger on the 3rd fret of the high E string
- Strum all six strings



The open G chord

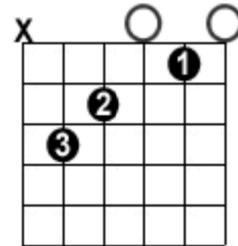


Playing the open G chord

C

Here's how to form the C chord:

1. Place your 3rd finger on the 3rd fret of the A string (5th string).
2. Place your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret of the D string (4th string).
3. Leave the G string open (3rd string)
4. Place your 1st finger on the 1st fret of the B string (2nd string)
5. Leave the high E string open (1st string)
6. Strum all the strings *except* for the low E (5 strings total)



Open C chord

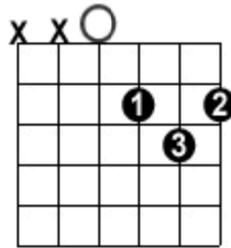


Playing the open C chord

D

How to form the D chord:

- Leave the D string open (hint, hint)
- Place your 1st finger on the 2nd fret of the G string
- Place your 3rd finger on the 3rd fret of the B string
- Place your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret of the high E string
- Do not strum the low E string or the A string. Only strum the D, G, B, and high E strings



The open D chord



Playing the open D chord

Changing Chords Faster

The most important thing to remember when playing chords is that each note in a chord must be pressed down as a unit, not separately.

Here I will give you a couple of exercises that will help you establish the habit of pressing down each chord as a unit.

Exercise 1

1. First, press down a C chord.
2. Next, lift your fingers off the strings about a half-inch as a unit, keeping the chord formation.
3. Then press your fingers back down onto the strings, firmly and quickly, keeping the formation.
4. Strum the chord. If any of your fingers miss the proper position in the chord, correct them and repeat the drill.

When you feel comfortable with the C chord, do the same exercise with the G D chord positions.

Exercise 2

Now we'll practice the press down exercise while changing chords.

1. Start with C, lift, and press down the G chord.
 2. Release, then press down the D chord.
 3. Release, then press down the C chord.
 4. Release, then press down the D chord.
- Keep it slow and practice any mistakes as you go along.