Contents

Introduction 4
Chord Theory 5
  Intervals 5
  Basic Triads 8
  Building Chords 10
  The Circle of 5ths 14
Reading Chords 15
  Chord Symbol Variations 15
  Chord Frames 18

Chords in All 12 Keys 19
A♭ 19
A♭m 20
A♭+ 21
A♭sus4 22
A♭5 23
A♭6 24
A♭m6 25
A♭7 26
A♭maj7 27
A♭m7 28
A♭m7(♭5) 29
A♭°7 30
A♭9 31
A♭maj9 32
A♭m9 33
A♭maj7(♭5) 34
A♭7(♭5) 34
A♭7+ 34
A♭7(♭9) 34
A♭7(♯9) 34
A♭9(♭5) 34

A 35
Am 36
A+ 37
Asus4 38
A5 39
A6 40
Am6 41
A7 42
Amaj7 43
Am7 44
Am7(♭5) 45
A°7 46
A9 47
Amaj9 48
Am9 49
Amaj7(♭5) 50
A7(♭5) 50
A7+ 50
A7(♭9) 50
A7(♯9) 50
A9(♭5) 50

B♭ 51
B♭m 52
B♭+ 53
B♭sus4 54
B♭5 55
B♭6 56
B♭m6 57
B♭7 58
B♭maj7 59
B♭m7 60
B♭m7(♭5) 61
B♭°7 62
B♭9 63
B♭maj9 64
B♭m9 65
B♭maj7(♭5) 66
B♭7(♭5) 66
B♭7+ 66
B♭7(♭9) 66
B♭7(♯9) 66
B♭9(♭5) 66

B 67
Bm 68
B+ 69
Bsus4 70
B5 71
B6 72
Bm6 73
B7 74
Bmaj7 75
Bm7 76
Bm7(♭5) 77
B°7 78
B9 79
Bmaj9 80
Bm9 81
Bmaj7(♭5) 82
B7(♭5) 82
B7+ 82
B7(♭9) 82
B7(♯9) 82
B9(♭5) 82

C 83
Cm 84
C+ 85
Csus4 86
C5 87
C6 88
Cm6 89
C7 90
Cmaj7 91
Cm7 92
Cm7(♭5) 93
C°7 94
C9 95
Cmaj9 96
Cm9 97
Cmaj7(♭5) 98
C7(♭5) 98
C7+ 98
C7(♭9) 98
C7(♯9) 98
C9(♭5) 98

D♭ 99
D♭m 100
D♭+ 101
D♭sus4 102
D♭5 103
D♭6 104
D♭m6 105
D♭7 106
D♭maj7 107
D♭m7 108
D♭m7(♭5) 109
D♭°7 110
D♭9 111
D♭maj9 112
D♭m9 113
D♭maj7(♭5) 114
D♭7(♭5) 114
D♭7+ 114
D♭7(♭9) 114

D♭7(♯9) 114
D♭9(♭5) 114

D 115
Dm 116
D+ 117
Dsus4 118
D5 119
D6 120
Dm6 121
D7 122
Dmaj7 123
Dm7 124
Dm7(♭5) 125
D°7 126
D9 127
Dmaj9 128
Dm9 129
Dmaj7(♭5) 130
D7(♭5) 130
D7+ 130
D7(♭9) 130
D7(♯9) 130
D9(♭5) 130

E♭ 131
E♭m 132
E♭+ 133
E♭sus4 134
E♭5 135
E♭6 136
E♭m6 137
E♭7 138
E♭maj7 139
E♭m7 140
E♭m7(♭5) 141
E♭°7 142
E♭9 143
E♭maj9 144
E♭m9 145
E♭maj7(♭5) 146
E♭7(♭5) 146
E♭7+ 146
E♭7(♭9) 146
E♭7(♯9) 146
E♭9(♭5) 146

E 147
Em 148
E+ 149
Esus4 150
E5 151
E6 152
Em6 153
E7 154
Emaj7 155
Em7 156
Em7(♭5) 157
E°7 158
E9 159
Emaj9 160
Em9 161
Emaj7(♭5) 162
E7(♭5) 162
E7+ 162
E7(♭9) 162
E7(♯9) 162
E9(♭5) 162

F 163
Fm 164
F+ 165
Fsus4 166
F5 167
F6 168
Fm6 169
F7 170
Fmaj7 171
Fm7 172
Fm7(♭5) 173
F°7 174
F9 175
Fmaj9 176
Fm9 177
Fmaj7(♭5) 178
F7(♭5) 178
F7+ 178
F7(♭9) 178
F7(♯9) 178
F9(♭5) 178

F♯ 179
F♯m 180

F♯+ 181
F♯sus4 182
F♯5 183
F♯6 184
F♯m6 185
F♯7 186
F♯maj7 187
F♯m7 188
F♯m7(♭5) 189
F♯°7 190
F♯9 191
F♯maj9 192
F♯m9 193
F♯maj7(♭5) 194
F♯7(♭5) 194
F♯7+ 194
F♯7(♭9) 194
F♯7(♯9) 194
F♯9(♭5) 194

G 195
Gm 196
G+ 197
Gsus4 198
G5 199
G6 200
Gm6 201
G7 202
Gmaj7 203
Gm7 204
Gm7(♭5) 205
G°7 206
G9 207
Gmaj9 208
Gm9 209
Gmaj7(♭5) 210
G7(♭5) 210
G7+ 210
G7(♭9) 210
G7(♯9) 210
G9(♭5) 210

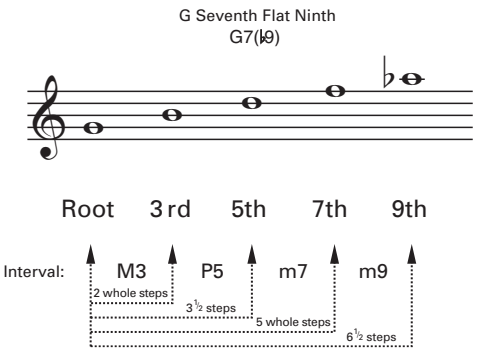
Movable Barre Chords 211
Guitar Fingerboard Chart 232

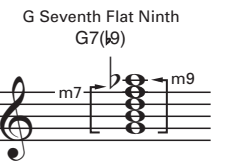
Now, let's figure out how to construct a G7(♭9) chord:

1. Determine the root of the chord. A chord is always named for its root—in this case, G is the root of G7(♭9).

2. Count letter names up from the letter name of the root (G), as we did when building intervals on page 4, to determine the intervals of the chord. Counting three letter names up from G to B (G–A–B, 1–2–3) is a 3rd, G to D (G–A–B–C–D) is a 5th, G to F is a 7th, and G to A is a 9th.

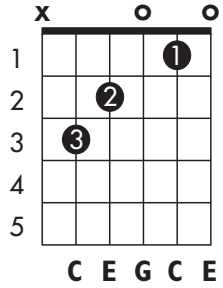
3. Determine the quality of the intervals by counting whole steps and half steps up from the root; G to B (2 whole steps) is a major 3rd, G to D (3½ steps) is a perfect 5th, G to F (5 whole steps) is a minor 7th, and G to A♭ (6½ steps) is a minor 9th.

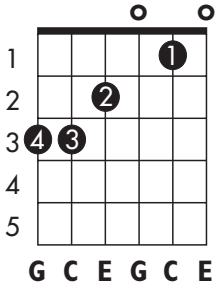


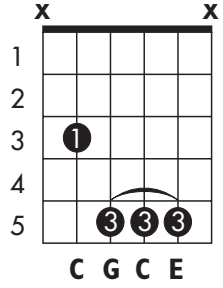


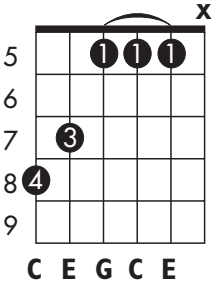
Follow this general guideline to figure out the notes of any chord. As interval and chord construction become more familiar, it will become possible to create your own original fingerings on the guitar. Feel free to experiment!

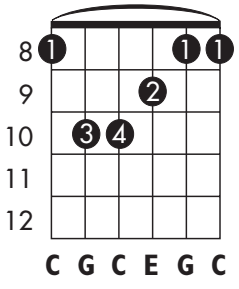
C

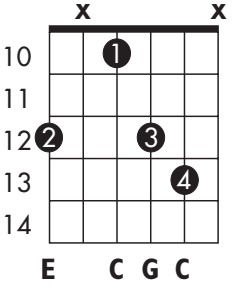

x o o
1
2
3
4
5
C E G C E


o o
1
2
3
4
5
G C E G C E

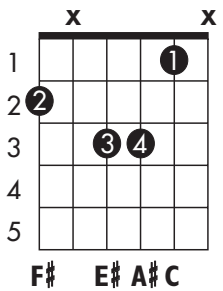

x x
1
2
3
4
5
C G C E


x
5
6
7
8
9
C E G C E

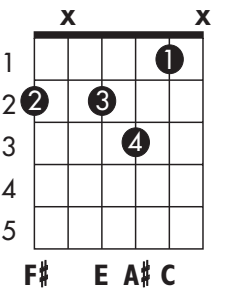

8
9
10
11
12
C G C E G C


x x
10
11
12
13
14
E C G C

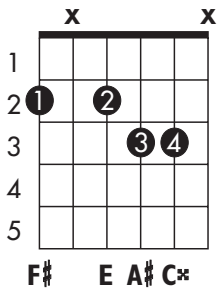
F♯maj7(♭5)



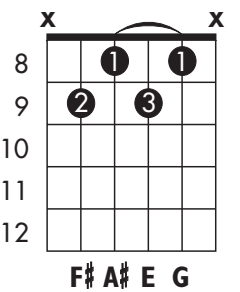
F♯7(♭5)



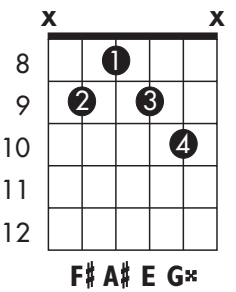
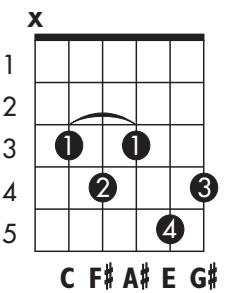
F♯7+



F♯7(♭9)



F♯7(♯9)



F♯9(♭5)