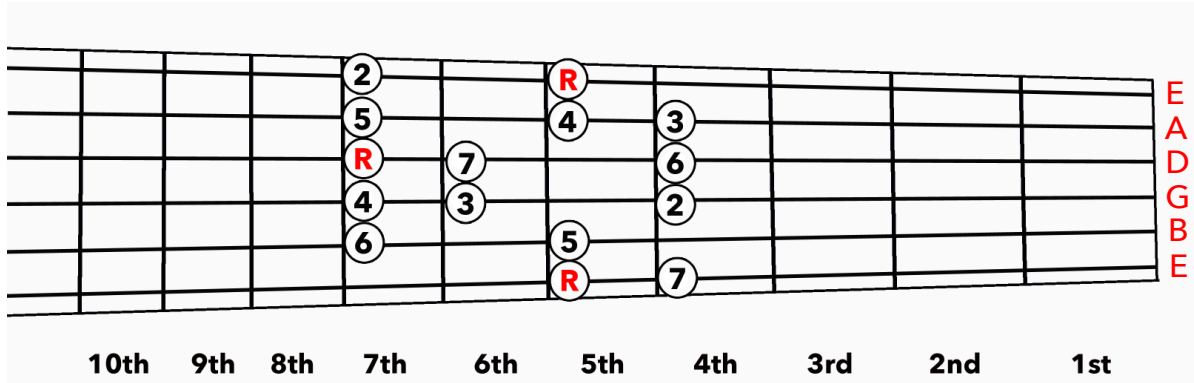




Anatomy of Basic Bar Chord Shapes

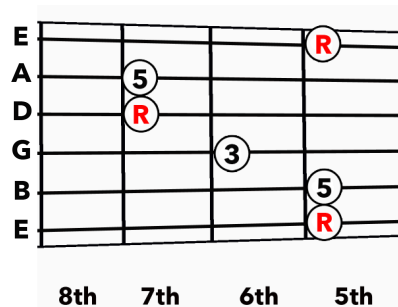
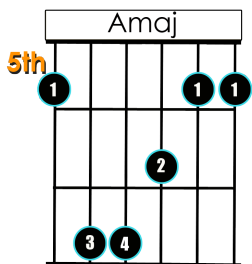
Hello friends, and welcome to another music theory guitar tutorial. In this lesson we will study the relationship between the notes in the major scale and those found in our basic major and minor bar chord shapes, rooted on the E string. By studying this relationship, you will better understand how these chords are constructed, and modified. Because scales are also used to develop melodies, this information will also shed light on the connection between lead and rhythm guitar parts. For ease of learning, everything will be broken down in the key of A major. Let's get started!

The Major Scale, Key of A:



A Major Bar Chord - E String Root

This A major chord is built from the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of the A major scale. All major chords are constructed this way, which is why they are often referred to as "major triads."



A Minor Bar Chord - E String Root

This A minor chord is created when you flat the 3rd note of the major scale, which turns it into a minor scale. All "minor triads" are built using the chord formula 1, b3, 5.

