

Guitar Chords

Guitar chords are indicated by a guitar graphic of the frets. Frets are the metal bars on the neck of the guitar. A 'X' next to a string means 'don't pluck that string'. A 'O' next to a string means 'play it open' (no fingers on a string). Then simply follow the picture and place your fingers on the dots. XО



Guitar TAB

Some guitar music is written in TAB (tablature). This literally tells you which string and which fret to place your fingers. Read it like a grid reference. The lowest line on TAB is the thickest string on the guitar (lowest pitch). There is a line for each string. The number refers to the fret number on that

string. The rhythm is usually placed above the TAB line, but not always. It is a more graphical way of writing music and less accurate than standard notation.

т					
<u>+</u>			2	<u>'</u> 2	
8		2	_	_	2
в –	-0-				

Keyboard chords

The general rule with chords on a keyboard is 'every other key'. Chords contain 3 notes, the 1st, the 3rd and the 5th notes of a scale. The best way to remember this is: PLAY - miss - PLAY - miss - PLAY

You can either hold a chord for the full length of the bar, or play it to a given rhythm. You can also play the chord as a 'broken chord', which involves playing the 3 notes, one at a time - breaking the chord up.

The bass note (the lowest note) can also be doubled up in the left hand to provide a wider range of pitch.

Melody rhythms - use the syllables to create the rhythms



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Year 8 - Cycle 3 (Pop Songs & Band Skills)

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