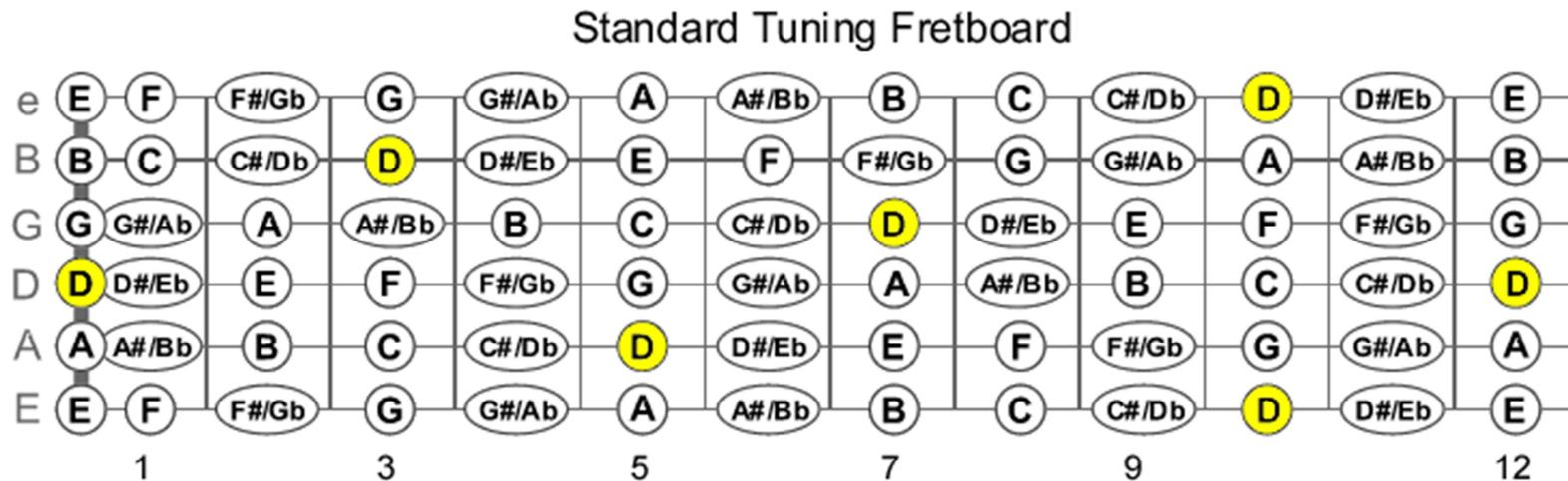


Chapter 1 - Find Chords Anywhere!

In order to find a chord anywhere on the guitar, we must first understand which notes make up a chord. For now we are focusing solely on the Major chords. You'll see the major chord in a few positions, which will include open and barre chord combinations.

The D Major Chord:

The D Major chord (D, DMaj, D major) consists of the notes D, A, and F#/Gb. Take a look at all of the D notes located on the first 12 frets of your guitar. These notes are highlighted in yellow. Since the chord name is a D, that would mean the note D would be the root note. All we need to do is determine which one of these highlighted yellow notes are indeed the root, and not just an added note. Logically speaking, the lowest tone produced from the E note will generally be the root note desired.

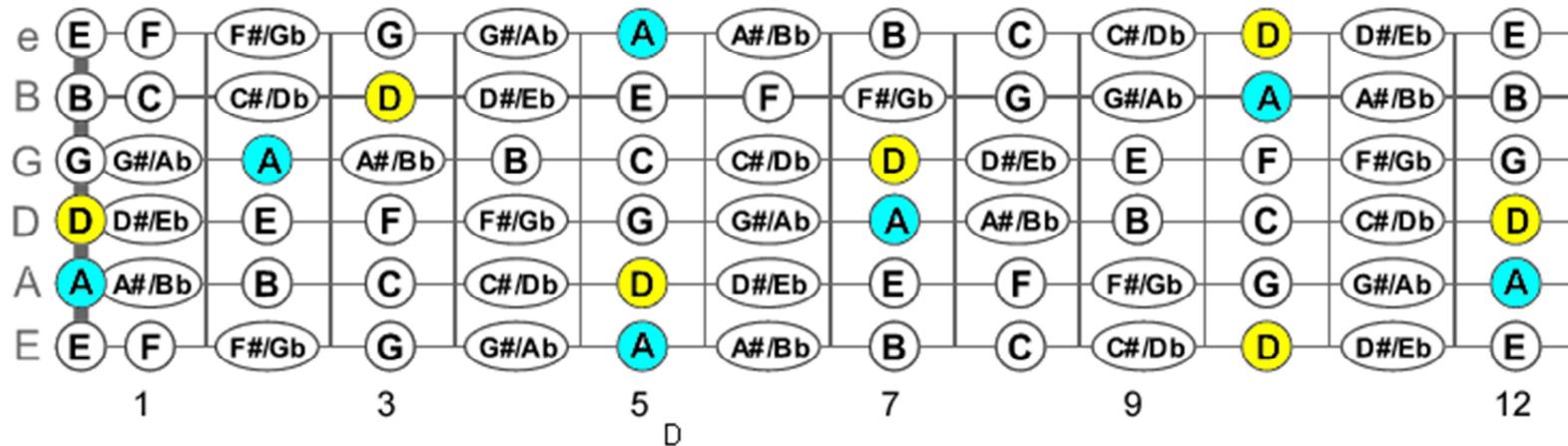


Above is a diagram of all of the D notes that appear on the first 12 frets. For now we just need to examine the notes provided. Here are all the D notes located on a six string guitar, all in standard tuning.

- E strings – We have a 10th fretted D note on this string
- A string – We have a 5th fretted note of D on this string
- D string – We have an open D note based on the string, repeated at the 12th fret
- G string – We have a 7th fretted note of D on this string
- B string – We have a 3rd fretted note of D on this string

Since we need to find more than just the D note, let's add the A note to every possible fret on the guitar.

Standard Tuning Fretboard



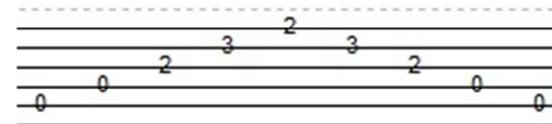
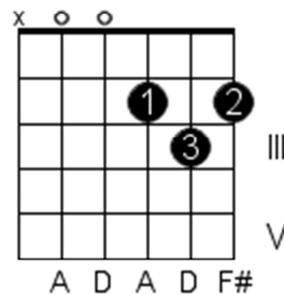
- = root
- = note

The D Major Chord

contains notes:

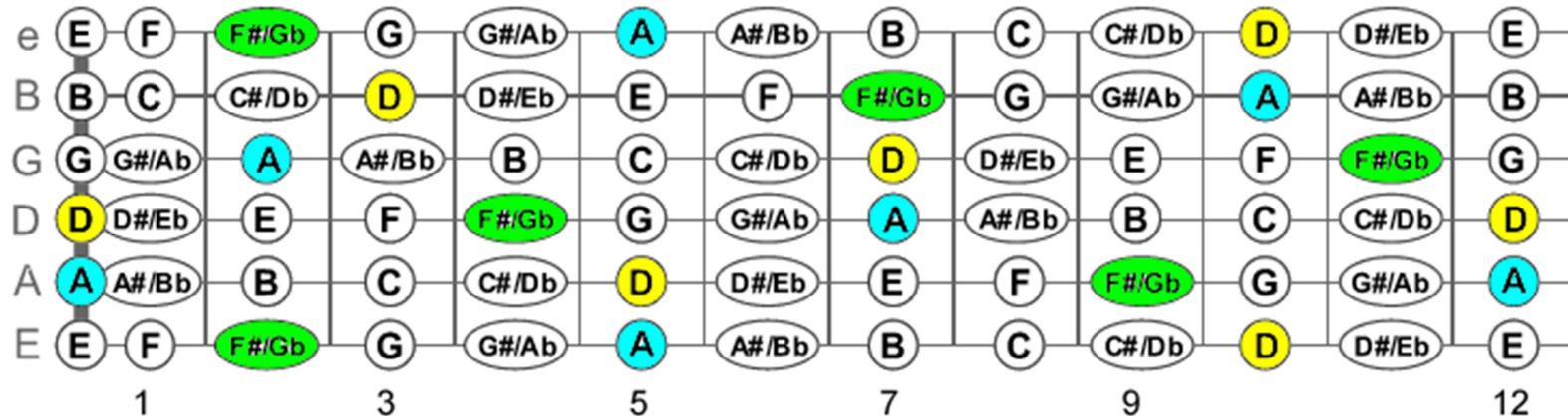
D - A - F#

root note = D



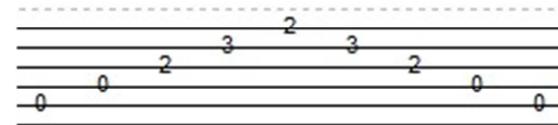
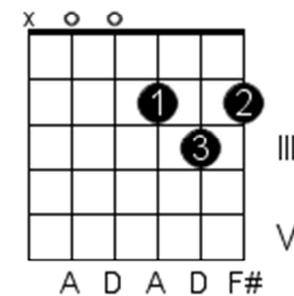
Now we've added the A notes that are required to begin forming the D Major chord. Above you'll see that I have provided a chord diagram that shows the D Major chord in open position. We've ALMOST got all of our notes for the D Major chord. Now we just need to apply our F#/Gb note to create the actual chord.

Standard Tuning Fretboard



- = root
- = note
- = note

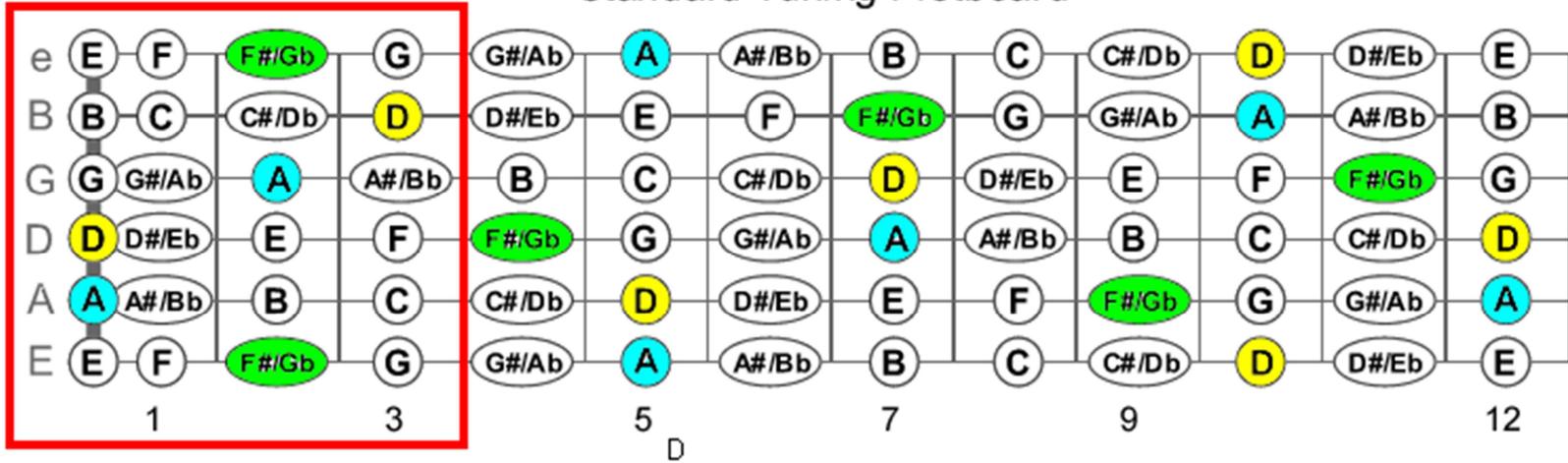
The D Major Chord
contains notes:
D - A - F#
root note = D



Now you can see that all of the required notes for the D Major chord are filled in. The only step left is to find logical groupings to create the actual chord. Let's begin!

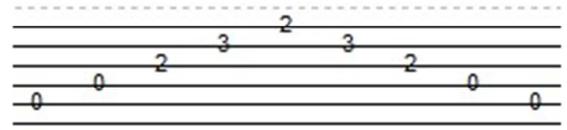
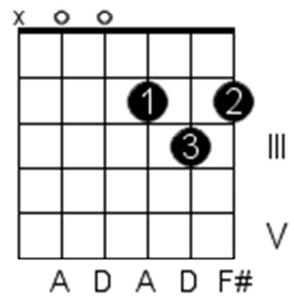
In the following diagram, you'll see a red box. This box indicates our starting position – or OPEN position of the D Major chord.

Standard Tuning Fretboard



- = root
- = note
- = note

The D Major Chord
contains notes:
D - A - F#
root note = D

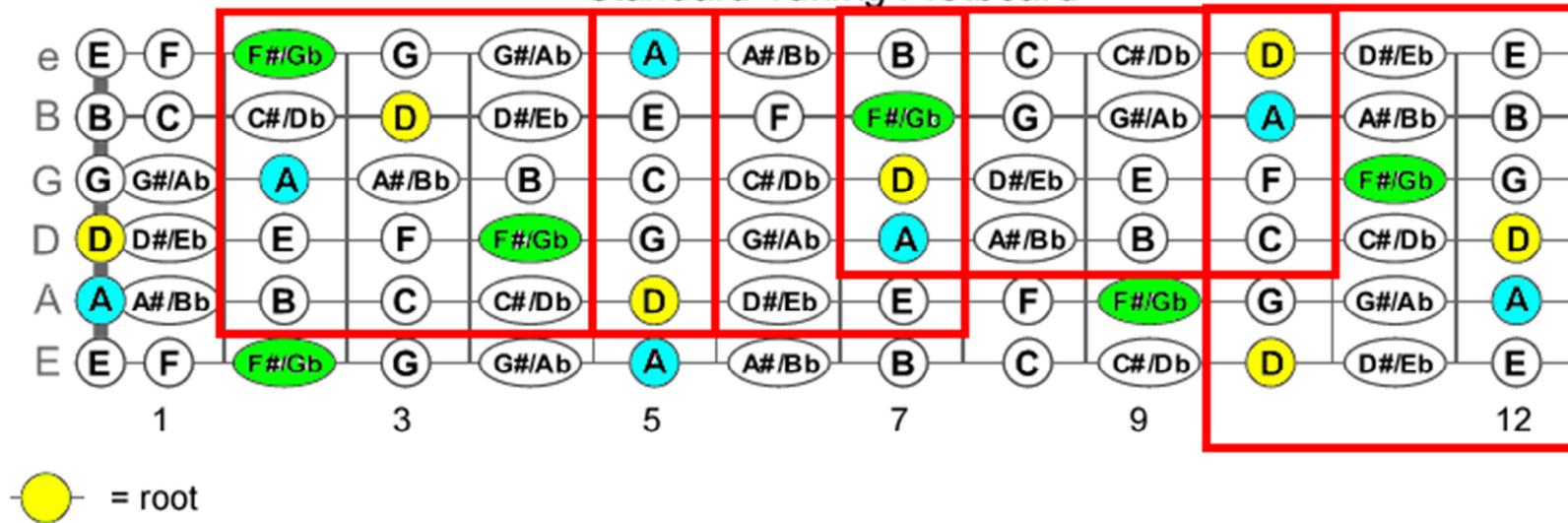


I've also included tablature to the side of the chord. This indicates all of the notes that can be played within this position JUST to form the D Major chord. Because you've already seen how easy it is to find the notes on the fretboard, our focus will now shuffle towards various positions.

Boxed Variations Of The D Major Chord

Here are all the logical positions that a D Major can be played in:

Standard Tuning Fretboard



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-----10-----
B-----7-----
G-----7-----
D-----7-----
A-----x-----
E-----x-----
    
```

Here the 7th fret note on the G string is the root. It's the lowest root available. Use it!

What About Using A Power Chord?

1. Find the note "D."
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})

D E F G A
1.....2.....3.....4.....5

This time the fifth is A.

Exercises:

If you want to supplement with even more exercises, you can create your very own. In this series I've set it up so that there is some blank tablature below.

Because I want you to do more than just read and learn what I am showing you, sometimes you need to experiment a little. You can add your own notes to create additional variations of the D Major chord.

If you have any questions about whether or not you are correct, simply email me at: nathan@ezstrummer.com and I'll be glad to check it for you.

The image shows musical notation and guitar tablature for three different chord exercises. The first two are D Major chords, and the third is a D5 power chord. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

D	D	D	D5
T	0	0	0
A	2	2	2
B	2	2	2

Which variations did you like? _____

	(D5)		D		D		D												
T		14	14	14	14	14	14	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
A	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
		15	15	15	15	15	15	15	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
		14	14	14	14	14	14	14	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
		12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
									10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Which variations did you like? _____

Customize Your Own!

T			
A			
B			

T			
A			
B			

A musical staff system consisting of a treble clef staff and a TAB staff. The treble staff has a treble clef and a dashed midline. The TAB staff has three lines labeled T, A, and B from top to bottom. The system is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

A musical staff system consisting of a treble clef staff and a TAB staff. The treble staff has a treble clef and a dashed midline. The TAB staff has three lines labeled T, A, and B from top to bottom. The system is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

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