HOW TO USE THE CAGED SYSTEM TO PLAY A SOLO

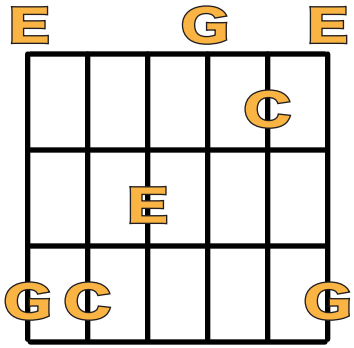
This PDF is a summary of this video: https://youtu.be/0Qp26KcDrGw

www.scottpauljohnson.com

THE BASIC SHAPES

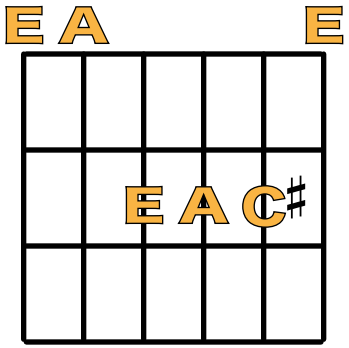
C chord

NOTES:
C
E
G



A chord

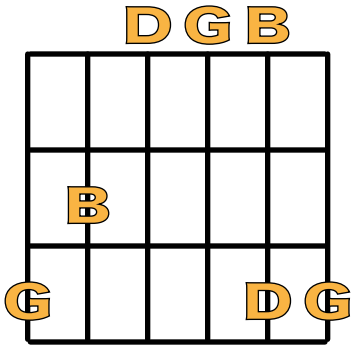
NOTES:
A
C#
E



All chords are made of individual notes. On guitar, the open chord shapes are the result of plotting out where those notes are.

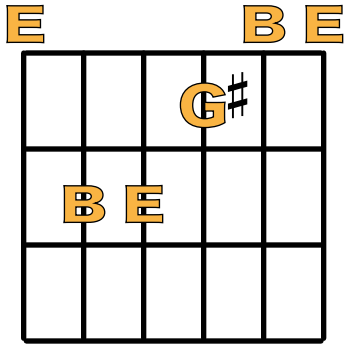
G chord

NOTES:
G
B
D



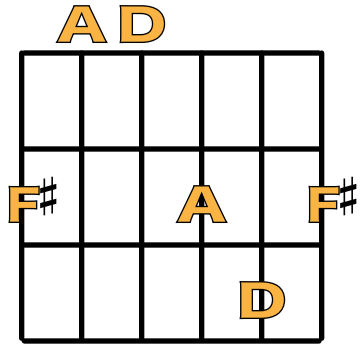
E chord

NOTES:
E
G#
B



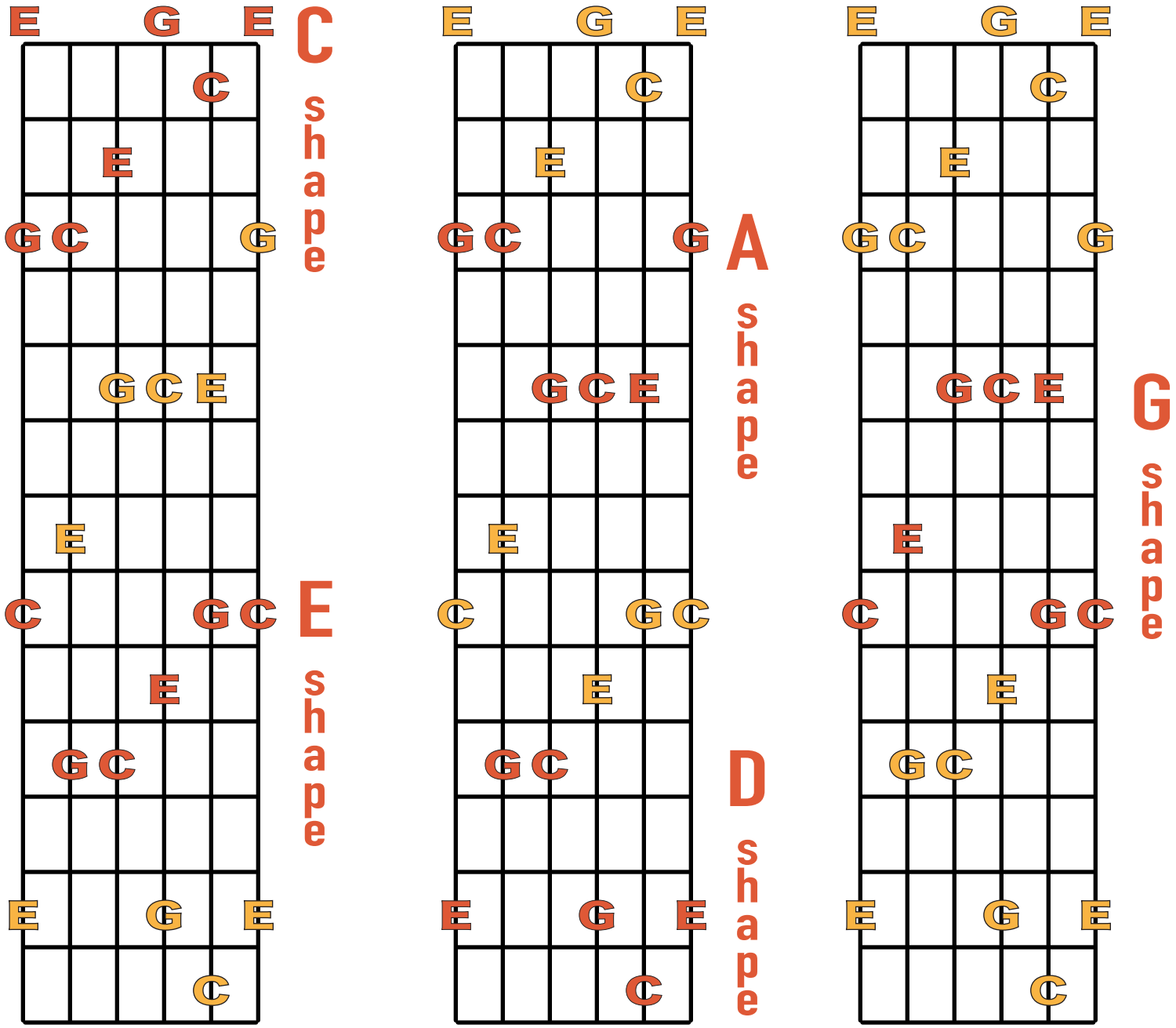
D chord

NOTES:
D
F#
A

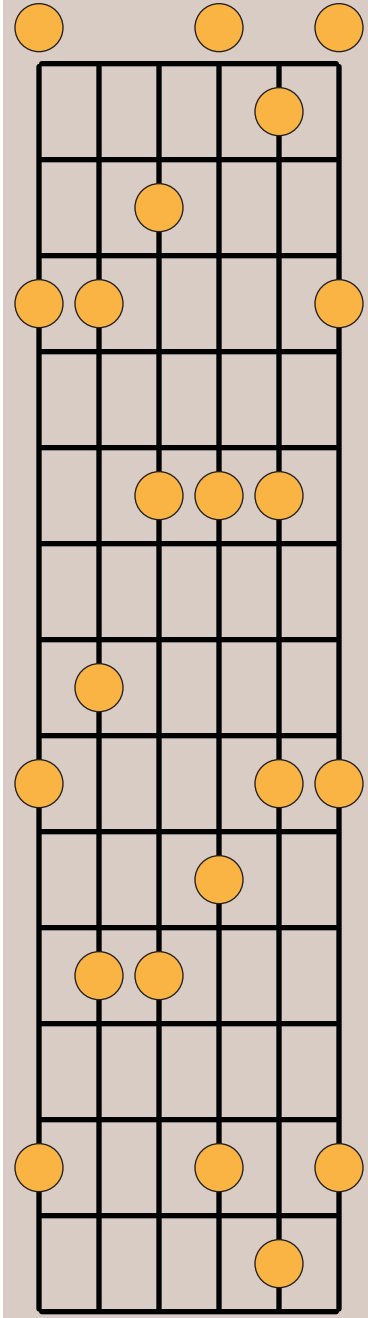


MAPPING OUT CHORDS UP THE NECK

C, A, G, E, and D shapes appear in order when you map out all the notes in a chord on every string



CAGED Pentatonic Scales

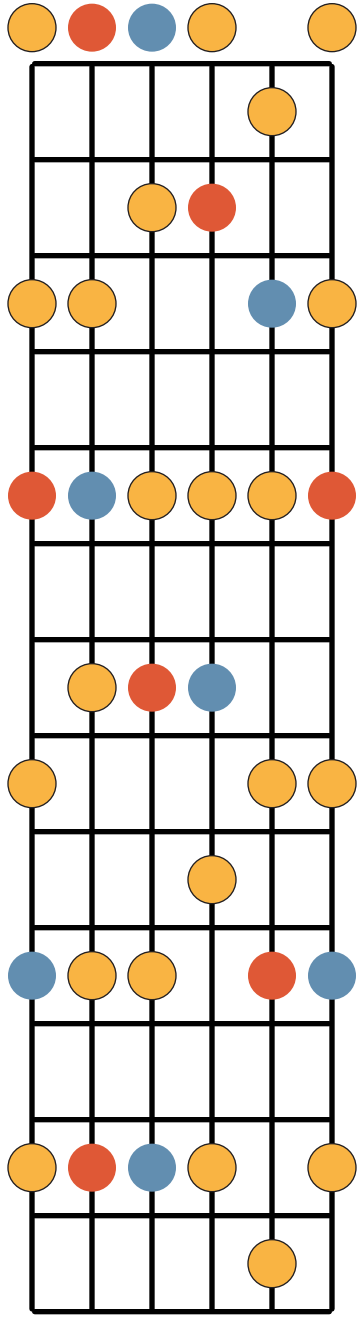


On the left are all the notes in a C Major chord as shown on the previous page. Note names have been replaced with dots.

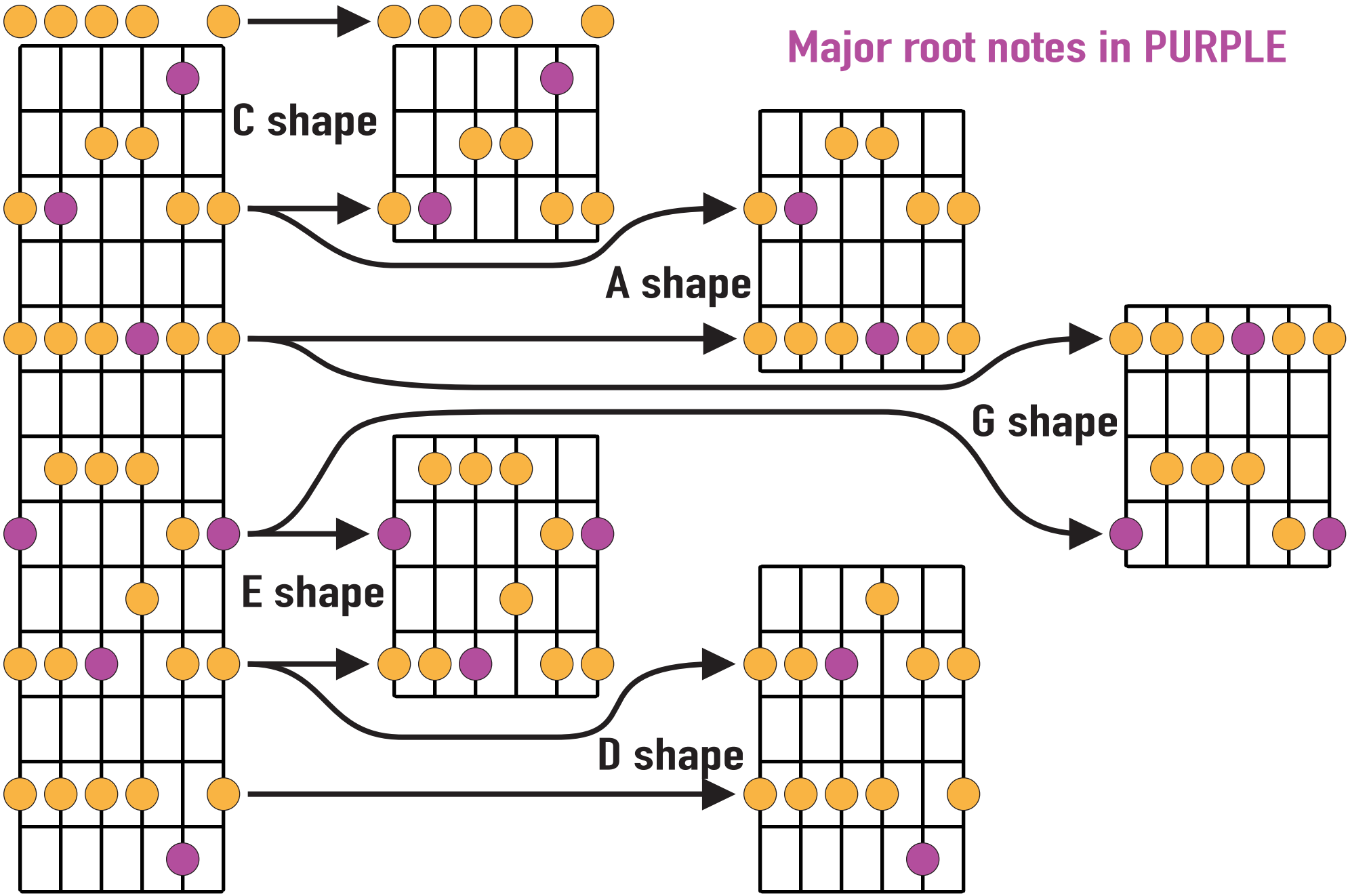
(Roots = C) (Thirds= E) (Fifths = G)

On the right, two notes have been added, converting a set of C chords into a set of C Major pentatonic scales. These are the five notes of a C Major pentatonic scale.

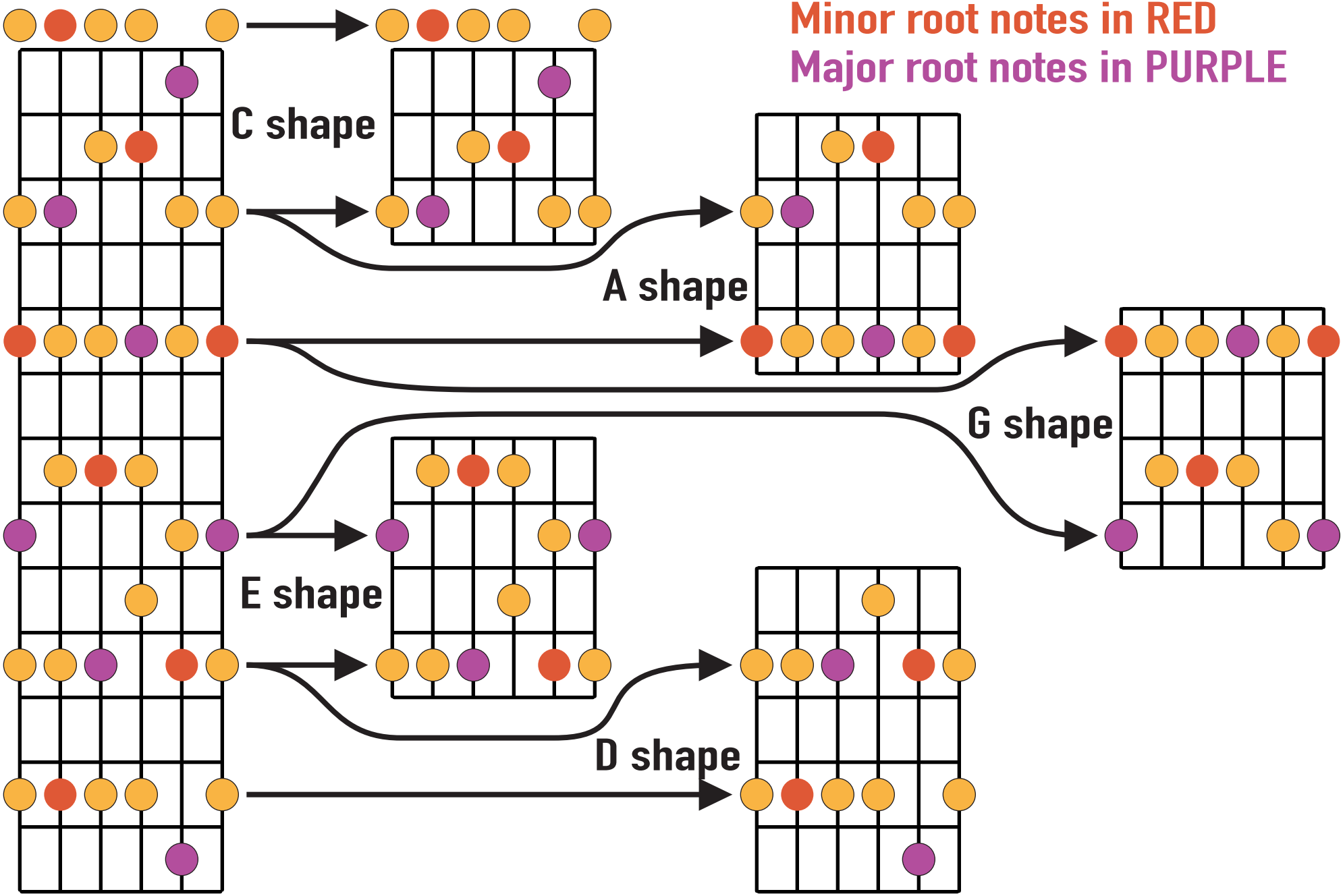
(1 = C) (2 = D) (3 = E) (4 = G) (5=A)



Major Pentatonic Root Notes



Minor Pentatonic Root Notes



PRACTICE

Print out the included "guitar note name scratch paper."

1.Circle all the names of the notes in a particular chord and notice the CAGED shapes up and down the neck.

2. Circle the root notes of a major or minor key you would like to practice. Then write in the appropriate scale shapes. Play the scales to confirm they sound like you might expect.

3. Circle just the root notes of a scale and try to visualize where to play the appropri–ate scale shape associated with that root note.

