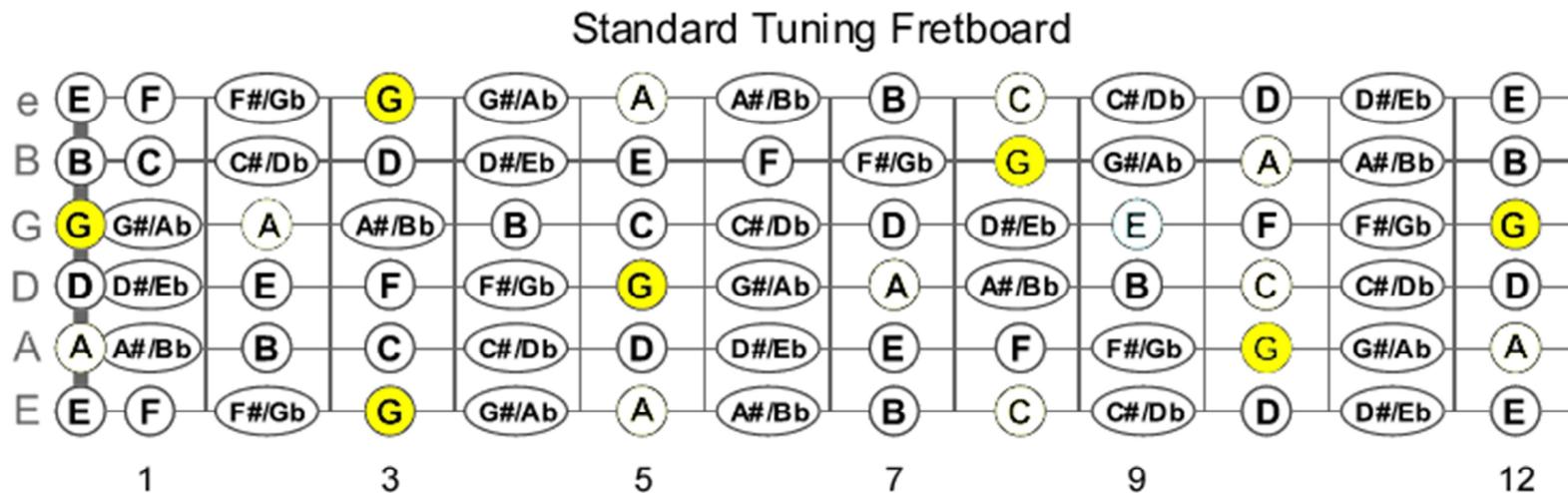


Chapter 1 - Find Chords Anywhere!

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 G Major Chord:

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



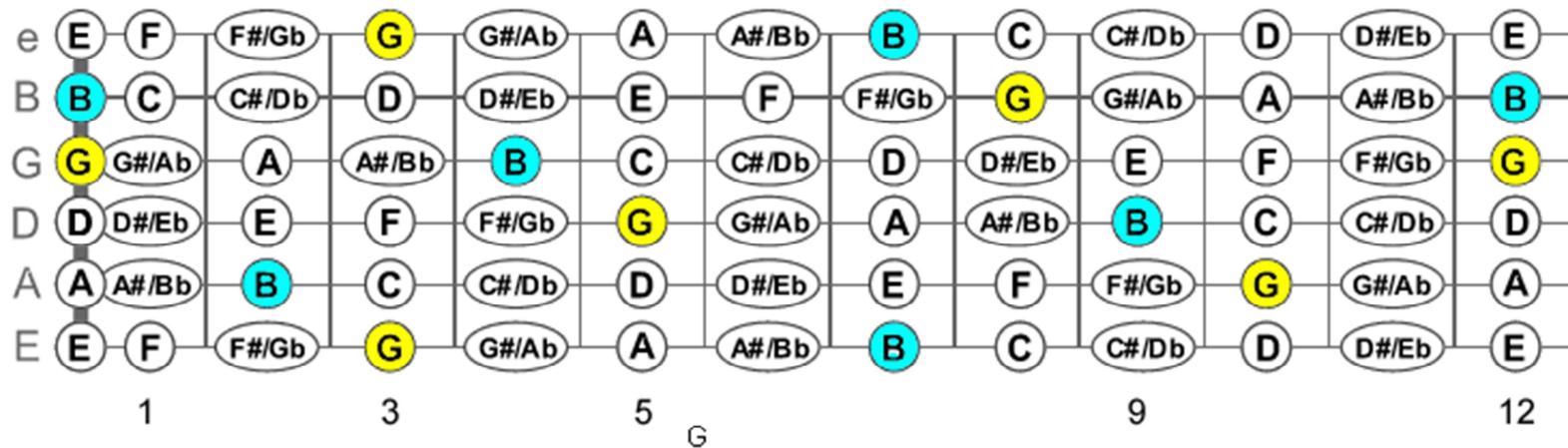
Above is a diagram of all of the G notes that appear on the first 12 frets. For now we just need to examine the notes provided. Here are all the G notes located on a six string guitar, all in standard tuning.

- E strings – We have a 3rd fretted note of G on these strings

- A string – We have a 10th fretted note of G on this string
- D string – We have a 5^h fretted note of G on this string
- G string – We have an open G note that is duplicated on the 12th fret
- B string – We have an 8th fretted note of G on this string

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

Standard Tuning Fretboard



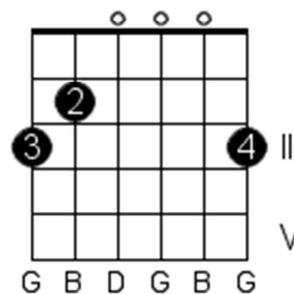
- = root
- = note

The G Major Chord

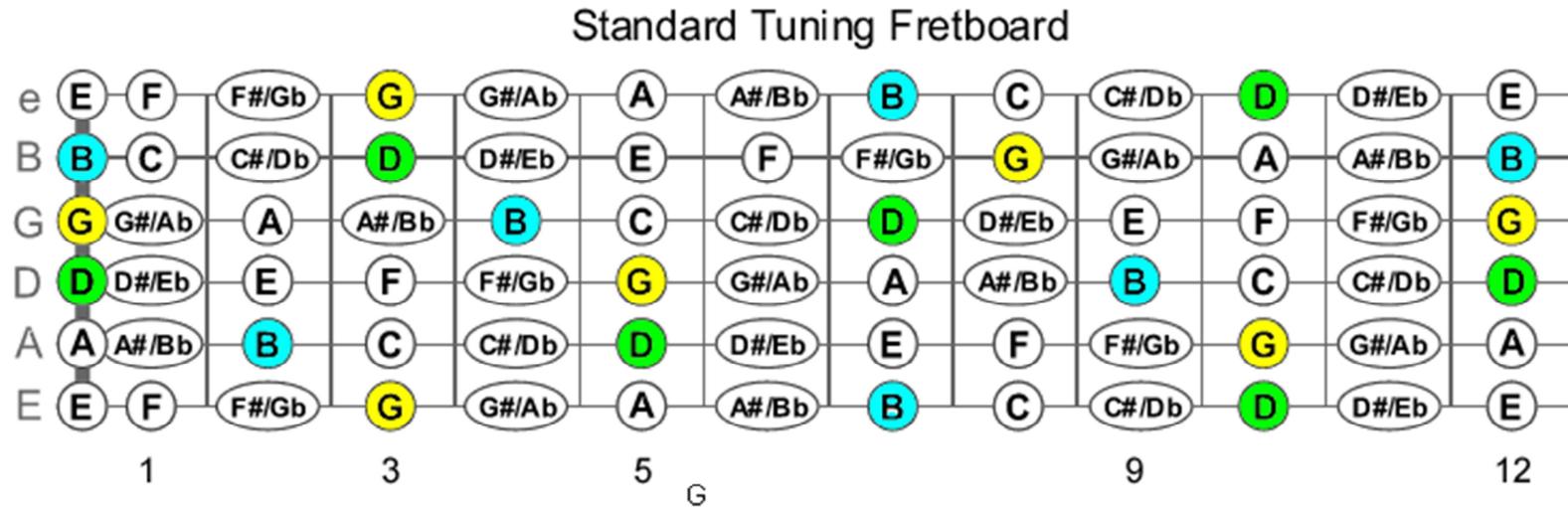
contains notes:

G - B - D

root note = G



Now we've added the B notes that are required to begin forming the G Major chord. Above you'll see that I have provided a chord diagram that shows the G Major chord in open position. The fingerings are optional, so for now you don't need to worry about those. We've ALMOST got all of our notes for the G Major chord. Now we just need to apply our D note to create the actual chord.



The G Major Chord

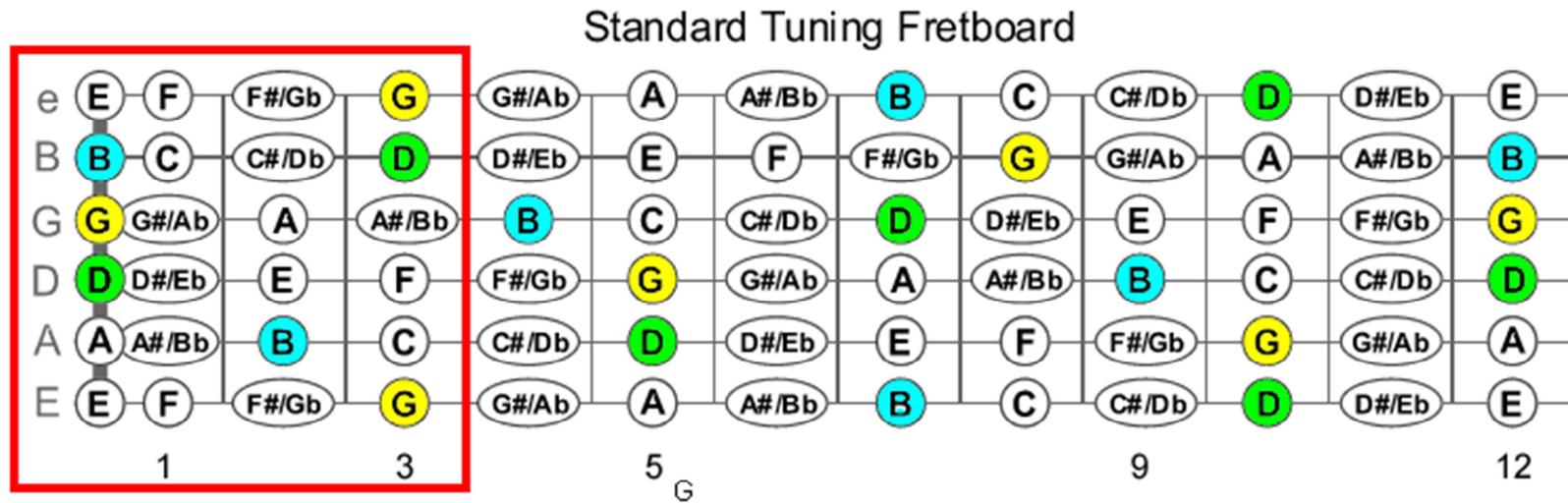
- = root
- = note
- = note

contains notes:
G - B - D
root note = G

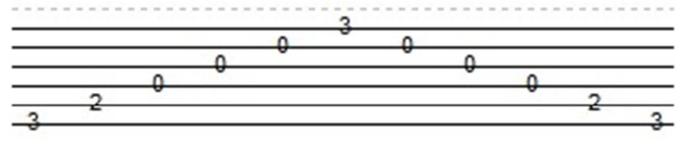
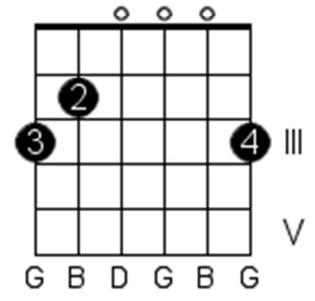
G B D G B G

Now you can see that all of the required notes for the G 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 G Major chord.



- The G Major Chord**
- = root
 - = note
 - = note
- contains notes:
G - B - D
root note = G



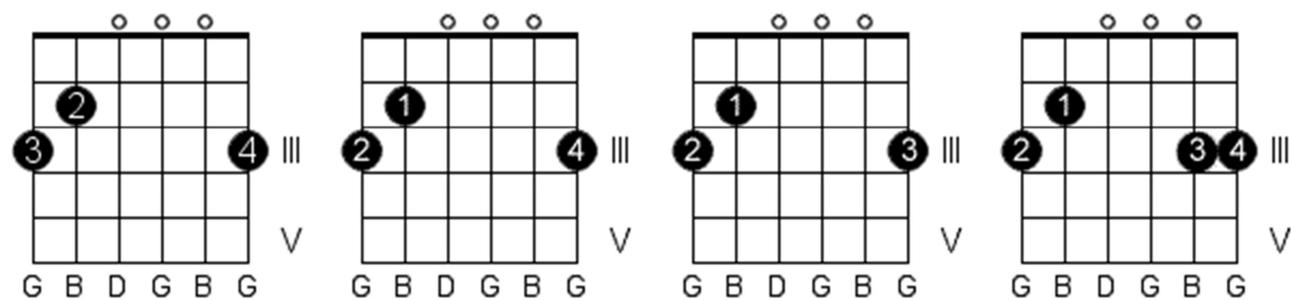
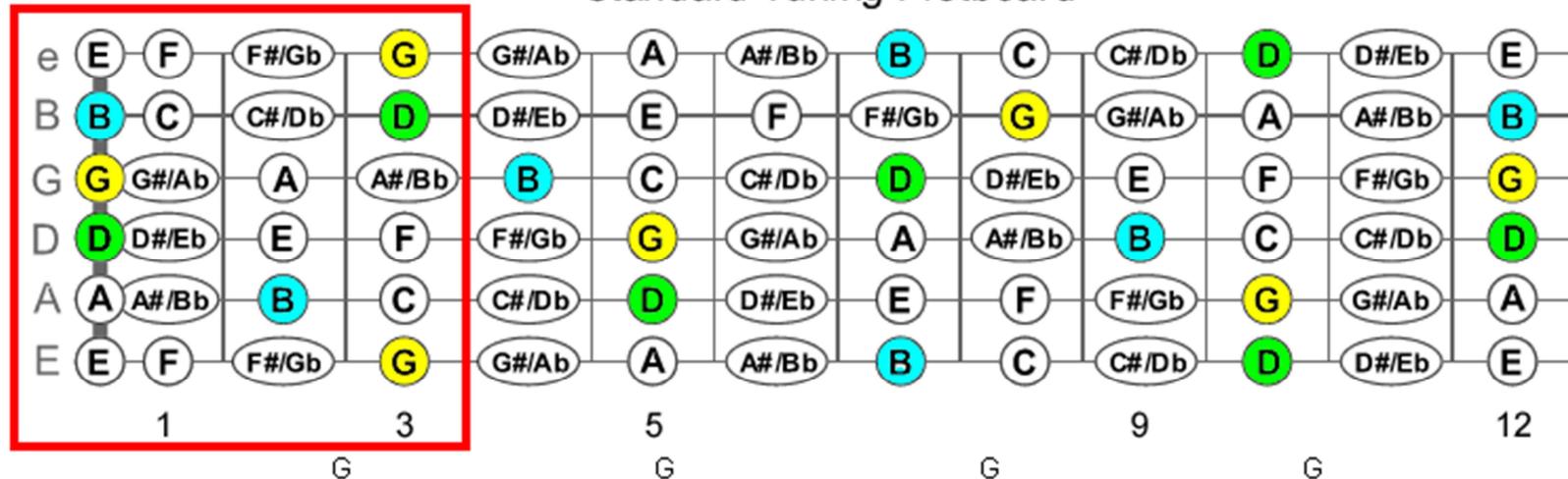
I've also included tablature to the side of the chord. This indicates all of the notes that can be played within this position JUST to form the G Major chord. Unlike the A Major chord, the G Major chord contains a large number of open strings, or at least using the chord diagram featured here. Because you've already seen how easy it is to find the notes on the fretboard, our focus will now shuffle towards various positions AS WELL as ways in which you can make the OPEN G chord sound a bit more full. In other words – in the case of G Major, we want to avoid TOO many open strings. Then it just sounds like one boring tone. Here's where we change everything up a little.

Boxed Variations Of The G Major Chord

I'm not big on repeating the same information over and over, or at least I don't THINK I am! That being said, here are all the logical positions that a G Major can be played in:

Because there are various ways in which you can (a) finger the G Major chord and (b) position the G Major chord, instead I will be providing you with boxed variations that feature possible chord fingering solutions.

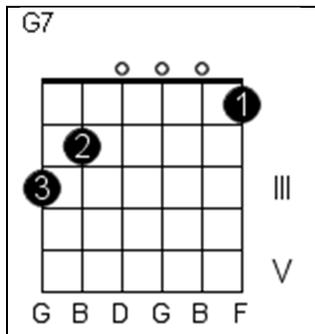
Standard Tuning Fretboard



● = root

Keep in mind that all of the chord diagrams you see are all featured within the first three frets of the red box. The only things that change are finger positions and added/removed notes. There isn't much to explain in this diagram. I just want you to see mainly that fingerings are relative to how you feel comfortable. Even if you aren't familiar with a G7 chord (G dominant 7) you will be as you approach this chord in time. However, I want to touch base on the G7 chord because it can be tricky to finger in quick chord changes.

Here's the G7 chord:

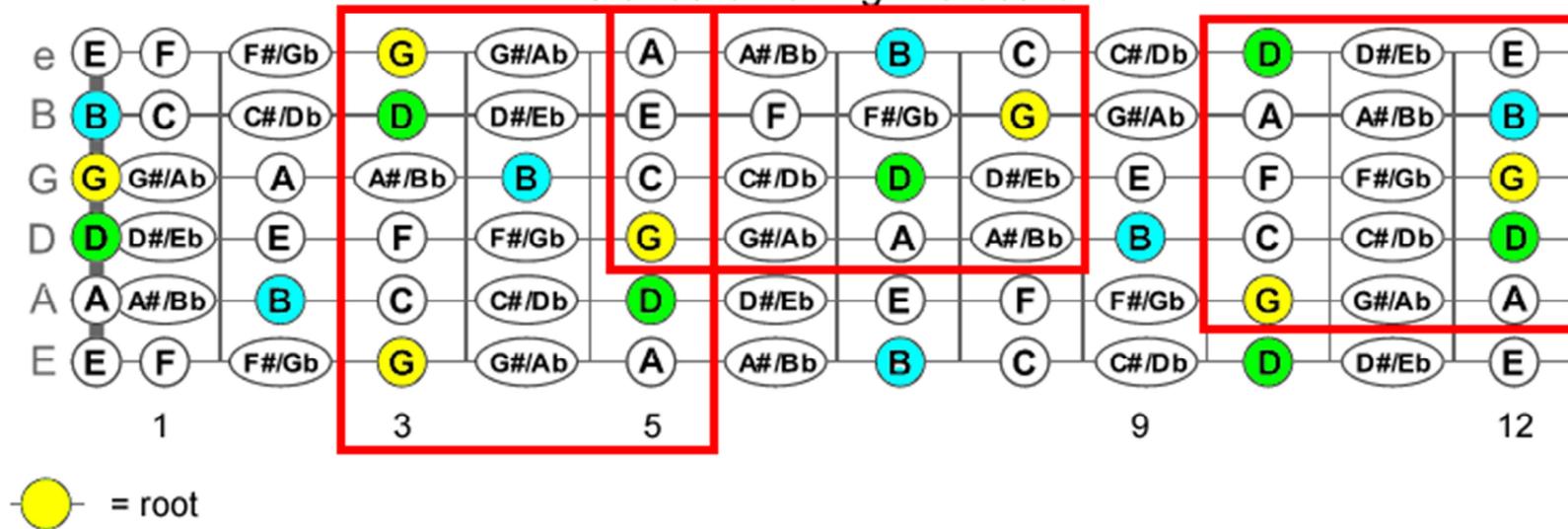
<p>G7</p> 	<p>For our purpose here, I just want you to glance at the G7 chord. Notice how the fingerings here, which should pretty much always be the way you play this chord, require you to use your 3rd finger on the Low E string, your 2nd finger on the A string, and your 1st finger on the High E string.</p> <p>Now look at the G Major chord options again. Do you see a chord formation that would be the easiest to use? The first one is the correct answer. Imagine playing a progression of G to G7 or vice versa. This formation would make it much easier. You CAN perform it in any way, but we don't want to tangle our fingers up too much.</p>
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All that aside, many times you'll have to glance at a chord progression to decipher logical finger arrangements for both chord that come before or after during a progression.

Now let's discover ALL of the possible combinations of the G Major chord as we did with the A Major chord.

This time, since you are familiar with the process, I'll just unfold the entire fretboard for you. Omitted is the open position because we've already discussed the combinations there.

Standard Tuning Fretboard



Please understand that 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-----7-----
 B-----8-----
 G-----7-----
 D-----9-----
 A-----10-----
 E-----x-----

Here the 10th fret note on the A string is the root. It's the lowest root available. Use it!

What About Using A Power Chord?

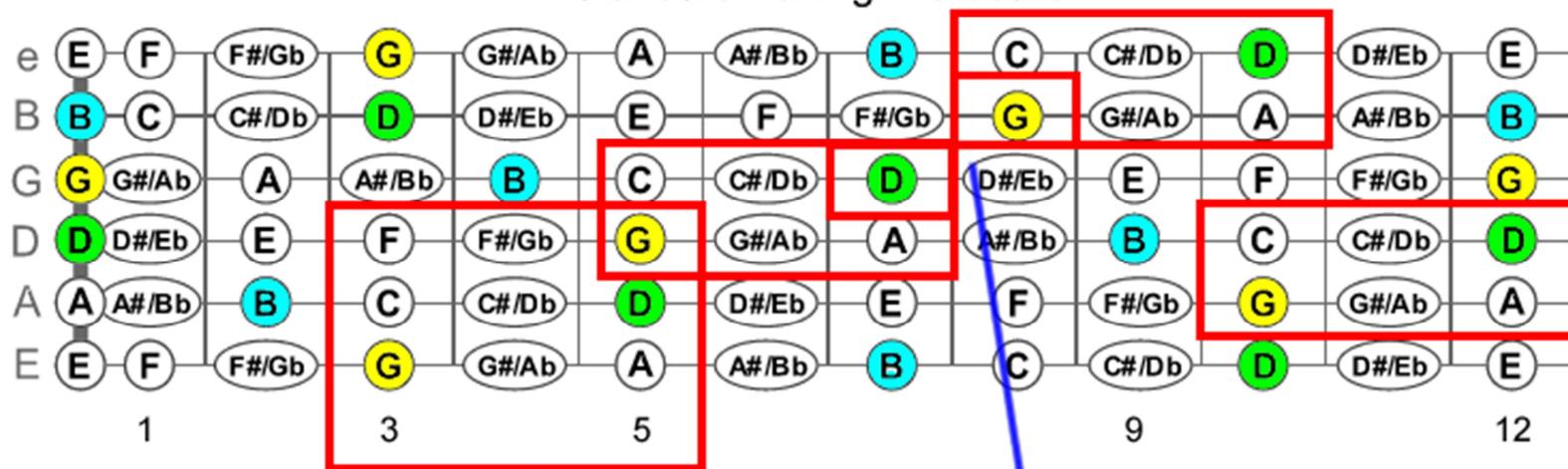
1. Find the note "G."
2. Search for the next note that appears ONE string HIGHER in pitch and is the FIFTH.

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

G	A	B	C	D
1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....	5

This time the fifth is D. (Noticing something yet? We need the notes G – B – D. D is the fifth interval.)

Standard Tuning Fretboard



 = root

If this is confusing, once you get to the exercises everything will be clearly laid out and much easier to follow.

The attached box indicates the (8) as discussed with the A5 chord.

In other words:

- E---x---
- B---8---
- G---7---
- D---5---

That's a bunch of boxed-in craziness isn't it? As you can see, I'm starting to unfold more and more options for you.

Exercises:

There are QUITE a few options here. The following are combinations that use the required notes.

G	G	G	G5
T			
A			
B			

Which variations did you like? _____

(G5)	(G5)	G5	(G5)
T			
A			
B			

Which variations did you like? _____

	G								G								G								G																
T	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
A	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Which variations did you like? _____