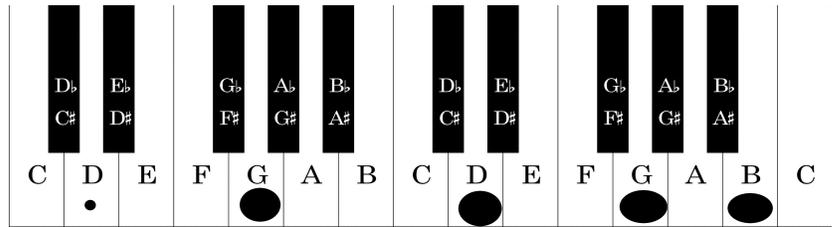
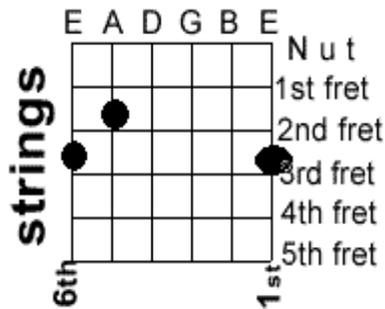


## Lesson 2

Here are the patterns for the G chord:



Letters and patterns:

1. A note is a single tone of definite pitch. Pitch is how fast the air vibrates for that note. A drum does not usually make a tone, since it does not make a definite pitch. We use letters ABCDEFG and the symbols # (sharp) and b (flat) to name notes. # means one key above, and b means one key below. This gives us a way to name the black keys of the piano.

2. The same letters are used to name chords. The pattern for a chord is, it uses the note of the same name, two keys above it, and then two keys above that. So, a G chord has the notes GBD (skip the in-between ones). You can rearrange the notes any way you want; it is still the same chord. The D chord is D F# A.

Sometimes you must make the note sharp or flat. Here is how you tell: In-between the first two notes must be 2 black keys, and in-between the top two must be only one. That is why you must use F# for the D chord, but not for the G chord. G has two black keys between G and B, but D has only one between D and F, so you use F# to get the extra one. This is for a regular (major) chord. If you see a minor chord, like Dm, the pattern is opposite. One black key between the first two notes, and two between the top two notes. So Dm is DFA, and G minor is G Bb D. You use Bb, to keep only one black key between the G and the B. Making chords is also how you know whether to call a note Bb or A#; the name comes from being the next note in the chord.

3. Letters are also used for “keys”. A key is a group of chords, and the notes in them. All songs have a key. You can tell the key because it is the last chord of the song. The chords in the key of D are D, G and A7. The chords in the key are always the name of the key and three notes up and three notes down. [For now, we are using A instead, since A works anywhere you see A7]

4. The guitar is one white or black piano key going up (left to right on the piano) for each fret (little metal line thing across the neck) you travel toward the sound box (big part of the guitar). To play any instrument for praise and worship, you need only learn where the notes are, and what notes are in each chord. We just follow the chords, and the notes they tell us to play.

If you are good in math, try to figure out if the guitar chords have the same notes on guitar as they do on piano. Of course you have to know where to start counting, so here is that information: The strings on the guitar are tuned to the piano keys EBGDAE reading from the thinnest string to the thickest. You can remember this by “Every Boy Gets Dirty After Eating”.

5. Almost all songs are written in a regular count of either 4 or 3. See if you can count along with songs when you sing or listen, and tell which songs are which.