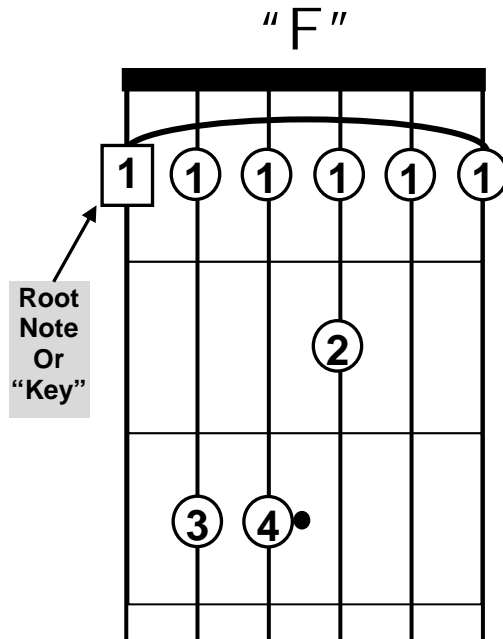



How to play "Barre" Chords

Barre Chords (also called "Movable" chords) are more difficult to learn than regular chords. A Barre Chord is most recognized by the First Finger acting like a bar across all six strings (a process in which one finger is used to play more than one string at a time).

Notice that there is a note marked "Root Note" This note has a block around it. This is the most important note because it will help you remember the name of the chord that you are playing, and also what "key" you are playing in.

This is where memorizing the 6th (E) and 5th (A) strings will be useful. Since the Root Note of this chord is on the first fret of the 6th string, the note is an "F" then the name of this barre chord would be an "F" also.



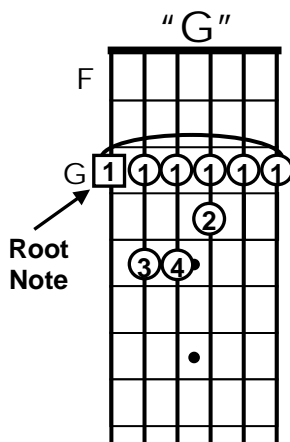
The barre  indicates that the first finger is to be placed over every string on the first fret (or the fret that is indicated).



How to play the "F" barre chord: First, place your 1st finger over every string on the 1st fret (this is the hard part). Once you have your finger in place – pick each string (from the top string to the bottom string) to make sure that you are getting a good, clean sound from each of the notes. Then place your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret of the 3rd string, and your 4th finger on the 3rd fret of the 4th string, and lastly your 3rd finger on the 3rd fret of the 5th string. Again, once you have all your fingers in place – pick each string to make sure that you are getting a good, clean sound from each of the notes. Barre chords are very challenging for beginners so it may take some extra practice.

Barre chords are also called "movable" chords. This means that barre chords can use the same chord fingerings, while moving up and down the fretboard (changing keys).

See Examples below showing two "movable" barre chords.



As you can observe – these types of major chords are all fingered the same. All you have to do is move the chord to a different location on the fretboard. The "F" (1st fret), "G" (3rd fret), and "A" (5th fret) shown on this page are just a few barre chords that can move on the fretboard (there are lots more). If you place the root note on the 7th fret for example that would be a "B" chord, because B is the "root" note on the 7th fret of the 6th string (try different frets – saying the root notes out loud).

