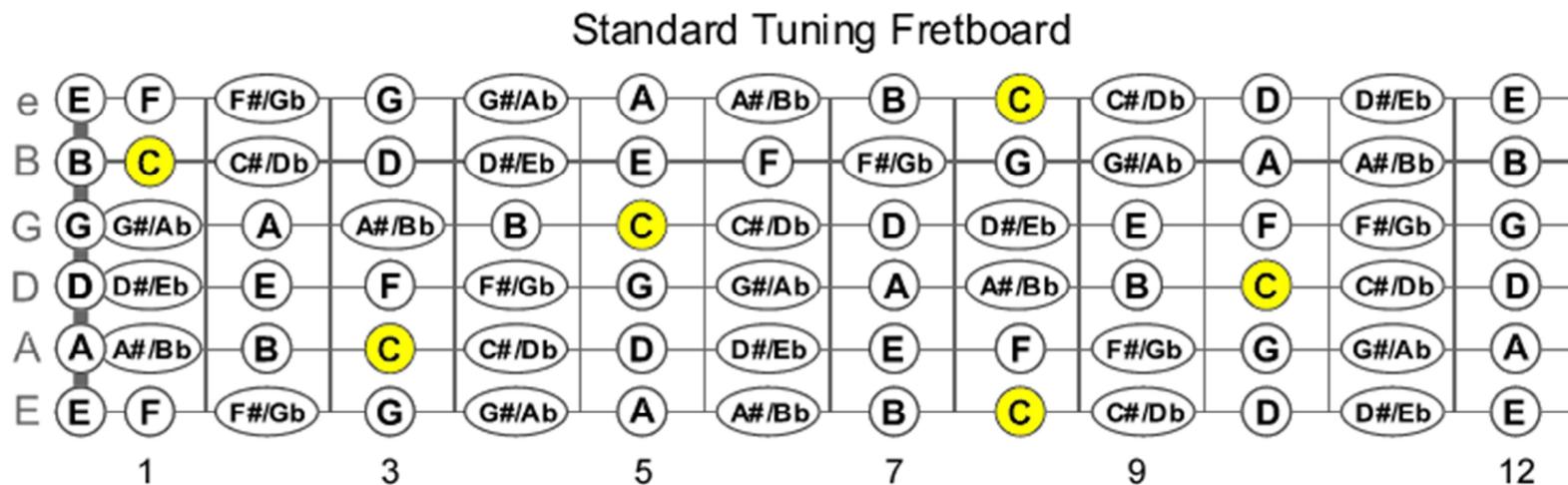


# Chapter 1 - Find Chords Anywhere!

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 C Major Chord:

The C Major chord (C, CMaj, C major) consists of the notes C, E, and G. Take a look at all of the C notes located on the first 12 frets of your guitar. These notes are highlighted in yellow. Since the chord name is a C, that would mean the note C 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 C note will generally be the root note desired.

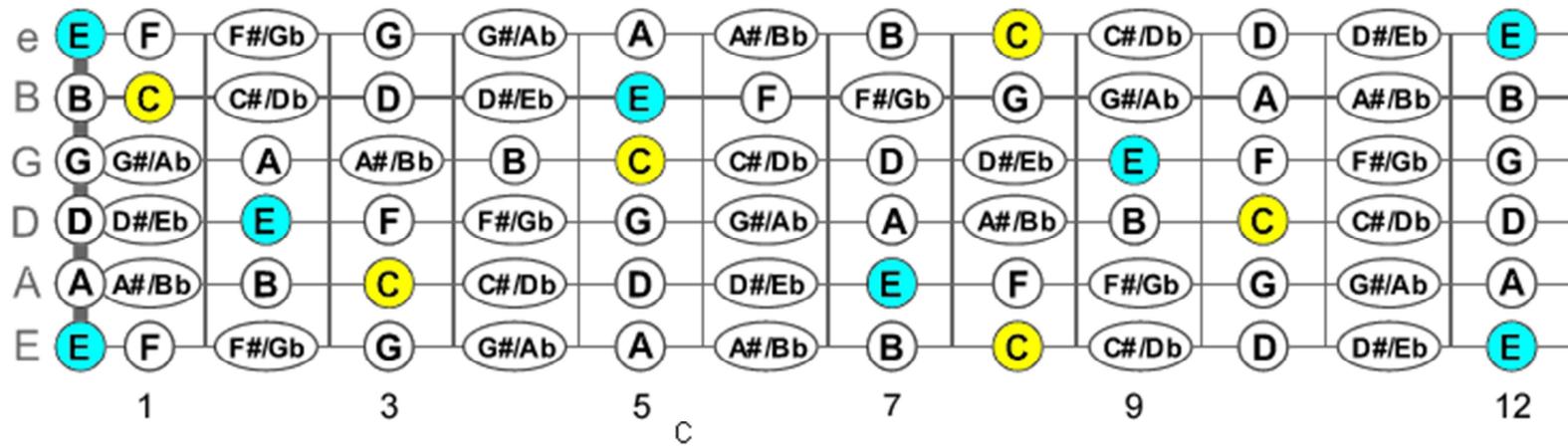


Above is a diagram of all of the C notes that appear on the first 12 frets. For now we just need to examine the notes provided. Here are all the C notes located on a six string guitar, all in standard tuning.

- E strings – We have an 8th fretted note of C on these strings
- A string – We have a 3<sup>rd</sup> fretted note of C on this string
- D string – We have a 10<sup>th</sup> fretted note of C on this string
- G string – We have a 5<sup>th</sup> fretted note of C on this string
- B string – We have a 1<sup>st</sup> fretted note of C on this string

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

### Standard Tuning Fretboard



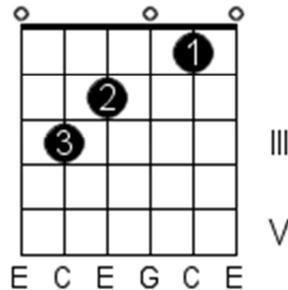
- = root
- = note

The C Major Chord

contains notes:

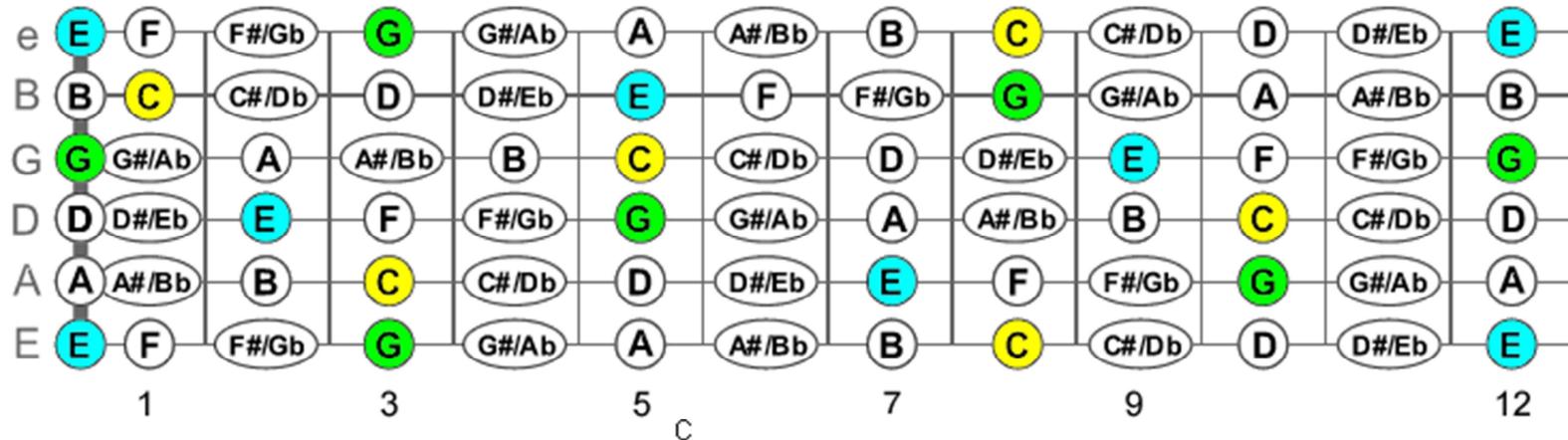
C - E - G

root note = C



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

### Standard Tuning Fretboard



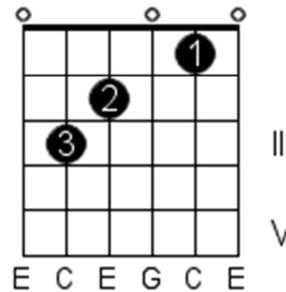
- = root
- = note
- = note

The C Major Chord

contains notes:

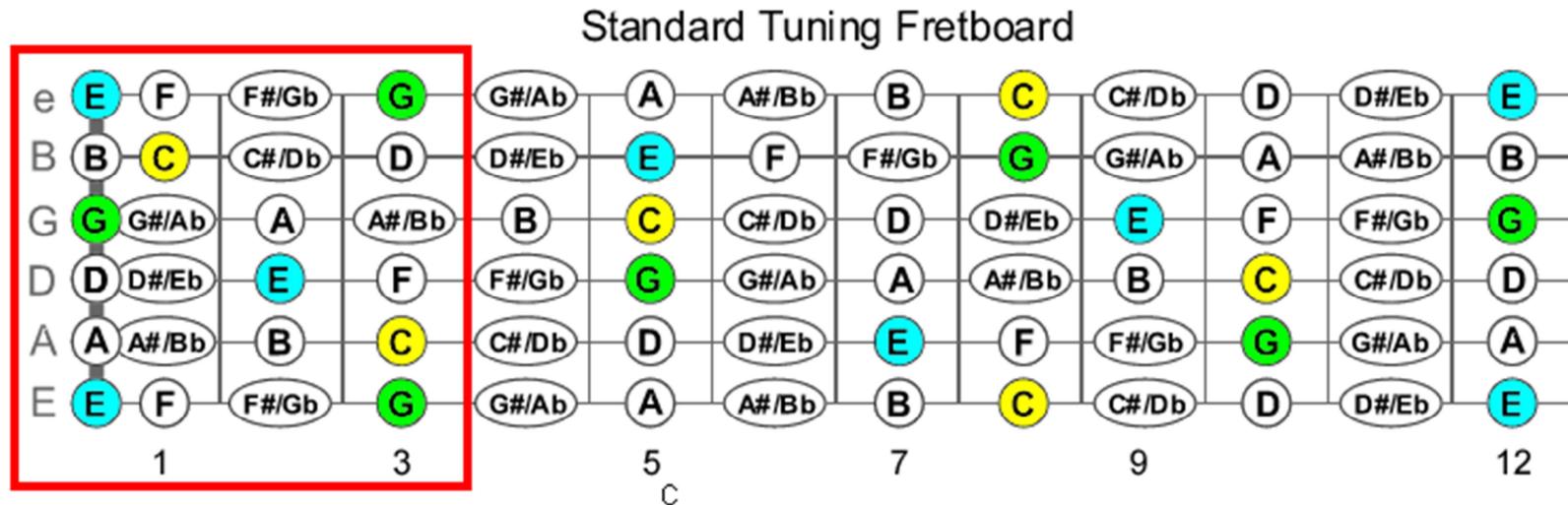
C - E - G

root note = C



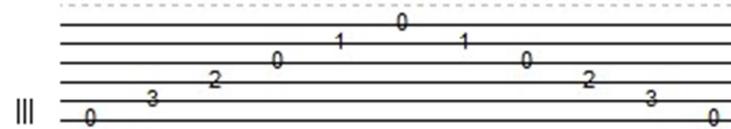
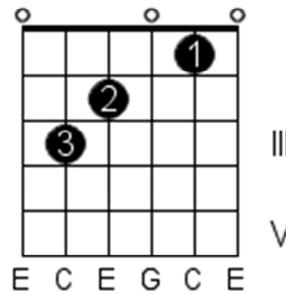
Now you can see that all of the required notes for the C Major chord are filled in. The only step left is to find logical groupings to create the actual chord. Let's begin!

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



- = root
- = note
- = note

The C Major Chord  
contains notes:  
C - E - G  
root note = C

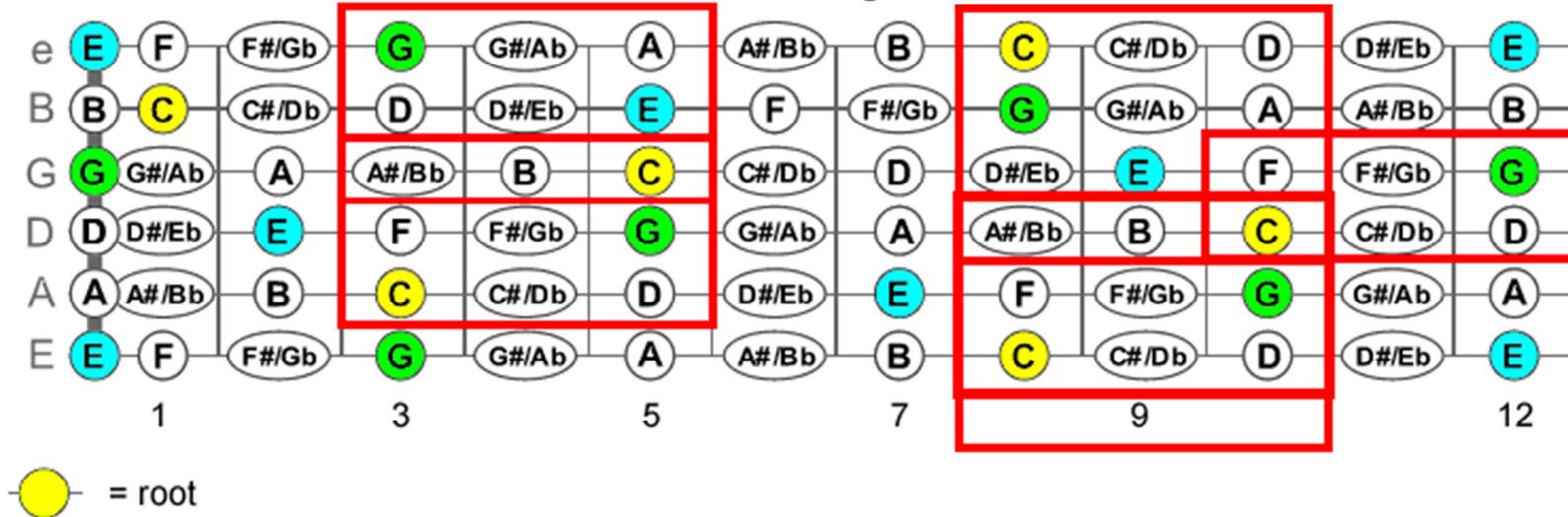


I've also included tablature to the side of the chord. This indicates all of the notes that can be played within this position JUST to form the C Major chord. Because you've already seen how easy it is to find the notes on the fretboard, our focus will now shuffle towards various positions.

### Boxed Variations Of The C Major Chord

Here are all the logical positions that a C 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-----8-----
B-----5-----
G-----5-----
D-----5-----
A-----x-----
E-----x-----
    
```

Here the 5<sup>th</sup> 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 "C."
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})

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

This time the fifth is G.

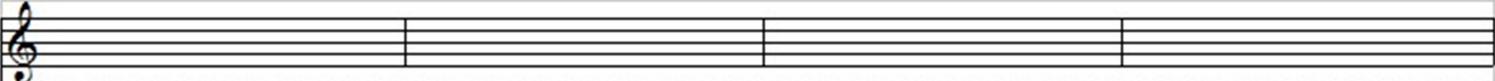
### Exercises:

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.

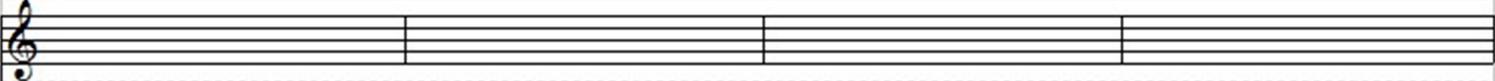
Because I want you to do more than just read and learn what I am showing you, sometimes you need to experiment a little. You can add your own notes to create additional variations of the C Major chord.

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



			
T			
A			
B			

			
T			
A			
B			

			
T			
A			
B			

			
T			
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