Swift Guitar Lessons

3 Ways of Playing the Dreaded F Major Chord



Hello friends,

and welcome back to Swiftlessons for another rhythm guitar tutorial. In today's session we'll be discussing the theory and playing technique behind the F major chord shape. We'll begin by examining the notes and intervals it contains, before learning the proper technique of how to fret this challenging chord. Let's get started!

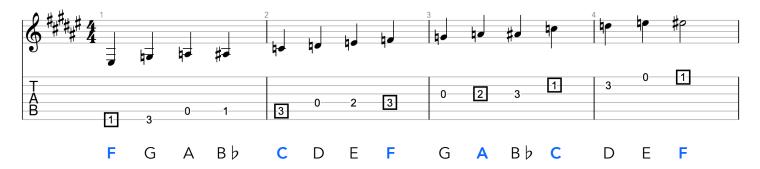
Section #1: Origins of the F Major Chord

The F major chord is a harmony comprised of the 1st, 3rd and 5th notes of the F major scale.

F, G, **A**, B b , **C**, D, E, F

Section #2: F Major Scale Open Position

In this section let's review the open position scale from which our common Fmaj chord derives. The notes highlighted in blue are used to form the full bar chord voicing of this chord.



Section #3: Three Ways of Playing the F Chord

Each of these three variations of the F chord require a specific hand position if they are to be performed correctly. Generally, the thumb is placed at the center-point behind the neck, allowing the index finger to lay straight across multiple strings. The middle, ring and pinky fingers must be arched to avoid muting the strings below them. Once you have mastered this posture, the movable F chord can be used to perform major chords in all 12 keys by simply changing it's fret position.

