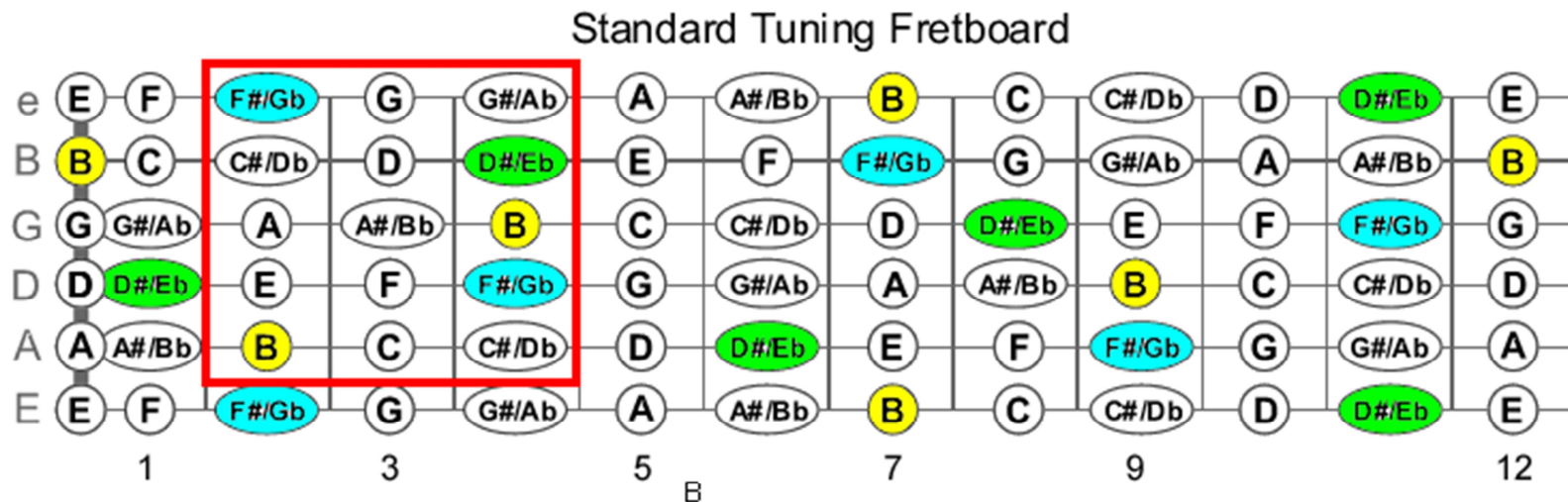


Chapter 1 - Find Chords Anywhere!

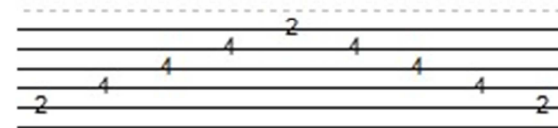
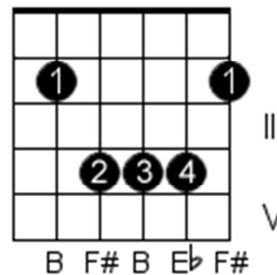
The B Major chord

Before we get into understanding this chord, the first thing I'd like you to realize is that the B Major and the F Major chords are NOT part of the CAGED system. In other words, these two chords are simply alterations of their CAGED counterparts. I'll get deeper into this in a moment.

The B Major chord (BMaj, B) consists of the notes B, F#/Gb, and Eb/D#. The easiest way to understand the B Major chord is by taking a look at all of the notes found within this chord.



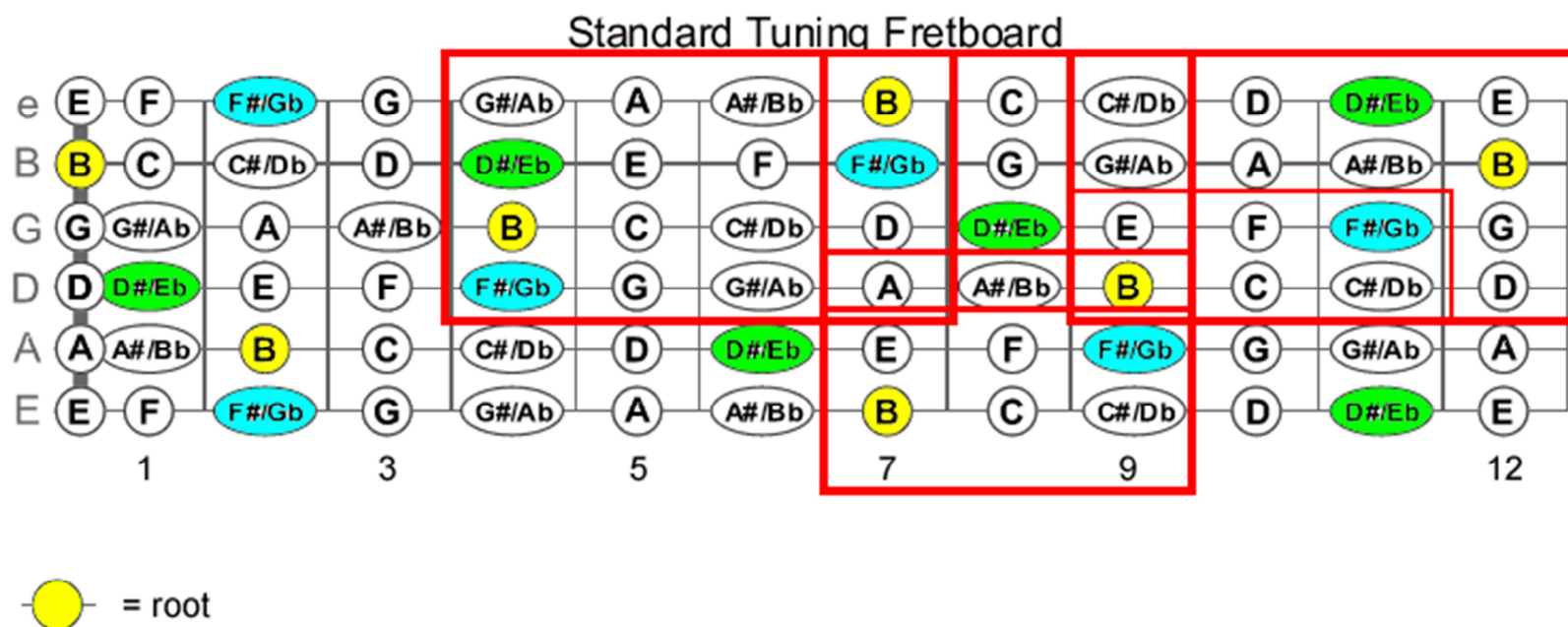
- The B Major Chord**
- = root
 - = note
 - = note
- contains notes:
B - F#(Gb) - Eb (D#)
root note = B



Take a close look at the diagram featured above. In the red box you will see the 'lowest point' in tone to play the B chord. There are NO open positions for the B chord. It is not part of our CAGED chord family. It's actually an extension of the A chord. (However, it IS ok to call it a chord.)

If you simply remove the 2nd fretted note on both the A and High E strings, what do you have INFORMATION? An A Major chord. The B notes are the ONLY reason that this is called a B chord. I know it seems confusing, but the easiest way to understand it is that the B Major and F Major are just extensions of already pre-determined chords. For example: When you go to the store to buy an extension for a ratchet set, you're only buying an extension for something that already exists. You wouldn't call it a ratchet with an extension. You'd just call it a ratchet. However, if you were to bake a cake and didn't have flour, is it a cake? No. It's not. It's um...something else. Therefore it could NOT be called a cake. Ok the last example was bad, but I think you get the picture.

Here are the additional positions for the B Major chord:



There ARE more, but I just want you to get an idea of a few logical positions. You can deduce for yourself which additional positions are possible.

Remember that the rule is: ALL you need are the notes required within the chord, with a lowest tone root note included in the chord.

For example, you could also include:

E-----11-----
B-----12-----
G-----11-----
D-----13-----
A-----14-----
E-----x-----

Here the 14th fret note on the A string is the root. It's the lowest root available. Use it!

What About Using A Power Chord?

1. Find the note "B."
2. Search for the next note that appears ONE string HIGHER in pitch and is the FIFTH.

Remember the note order: A – B – C – D – E – F – G (we don't need to worry about sharps {#} or flats {b})

B C D E F
1.....2.....3.....4.....5

This time the fifth is F.

NOTE: When using power chords, there is NO SUCH THING as a minor power chord. If you see a B5, it's just a B5. There is no minor.

Exercises:

Exercise 1: B, B5, (B5), B

Tablature for Exercise 1:

String	Measure 1	Measure 2	Measure 3	Measure 4
T	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2			7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
A	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4			8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
B	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8

Exercise 2: B, B, B

Tablature for Exercise 2:

String	Measure 1	Measure 2	Measure 3
T	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7
A	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
B	9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

Which variations did you like? _____