Swift Guitar Lessons

How to Play Major 7 Chords Across the Fretboard



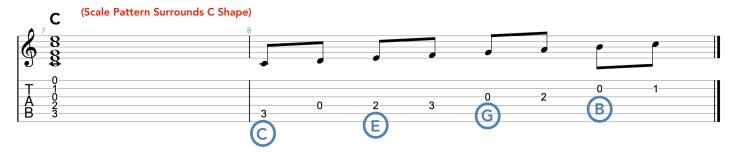


Hello friends,

In today's session we are going back to the fundamentals, and learning the various positions of the essential major 7 chord harmony. Mastering this skill will provide you with more options as a rhythm guitarist, and will help you to visualize the connections between scales, melodies and the chords. Let's get started!

Section #1: What are Major 7 Chords

A major 7 chord is a harmony of the 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th notes of a given major scale. The tab below shows how to perform our major scale in the key of C, in a position known as the "C position" because it overlaps with the common C major chord shape:



Section #2: Six Voicings of the Maj7 Chord

Now that you understand the origins of the major 7 harmony, let's find those notes (C, E, G, and B) across the fretboard in useful positions, also known as "voicings." Keep in mind that positions of the major scale, and basic major chords overlap with each of the maj7 shapes shown below:

