

The

Power Chords

ebook

CHORD CHARTS

CONCEPTS

CHORD PROGRESSIONS

GUITAR-CHORD.ORG

The
Power Chord Chart
ebook

AN EBOOK FROM GUITAR-CHORD.ORG

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Introduction

About this ebook

This ebook gives you an extensive overview over power chords. There are several collections of chords presented with diagrams and also selections with chord progressions including important concepts.

How to read the chord charts

The charts are hopefully easy to follow without any further guidance, but the following information will explicate possible uncertainties.

Each diagram includes five frets, which is only a slight part of the guitar neck, but usually enough to illustrate chords. When a chord shape is beyond the first positions, a number on the left of the diagram marks the first fret in the diagram. The dots indicate positions on the fingerboard that the fingers should press down strings. X above the chart indicate that the string isn't played. The numbers below the chart are fingerings, see below. Still more guidance? See [a complete guide to how to read chord diagrams](#).

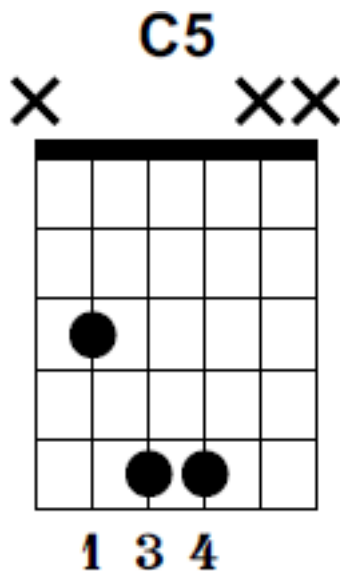


Fig 1. Diagram with C5 fingerings.

Fingerings

The numbers seen below the chord diagrams are suggestions for which fingers to use.

- 1 = index finger
- 2 = middle finger
- 3 = ring finger
- 4 = little finger

There are situations in which different fingerings can be preferred by different players. These are the most typical options for power chords:

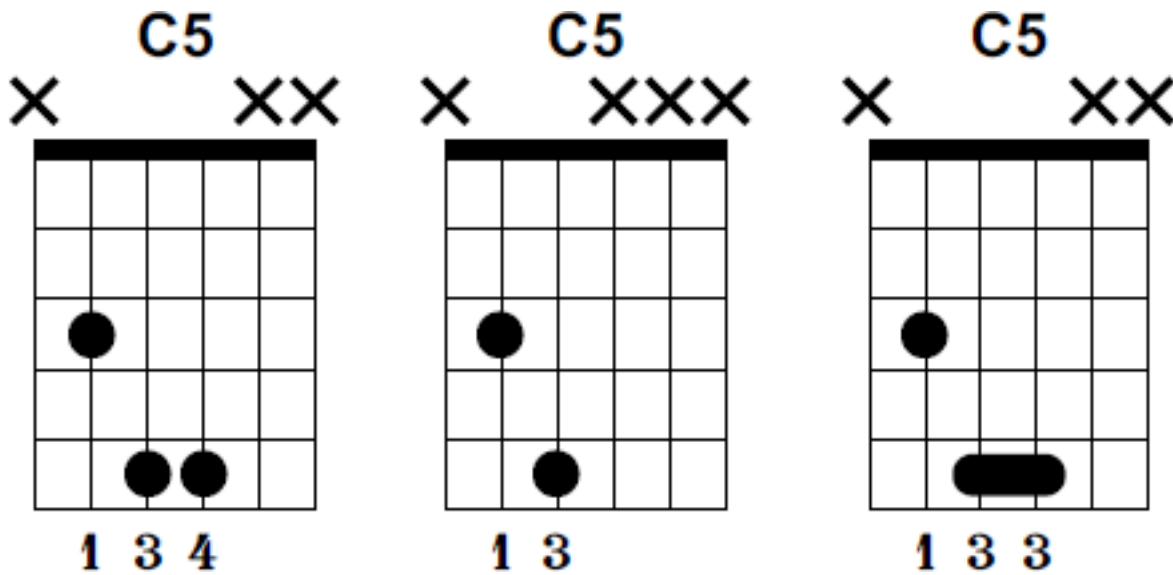


Fig 2. Diagrams with various power chords fingerings.

The only difference between the first and second fingerings are that the root note is doubled one octave higher in the first case. The third option shows the ring finger bar two strings.

Accidentals

The # (sharp) symbol and the of b (flat) ditto are interchangeable as can be seen in the following list:

C# = Db

D# = Eb

F# = Gb

G# = Ab

A# = Bb

Notes

Here is an overview with the tones in each power chord.

C5: C - G

C#5: C# G#

D5: D - A

D#5: D# - A#

E5: E - B

F5: F - C

F#5: F# - C#

G5: G - D

G#5: G# D#

A5: A - E

A#5: A# - F

B5: B - F#

Thus, a power chord includes only two tones. But, as touched above, one or both tones are sometimes doubled.

Get to know power chords

Power chords consists of the root and the fifth in the scale, which makes it to a two-note chord. Therefore, the power chords are named with a five, such as C₅ and D₅. The power chords are frequently used in music styles such as rock, metal and punk rock. Yet simple to play, they deliver a full and intensive sound. And the best result is given when you're plugged in with an electric guitar to an amplifier with distortion. Also, using palm muting will bring a cool sound.

Learning power chords

Power chords are among the simplest chords. Since they only consist of two notes and can be played with movable shapes, your mental hard drive won't be filled up with this information.

There are, however, reasons to learn the open chord versions of chords such as A₅, D₅ and D₅, all central in blues and rock.

Construction of a power chord

As said, the power chords are movable, and the illustration below shows how the open E₅ chord becomes a closed F₅ chord which can be move up the fingerboard. Moving the whole F₅ shape shown below one fret up will accordingly create a F#₅ chord.

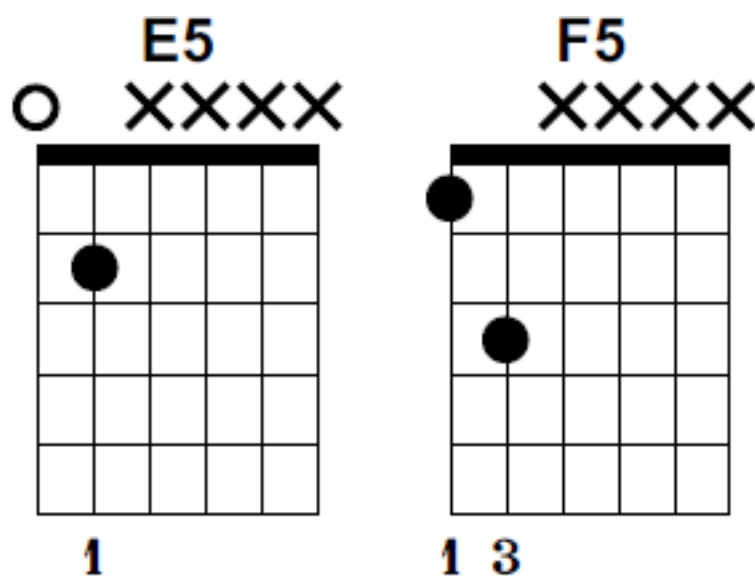


Fig 3. Diagrams with open and closed position.

The same is true for power chords with the root on the fifth string.

Root notes

The root notes in typical power chords are either on the sixth or the fifth string and coincide with the bass note.

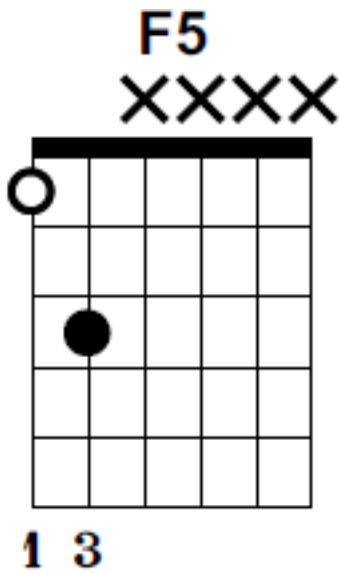


Fig 4. The ring marks the root note.

The diagram above shows a F5 chord with the root note (F) on the first fret, sixth string. By knowing the root note and its position in the chord shape, you will also know where to play the chord (given you have knowledge of the notes placements on the fretboard).

It is recommended that you primarily learn the most common power chord shape with the root notes on the 5th and 6th strings respectively.

Power chords and fret numbers

At this stage, we know that power chords are movable and based on open chord shapes. This means that you can use a few shapes all over the fretboard, resulting in various chords depending on which fret the root note is on. The table helps you find the common major chords with two barre types over the neck.

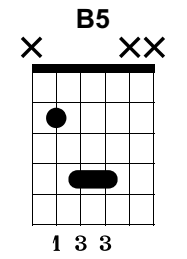
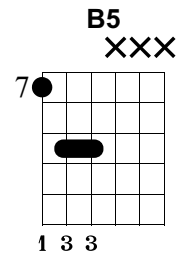
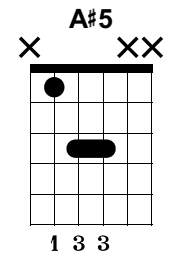
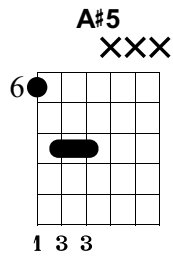
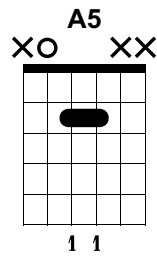
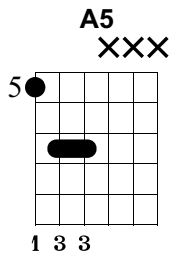
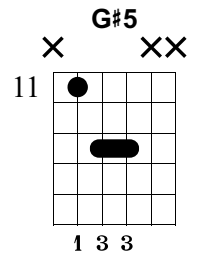
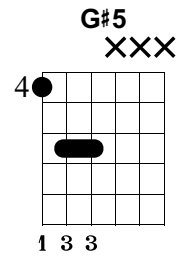
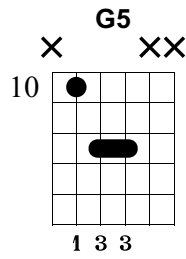
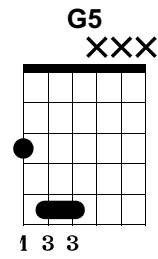
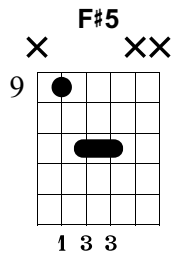
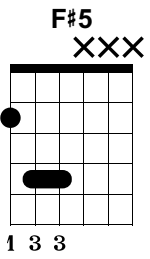
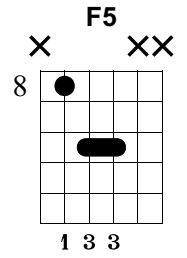
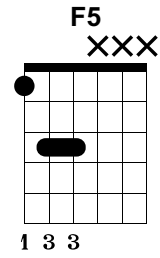
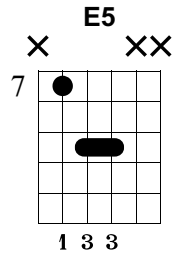
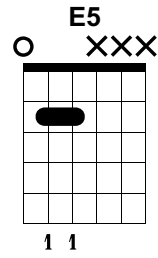
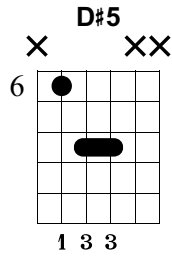
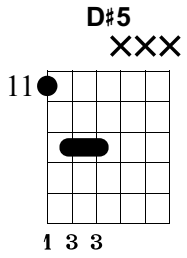
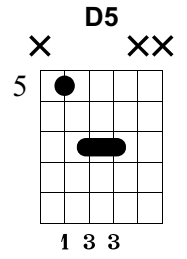
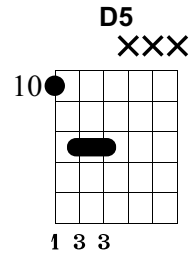
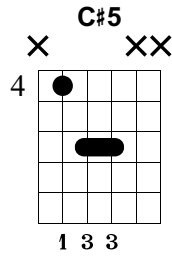
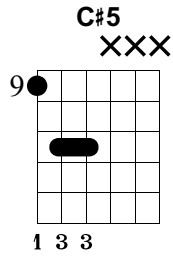
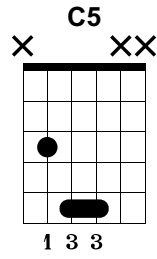
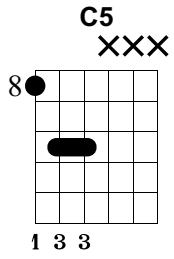
Root note on this fret	Root note on this string	And you get this chord
1	6	F5
2	6	F#5 / Gb5
3	6	G5
4	6	G#5 / Ab5
5	6	A5
6	6	A#5 / Bb5
7	6	B5
8	6	C5
9	6	C#5 / Db5
10	6	D5
11	6	D#5 / Eb5
12	6	E5
1	5	A#5 / Bb5
2	5	B5
3	5	C5
4	5	C#5 / Db5
5	5	D5
6	5	D#5 / Eb5
7	5	E5

8	5	F5
9	5	F#5 / Gb5
10	5	G5
11	5	G#5 / Ab5
12	5	A5

Sure, the guitar fretboard contains more than twelve frets, but after fret twelve it all repeats again. The 13th fret will repeat the 1st fret, the 14th fret will repeat the 2nd fret and so on.

POWER CHORDS ESSENTIAL SHAPES

Chord chart overview I
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POWER CHORDS MORE SHAPES

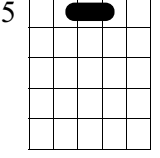
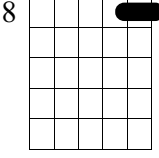
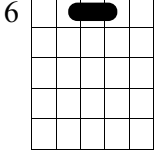
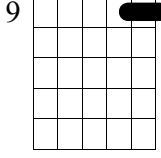
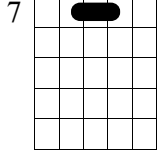
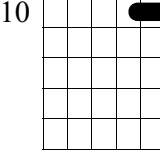
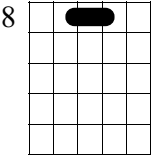
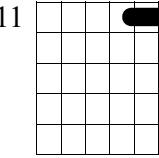
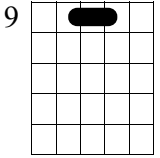
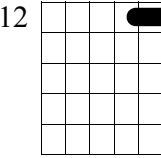
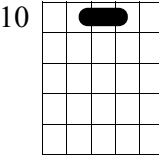
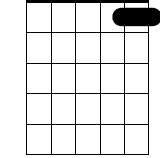
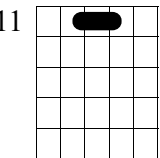
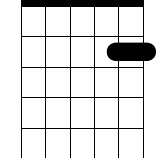
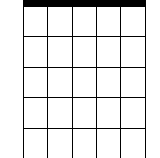
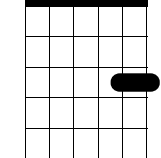
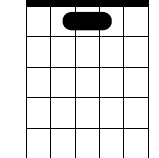
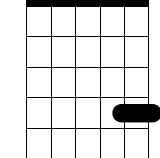
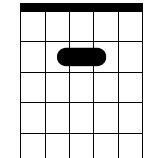
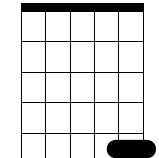
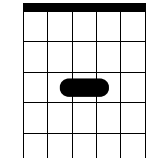
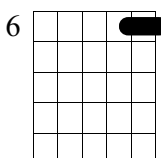
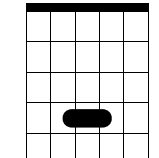
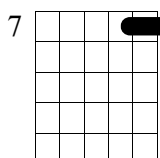
Chord chart overview II
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<p>D#5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>D#5 XXX</p> <p>8</p> <p>1 4 4</p>	<p>E5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>E5 XXX</p> <p>9</p> <p>1 4 4</p>	<p>F5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>F5 XXX</p> <p>10</p> <p>1 4 4</p>
<p>F#5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>F#5 XXX</p> <p>11</p> <p>1 4 4</p>	<p>G5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>G5 XXXO</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>G#5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>G#5 XXX</p> <p>1 4 4</p>
<p>A5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>A5 XXX</p> <p>1 4 4</p>	<p>A#5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>A#5 XXX</p> <p>1 4 4</p>	<p>B5 XX X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>B5 XXX</p> <p>1 4 4</p>

POWER CHORDS SHAPES (INVERSIONS)

Chord chart overview III

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<p>C5/G XX XX</p>  <p>5</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>C5/G XXXX</p>  <p>8</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>C#5/G# XX XX</p>  <p>6</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>C#5/G# XXXX</p>  <p>9</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>D5/A XX XX</p>  <p>7</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>D5/A XXXX</p>  <p>10</p> <p>1 1</p>
<p>D#5/A# XX XX</p>  <p>8</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>D#5/A# XXXX</p>  <p>11</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>E5/B XX XX</p>  <p>9</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>E5/B XXXX</p>  <p>12</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>F5/C XX XX</p>  <p>10</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>F5/C XXXX</p>  <p>13</p> <p>1 1</p>
<p>F#5/C# XX XX</p>  <p>11</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>F#5/C# XXXX</p>  <p>14</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>G5/D XXOXX</p>  <p>12</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>G5/D XXXX</p>  <p>15</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>G#5/D# XX XX</p>  <p>13</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>G#5/D# XXXX</p>  <p>16</p> <p>1 1</p>
<p>A5/E XX XX</p>  <p>12</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>A5/E XXXX</p>  <p>15</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>A#5/F XX XX</p>  <p>13</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>A#5/F XXXX</p>  <p>16</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>B5/F# XX XX</p>  <p>14</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>B5/F# XXXX</p>  <p>17</p> <p>1 1</p>

POWER CHORDS SHAPES (OPEN POSITIONS)

Chord chart overview IV

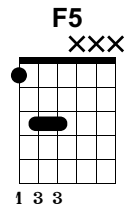
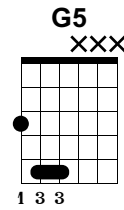
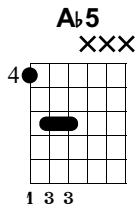
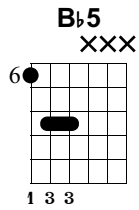
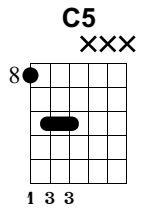
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<p>C5 X XO X</p> <p>3 1</p>	<p>C5/G XXXO</p> <p>1 3</p>	<p>D5 XXO XX</p> <p>1</p>	<p>D5 XXO X</p> <p>1 2</p>	<p>D5 XXO</p> <p>1 2 4</p>	<p>D5/A XOO XX</p> <p>1</p>
<p>D5/A XOO X</p> <p>1 2</p>	<p>E5 O XXXO</p> <p>1</p>	<p>E5 O XXX</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>E5 O XOO</p> <p>1 2</p>	<p>E5 O O O O</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>E5/B X O O O</p> <p>1 2 4</p>
<p>G5 XOO X</p> <p>1 2</p>	<p>G5 XOO</p> <p>1 2 3</p>	<p>G5/D XXOO</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>A5 XO XXX</p> <p>1</p>	<p>A5 XO XX</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>A5 XO XX</p> <p>1 3</p>
<p>A5/E OO XXX</p> <p>1</p>	<p>A5/E OO XX</p> <p>1 1</p>	<p>A5/E OO O</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>B5 XXXXO</p> <p>1</p>	<p>B5 X O X</p> <p>1 3 4</p>	<p>B5/F# XX O X</p> <p>1 2</p>

MISCELLANEOUS POWER CHORD PROGRESSIONS

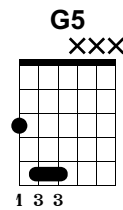
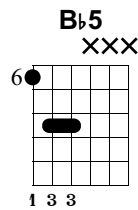
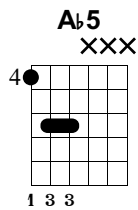
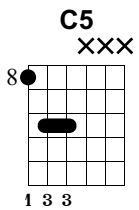
Hard Rock Style

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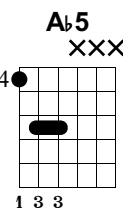
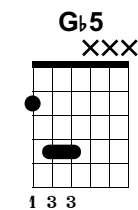
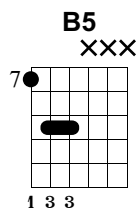
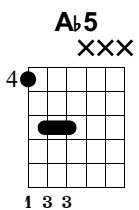
1 2 3 4 5

T				
A	10	8	6	5
B	10	8	6	3
	8	6	4	3



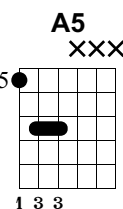
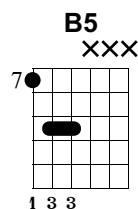
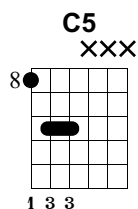
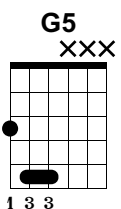
6 7 8 9

T			
A	10	6	8
B	10	6	5
	8	4	6



10 11 12 13

T			
A	6	9	4
B	6	9	4
	4	7	2



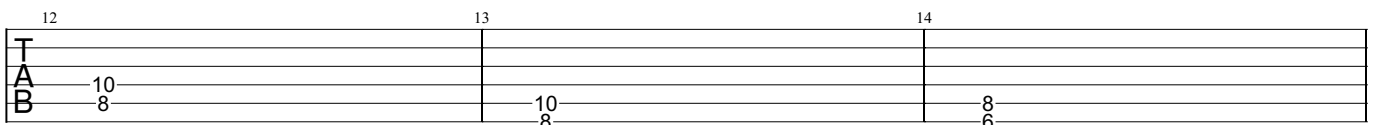
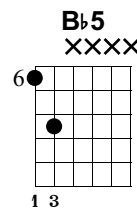
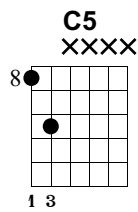
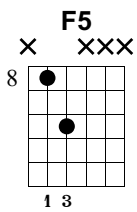
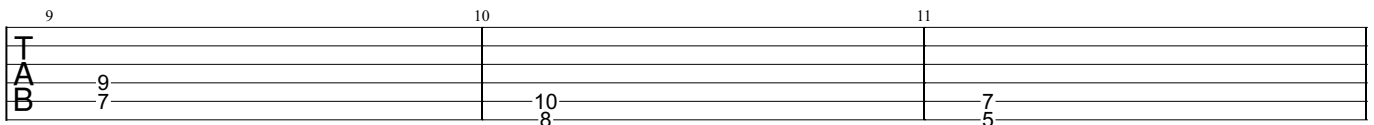
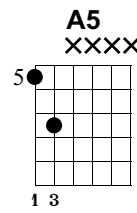
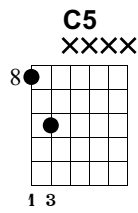
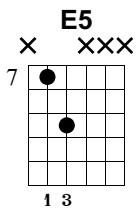
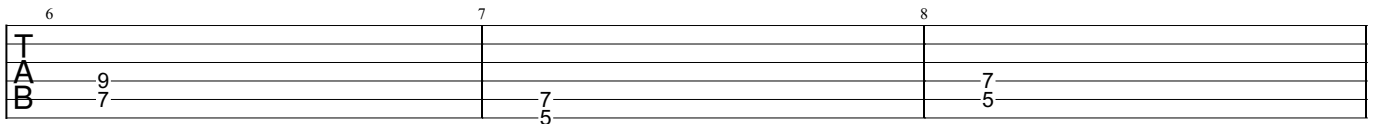
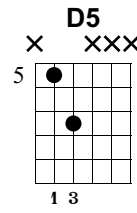
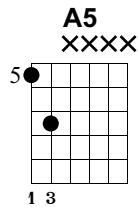
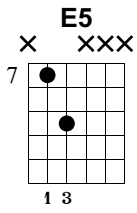
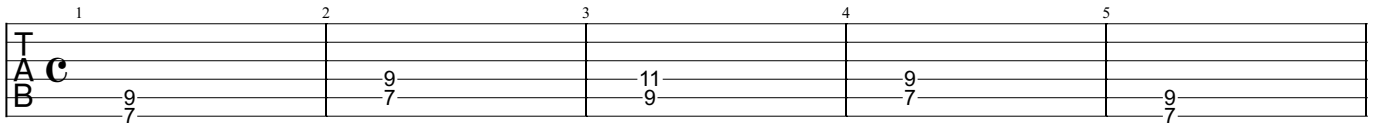
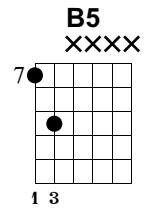
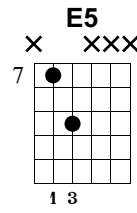
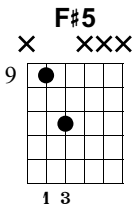
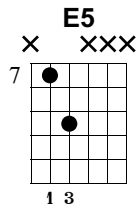
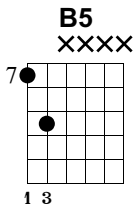
14 15 16 17

T			
A	5	10	9
B	5	10	9
	3	8	7

MISCELLANEOUS POWER CHORD PROGRESSIONS

Punk Rock Style

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C5
XXXXX

8
1 3

E♭5
XXXXX

11
1 3

A♭5
XXXXX

4
1 3

B♭5
XXXXX

6
1 3

15	16	17	18
T			
A			
B	10 8	13 11	6 4

A5
XXXXX

5
1 3

F5
X XXXX

8
1 3

C5
XXXXX

8
1 3

G5
XXXXX

8
1 3

19	20	21	22
T			
A			
B	7 5	10 8	10 8

B5
XXXXX

7
1 3

E5
X XXXX

7
1 3

F♯5
X XXXX

9
1 3

E5
X XXXX

7
1 3

23	24	25	26
T			
A			
B	9 7	9 7	11 9

G5
XXXXX

8
1 3

D5
X XXXX

5
1 3

E5
X XXXX

7
1 3

C5
XXXXX

8
1 3

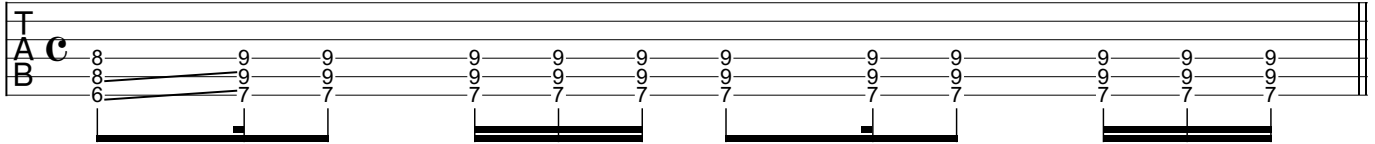
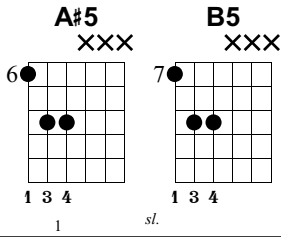
27	28	29	30
T			
A			
B	5 3	7 5	9 7

POWER CHORDS PLAYING CONCEPTS

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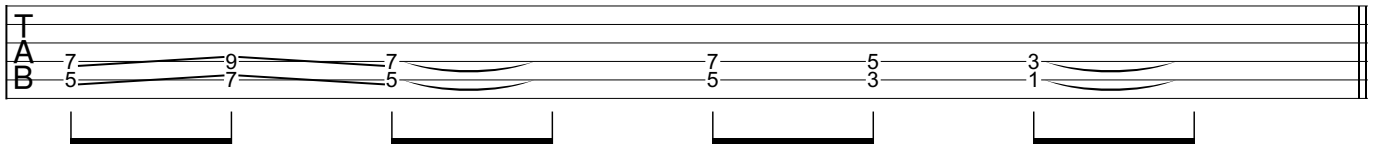
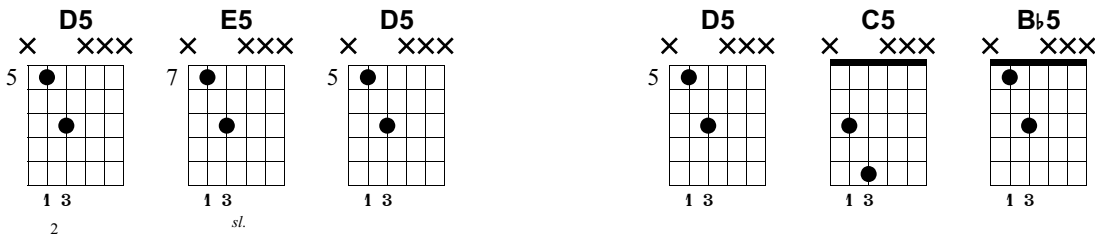
Audio track 1

Concept 1: slide into chord. An easy way to create variation and a characteristic feature in some Ramones songs.



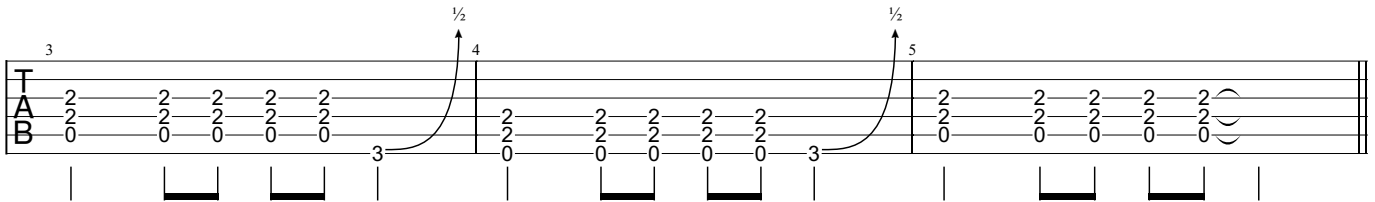
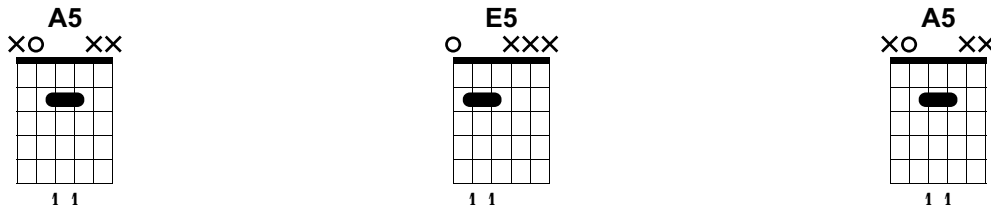
Audio track 2

Another chord progression involving the slide concept.



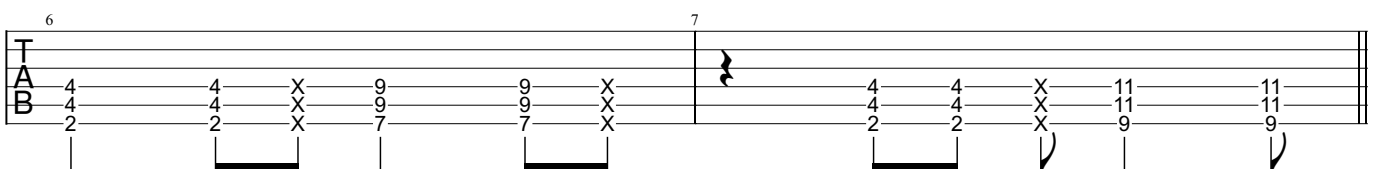
Audio track 3

Concept 2: open chords and one note bend in between. Another way to create variation à la AC/DC.



Audio track 4

Concept 3: muting of strings between chords. An effective way to create cool effects.



Audio track 5

Concept 4: bass line with alternative bass note. Inspired by "Highway to Hell".

A5
XO XX

1 1

G5/F#
XOO X

1 2

G5
XOO X

1 2

8

9

Audio track 6

Concept 5: slide on the second note in chord with open low E as pedal point.

A5
XXXX

1 3

10 *sl.*

B5
XXXX

1 3

11 *sl.*

A5
XXXX

1 3

12 *sl.*

Audio track 7

Concept 6: power chord in combination single notes.

F#5
XXXX

1 3

11

A5
XO XXX

1

12

E5
O XXXXX

1

Audio track 8

Concept 7: power chord in combination with hammer-ons.

E5
X XXX

7

1 3

D5
X XXX

5

1 3

13 H H

14 H H

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you can reach the creator of this ebook on info@guitar-chord.org*

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