

Locating Chords Without a Chart

• Notice on page 90 that the chord names change in alphabetical order as each chord position pattern is moved up the fingerboard. (The musical alphabet = A through G, repeated over and over.) Notice that B is located next to C and also that E is next to F, but that all other letters are separated by a fret. (The frets in between work like the black keys on a piano.) To locate a specific chord without a chord chart you can start with one of the chord position patterns, such as the "F" Position F chord, and move it up the fingerboard until you arrive at the desired chord alphabetically. If you know all of the positions for the G, C, and D chords, you can also find the other chords in relation to these chords. For example, the E chord is always located two frets higher (in pitch) than the D chord.

• $\sharp$ means to "sharp" or raise (in pitch) one fret. Therefore, any chord with this symbol following the letter will be located one fret above the position of the chord letter. i.e. $G\sharp$ is located one fret position above the G chord.

• $\flat$ means to "flat" or lower (in pitch) one fret. Therefore, any chord with this symbol following the letter will be located one fret lower than the regular position for this chord. i.e. $B\flat$ is located one fret lower (in pitch) than B.

• Minor chords, diminished chords and augmented chords can be located by first locating the normal major chord position of the desired chord. Each of these chords requires altering a tone of the major chord. (See chart for more explanation.) The following diagrams demonstrate how these chords can be located from the major chord positions.

	MAJOR	MINOR	DIMINISHED	AUGMENTED	(dominant) SEVENTH
"F" POSITION:					
"D" POSITION:					
"BARRE" POSITION:					

NOTE: Barre the left index finger across the strings, when it is indicated on more than one string in a chord position.

• A number following a chord symbol (i.e. $G7$ =dominant 7th chord) means that an extra tone is added to the chord. (The major chord can also be substituted for chords of this nature.)