Express Guitar presents Chord Wizard
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Key of G

G Chord

Em Chord

C Chord

D Chord

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Key of D

D Chord

Bm Chord

G Chord

A Chord
**Key of A**

*For additional information on “Bar chords” refer to page 15.*

A Chord

F#m Chord (Bar chord)

D Chord

E Chord
Key of E

E Chord

C#m Chord

A Chord

B7 Chord
Common Note Chords

Common Note Chords (also known as drone note or drone string chords.)

These next chords are "special chords" because they do not fit into any one category - many of them are one-of-a-kind chords having a unique sound which is all their own.

By keeping the same highest notes while playing different chords, a unique sound can be created. Notice how smooth your chord changes become when you use these drone note chords.

The basic concept is to select certain notes (usually note one in the scale/key e.g., Key of G, note one G, Key of E, note one = E.)

When a guitarist wants to use two "drone notes" the strongest choices are the first and fifth notes of the key you are playing in.

The following example in the key of G. Please refer to Chord Construction part 1, page 6, key of G.

The chord progression on the following page (p8) is the familiar (one, six, four, five) progression.

In the key of G this would be G, Em, C, D. Now let's spice things up with some drone notes.

Referring to the Major Scale reference chart on page 5 key of G (Chord Construction part 1) select the first note (key of G = G) and the fifth note (key of G = D). By keeping these two notes as "common notes" played over the top of each chord we arrive at the following progression.

Play through them a few times and let the sound "sink in". Because of their special nature, they should be pretty easy to remember.
Common Note Chords
Drone Note

G Chord

Em7

C (add 9) Chord

D sus4 Chord
Here is the basic set of chords for “Sweet Home Alabama” (Sweet Home Alabama consists of this simple yet very effective two bar chord progression repeated over and over for the entire song.)

Sweet Home Alabama (standard chord version)

Now, try *Sweet Home Alabama* with common note chords. (See page 10 for chord shapes)

Sweet Home Alabama (common note chord version)
Common Note Chords
For “Sweet Home Alabama”

G Chord

C (add 9) Chord

D Chord
Augmented Chords

Augmented chords (along with Diminished 7th chords) are chords that fall outside conventional Diatonic (Major scale) harmony. The Augmented chord's *parent* scale is the "Whole Tone" scale (more about this scale later).

Key points of interest are:

1. Because the Whole Tone scale is symmetrical by design (all notes in the scale are the same distance apart) it produces a distinctive, ambiguous sounding chord (the Augmented Chord) that can have three different names (any note under your fingers can be the KEYNOTE!)

2. Another feature of the Augmented chord is that it repeats itself every four frets (same chord name, same chord shape only the keynote will occur on a different string.)

3. The symbol for the Augmented chord is a plus sign:

   B Augmented = B+

   alternatively the Augmented chord is sometimes written as (Aug)

   B Augmented = B Aug

   Study the diagram(s) below to be certain you understand the Augmented chord's inherent ability to repeated itself every four frets.

   Note: In the following example the chord is named B+ (B Augmented) remember this chord could also be named G+ (G Augmented), or alternatively D#+ (D# Augmented.)
Augmented Chords
E Harmonized Scale
Using standard Bar chords

E Chord

G#m Chord
(Bar chord)
Refer p15

F#m Chord
(Bar chord)
Refer p15

A Chord
E Harmonized Scale
Using standard Bar chords

B Chord
(Bar chord)
Refer p15

C#m Chord
(Bar chord)
Refer p15

D#m7b5 Chord

E Chord
(Bar chord)
Refer p15
Step 1.

Step 2.

Step 3.

Audio 4

Bar Chord Workshop
E Major Harmonized scale with Drone strings

Using the basic set of chords for the key of E Major (Chord Construction page 6) we will create a professional set of chords that will give your guitar playing a unique and individual sound.

Step 1. Select the common notes (Drone notes) for the key of E. Remember the strongest notes for common note chords are, notes one and five. Refer to page 5 (Chord Construction Volume 1) key of E you will discover that the note one in the key of E is - E and note 5 in the key of E is - B.

Step 2. Check to see if we can play these notes as open strings. Yes, E can be played open first string and B can be played second string open. Remember we want to add the Common notes on the high sounding strings (string 1, 2 and 3) if possible.


Enjoy!

AUDIO 5
E Harmonized Scale
Using Common note chords

E Chord

F#m Chord

G#m Chord

A Chord
E Harmonized Scale
Using Common note chords

B Chord

C#m Chord

D#m7b5 Chord

E Chord