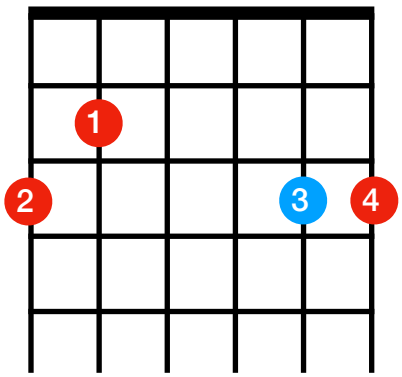
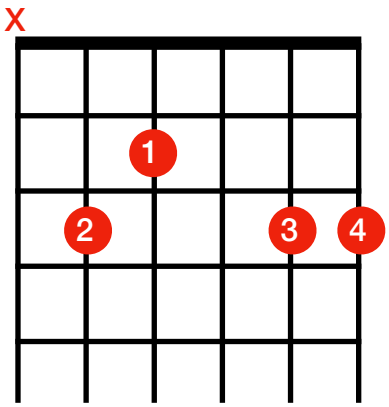
“Cheater” Chords (Or, How All Real Guitar Players Play Their Chords)

Red circles must be played; blue circles are optional. “X” shows which stings(s) to mute.

Key of G:

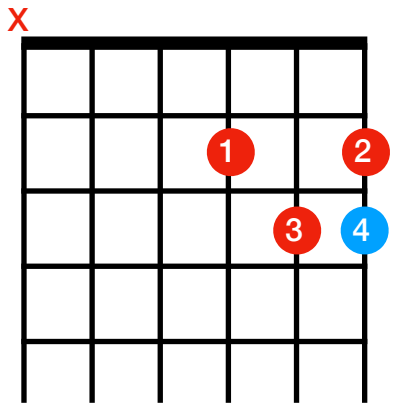


1 - G



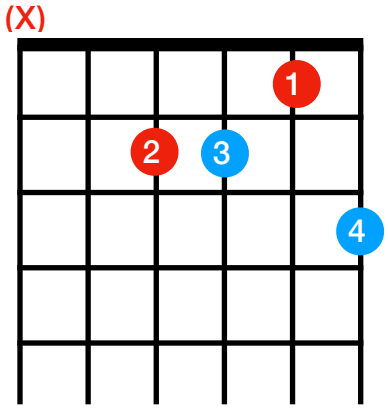
4 - C

(Usually played C2)



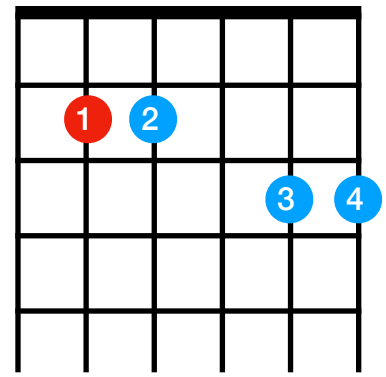
5 - D

(Often played Dsus)



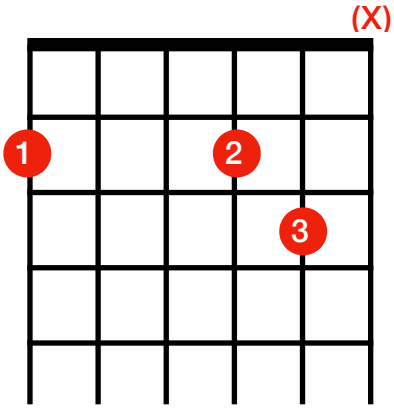
2 - Am

(Often played Am7)



6 - Em

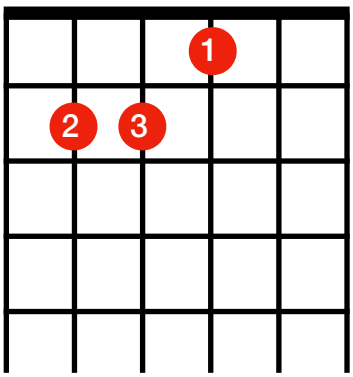
(Usually played Em7)



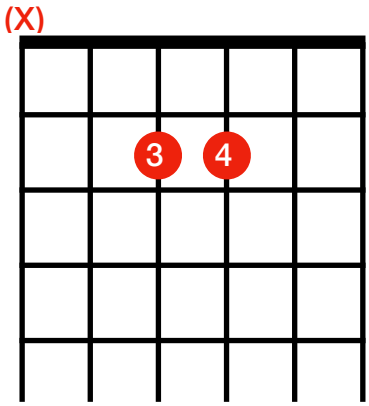
7 - D/F#

(Either mute the top string or let it ring for a D2/F#)

Key of E:

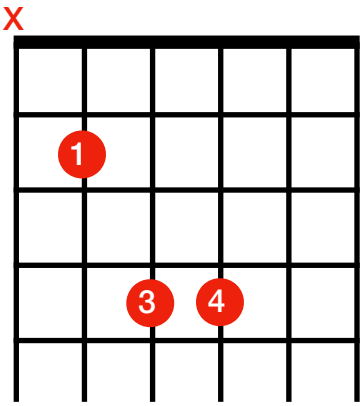


1 - E



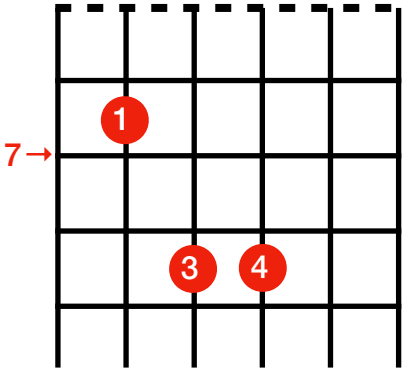
4 - A

(A2)



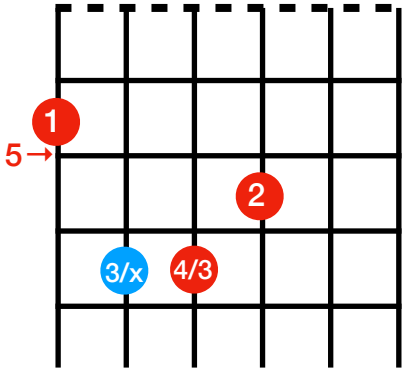
5 - B

(Bsus)



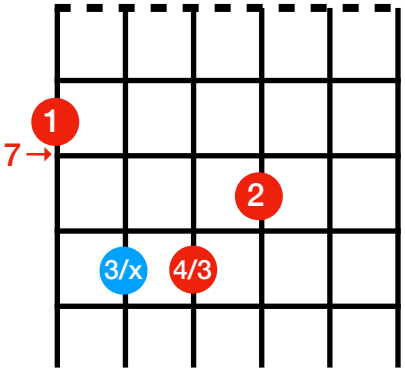
1 - E

(Actually an E5)



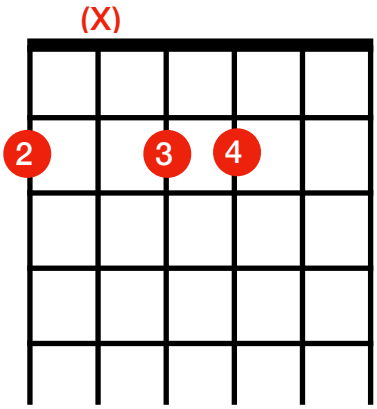
4 - A

(A2)



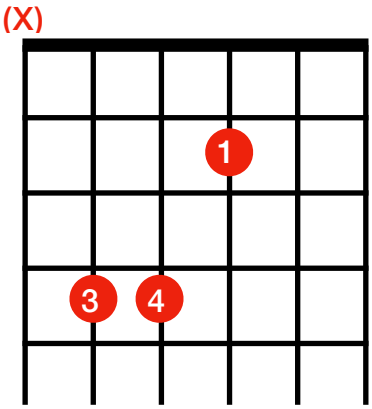
5 - B

(Bsus)



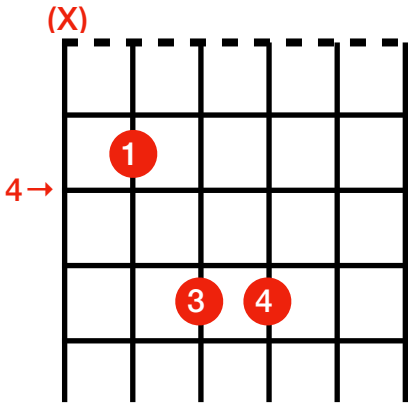
2 - F#m

(F#m7add4)



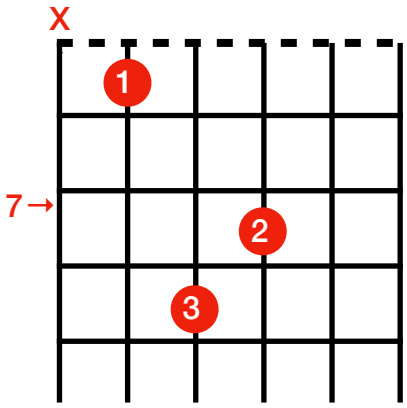
2 - F#m

(F#m7add4/C#)



6 - C#m

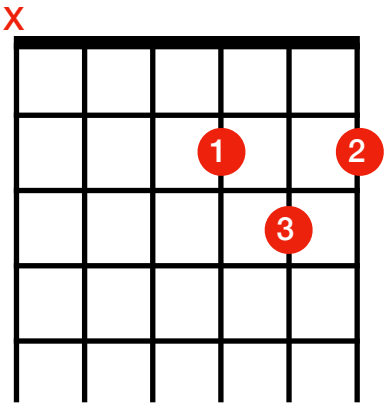
(C#m7)



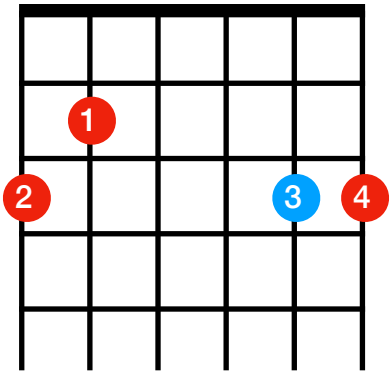
7 - B/D#

(Bsus/D#)

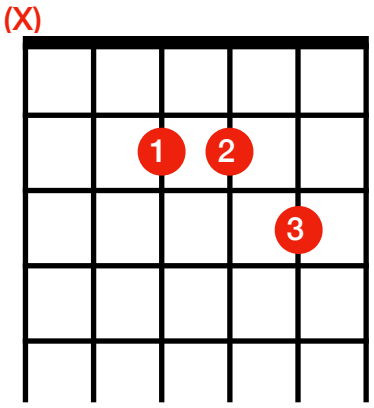
Key of D:



1 - D

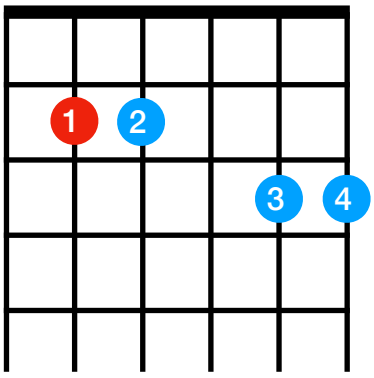


4 - G



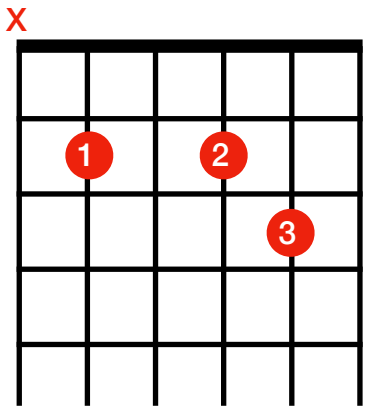
5 - A

(Usually played Asus)



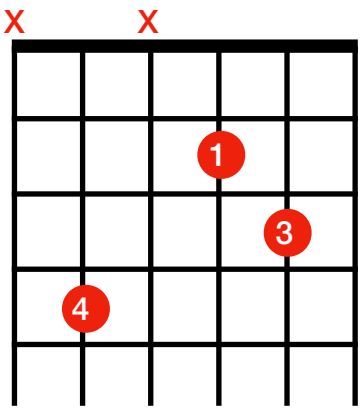
2 - Em

(Often played Em7)



6 - Bm

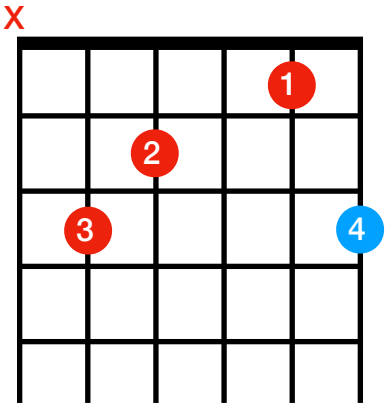
(Usually played Bm7add4)



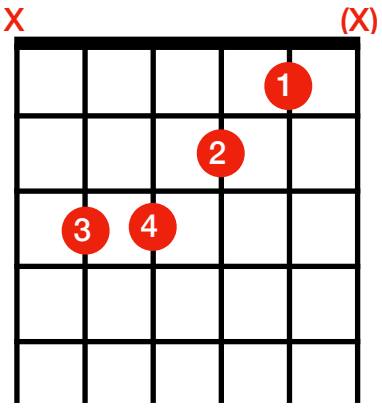
7 - D/C#

(Either a D2/C# or Asus/C#)

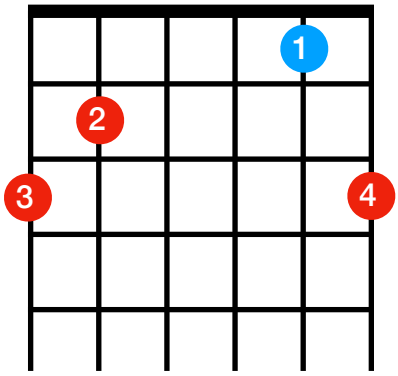
Key of C:



1 - C

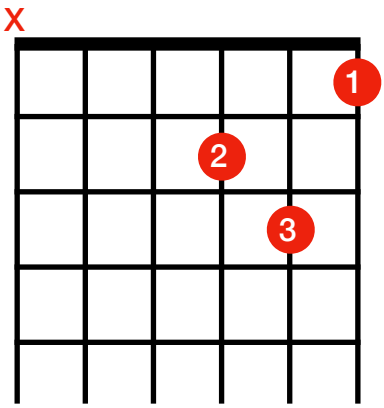


4 - F



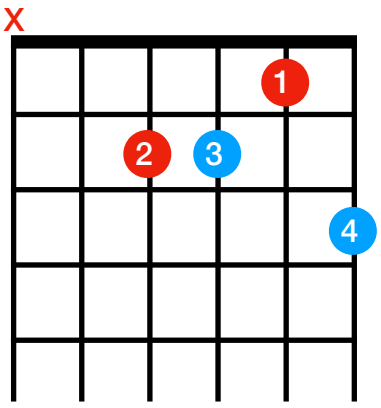
5 - G

(Often played Gsus)



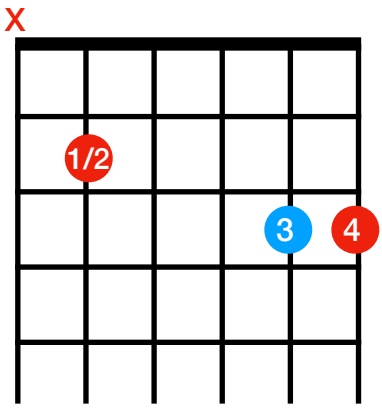
2 - Dm

(Often played Am7)



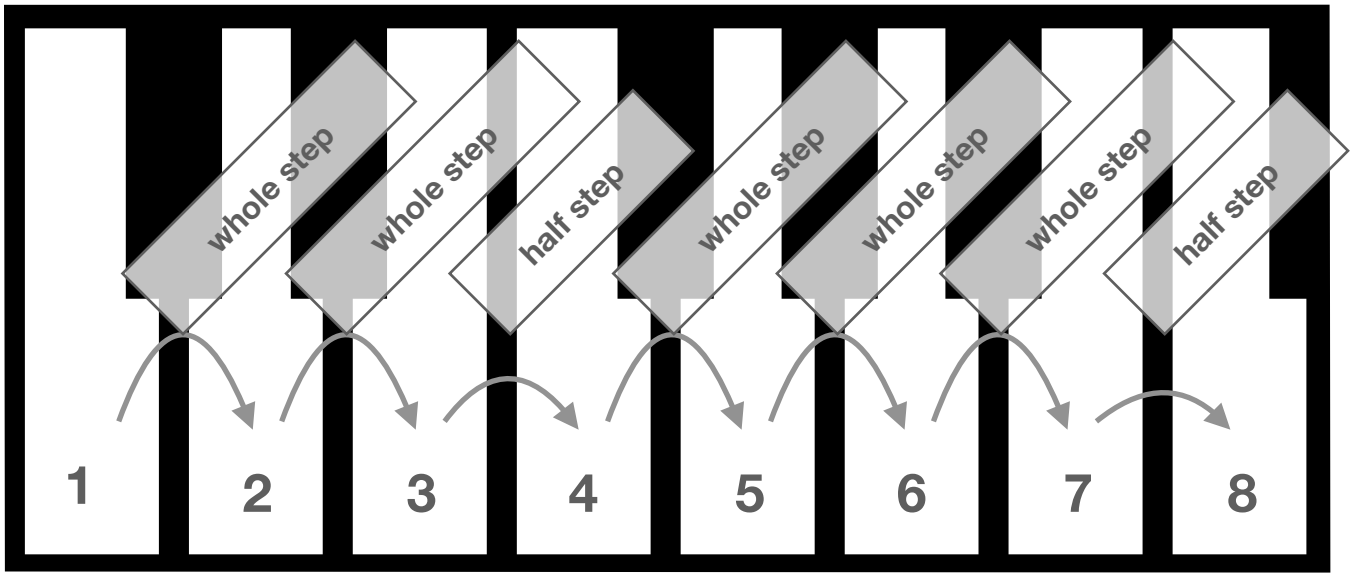
6 - Am

(Often played Am7)

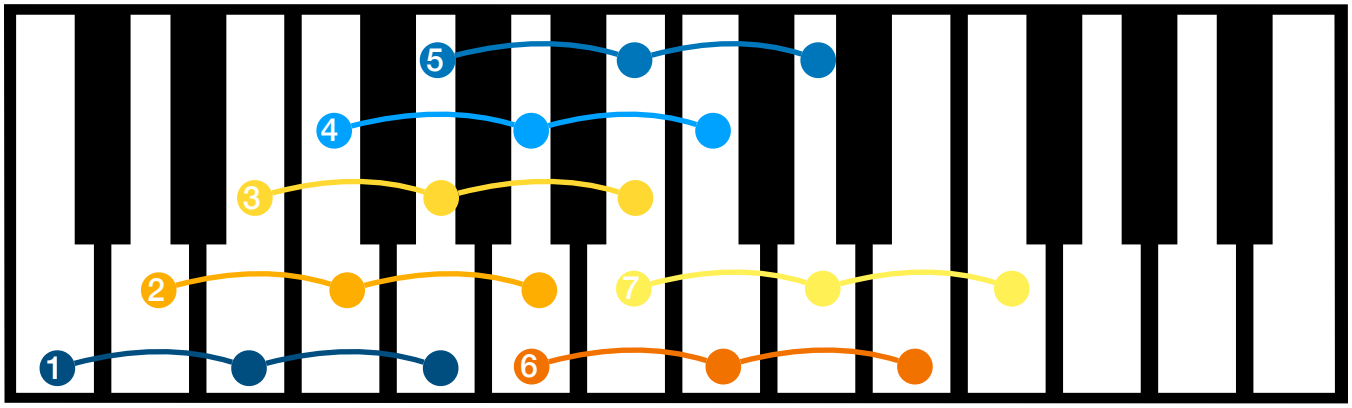


7 - G/B

Major scale intervals

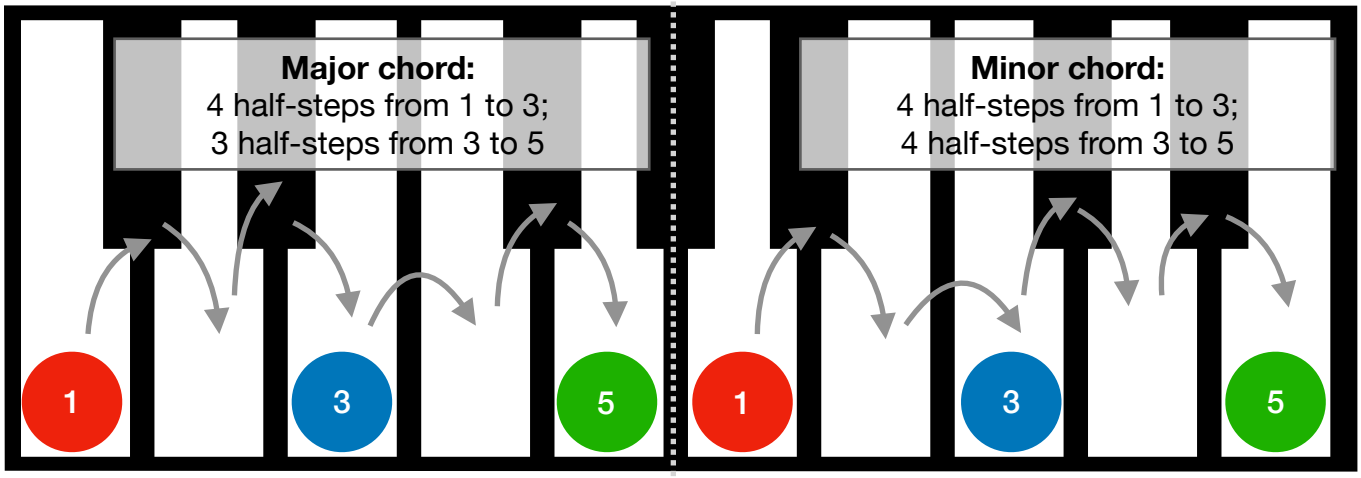


Chords in a major key



Chord number	Type	Notes in scale used			Name (in C major)	Often played as
1	**Major**	**1**	**3**	**5**	**C maj**	
2	Minor	2	4	6	D min	minor 7th
3	Minor	3	5	7	E min	
4	**Major**	**4**	**6**	**1**	**F maj**	**(sus)2**
5	**Major**	**5**	**7**	**2**	**G maj**	**(sus)4**
6	Minor	6	1	3	A min	minor 7th
7	Diminished	7	2	4	B^0 (dim)	

Intervals in a triad

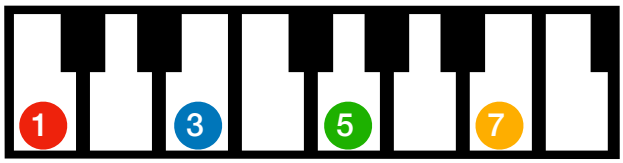


Common chord variations

(sus) 2

(sus) 4

5 (or no 3)



maj 7

Always played with major chords.

7

Shown here with minor chord;
can be used with major or minor third.