

Cadd9

× ○

2 1 3 4

Cmaj7

× ○ ○ ○

3 2

Dsus4

× × ○

1 3 4

Dsus2

× × ○ ○

1 3

Am7

× ○ ○ ○

2 1

Asus4

× ○ ○ ○

1 2 3

Asus2

× ○ ○ ○

2 3

Amaj7

× ○ ○ ○

2 1 3

Em7

○ ○ ○ ○

2 3 4

Bm7

× ○ ○ ○

2 3 4

Fmaj7

× × ○ ○

3 2 1

Fadd9

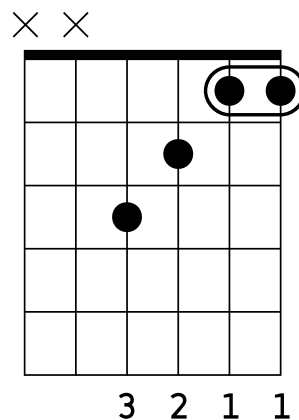
× × ○ ○

3 2 1 4

Those are some strange names on those chords and you are probably wondering how to say them and what they mean. Here's a rundown:

- The word **add** is said the way you would think it is. We would say "C add nine."
- The word **sus** is short for suspension. We say "D sus 4" or "A sus 2."
- The lower case **m** as we know indicates minor, thus we say "A minor 7."
- The **maj** is short for major. We say F major 7.
- Recall that a chord written with just the root and the number seven like G7 is short for G Dominant 7, but we can just say "G seven."

We will run through some exercises and songs to practice the above chords, but before we do that let's look at the **F chord**. Here's the diagram:



Notice something different about this chord just by looking at the diagram? For this chord the 1st finger is responsible for playing two strings at the same time. This is accomplished by **barring** or flattening the first finger over the E and B strings. When learning this chord I recommend trying to get a good sound on just those two strings first. If that checks out then add then add the 2nd finger by arching it and placing the fingertip on the 2nd fret 3rd string. How do those 3

strings sound now? If you're feeling good about that then finally add the 3rd finger to the 4th string.

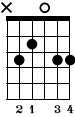
Buzzing and muting will happen as it is quite difficult to keep the first finger barred while the other two fingers arch. Don't get bogged down here. Look for incremental improvement each day you practice this chord. Eventually you will develop the dexterity and strength to play this chord as easily as the others.

Now let's put it all together with some exercises that use all the chords in this chapter. On the next page are 5 chord exercises with various strum patterns. Here's some things to think about when playing these chord progressions:

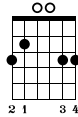
- Repeat each exercises 10x before moving onto the next one
- Release chords on the last UP strum in order to switch and land on the next chord in time.
- Mix and match strum patterns. For example use the strum pattern from exercise A while playing the chords on exercise C.
- GO SLOW!!!! Making a clean, round sound with your guitar is priority number one. If you don't have that then nothing else matters. There is no such thing as playing too slow at this point.

A

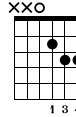
Cadd9



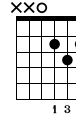
G



Dsus4



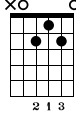
D



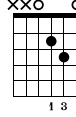
4/4

B

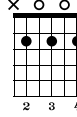
Amaj7



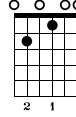
Dsus2



Bm7



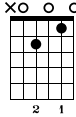
E7



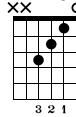
5 6 7 8

C

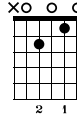
Am7



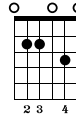
Fmaj7



Am7



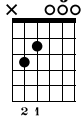
Em7



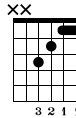
9 10 11 12

D

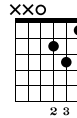
Cmaj7



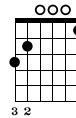
F



Dm



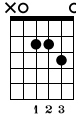
G7



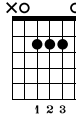
13 14 15 16

E

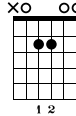
Asus4



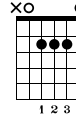
A



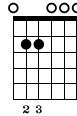
Asus2



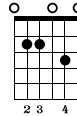
A



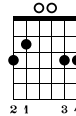
Em



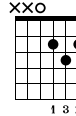
Em7



G



D



17 18 19 20