

3-String CBG Chords For 1 5 1 Tuning

Only Three Strings But A Lot Of Options!

Chords are constructed from notes of the major scale. We may sharp them or flat them, but when we construct chords we refer to the notes of the major scale or “scale degrees.”

The Major Scale = 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1
W W H W W W H

Chord Definitions:

Major = 1 3 5

Minor = 1 b3 5

7th (dominant 7th) = 1 3 5 b7

Maj 7 = 1 3 5 7

Minor 7th = 1 b3 5 b7

9th = 1 3 5 7 9 (2)

Sus = 1 4 5

Dim = 1 b3 b5

Power Chord = 1 5

The 3 determines if the chord is major or minor

- ✓ 3 = major
- ✓ b3 = minor

The 7 determines if the chord is major 7 or dominant 7

- ✓ 7 = major 7
- ✓ b7 = dominant 7 (we call it just plain 7th)

Some chords are “movable” and some are not. If you can fret all three strings they are movable.

Figure 1: The Major Scale

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1

Tuning = E B E (1 5 1)

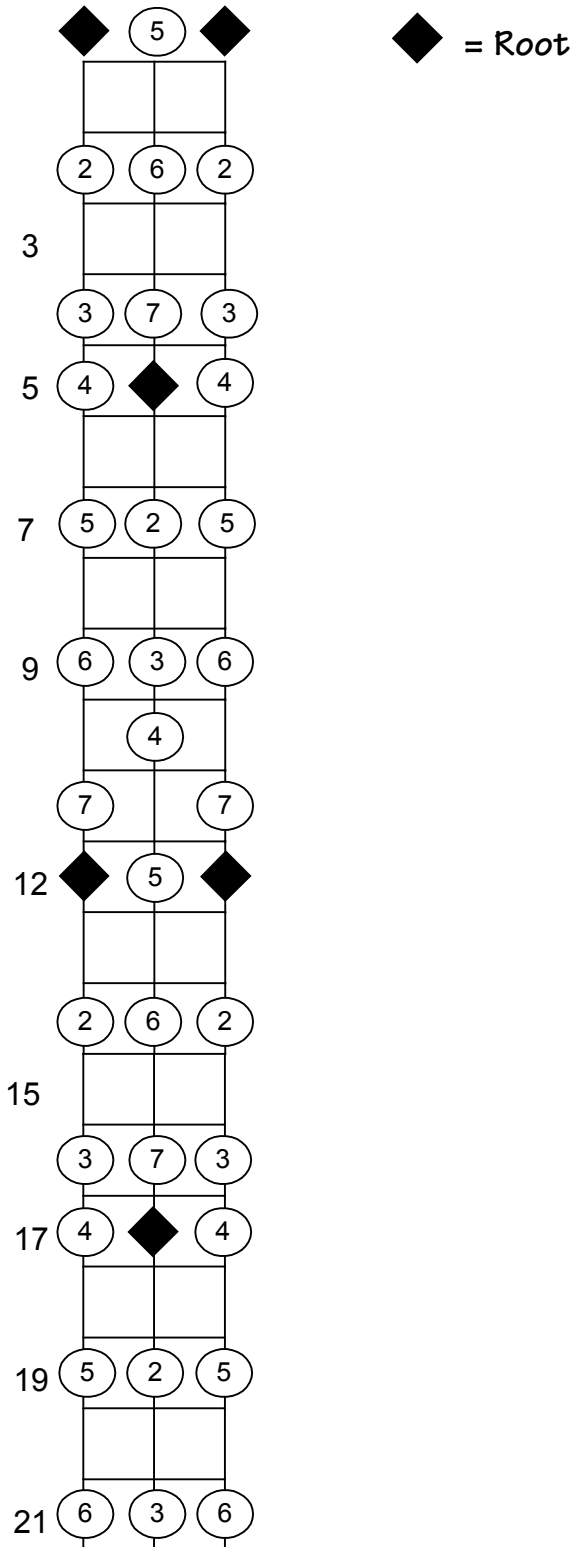


Figure 2: Power Chords

Power Chords can be used as Major or Minor Chords because there is no 3rd

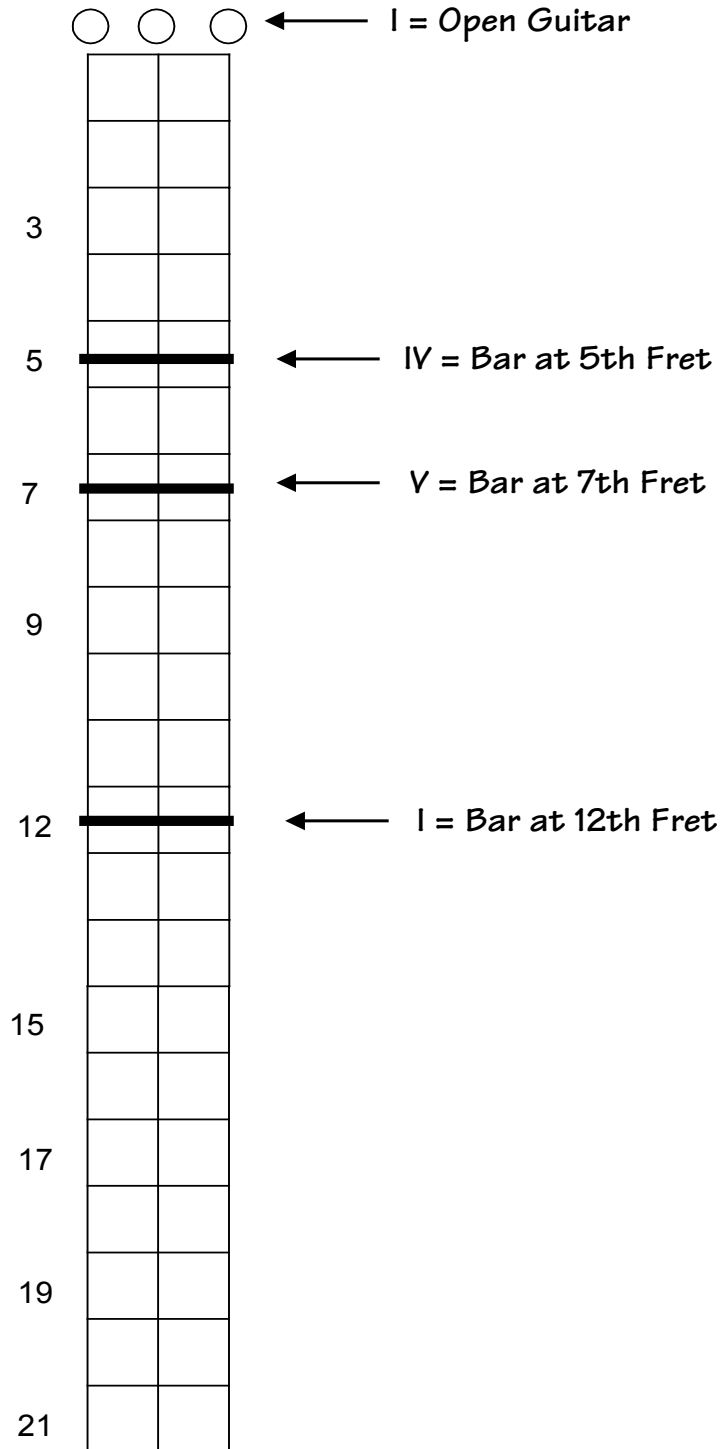
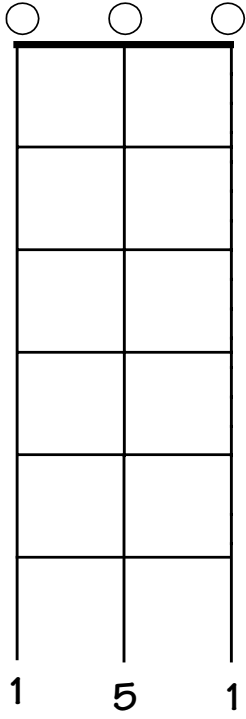
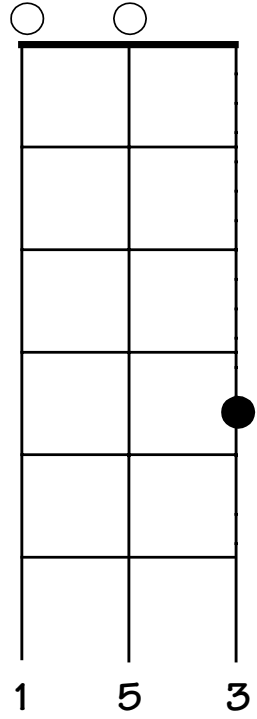


Figure 3: Chord Forms

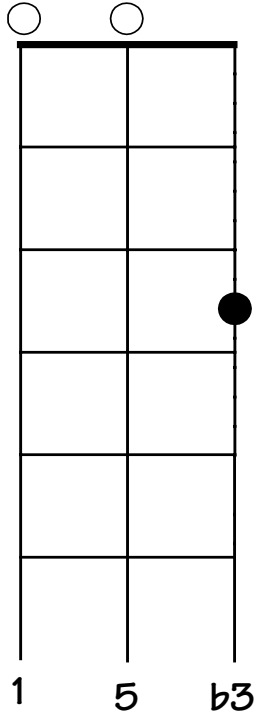
Power Chord



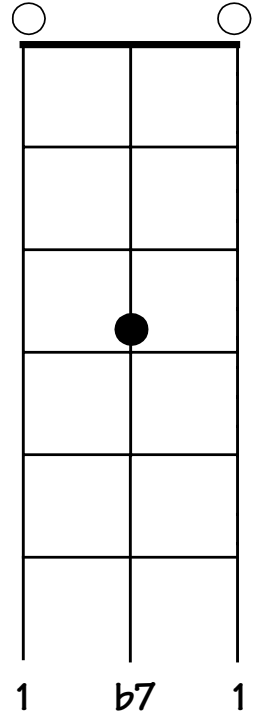
Major



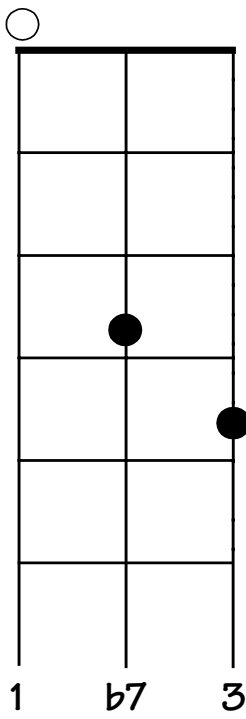
Minor



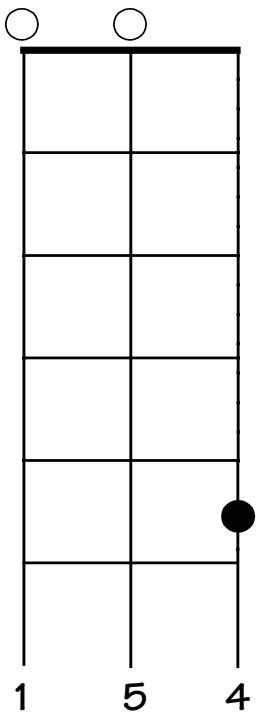
7th



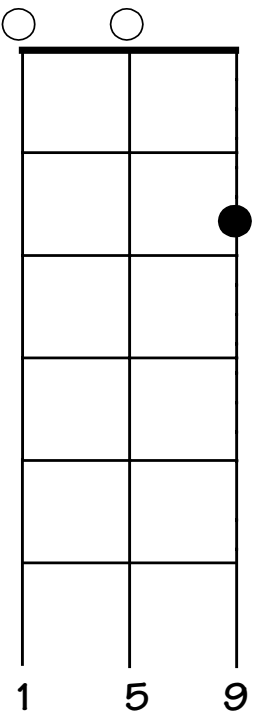
7th



sus



9th



Maj7

