

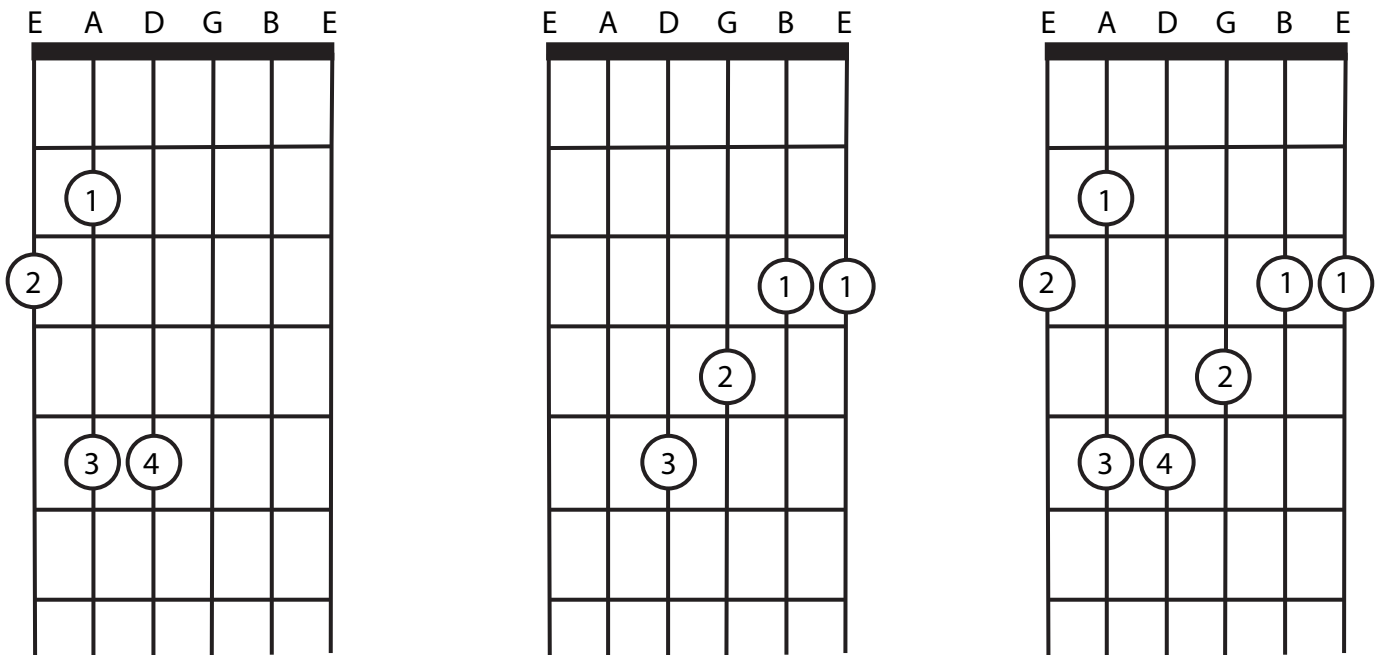
Arpeggio - An arpeggio is a chord played as a melodic sequence as opposed to playing all the notes together as a chord. Below is a C major chord and then an arpeggiated version of that chord. The D minor chord is also arpeggiated as a second example.



The musical usefulness of arpeggios is immense. To name a few: They are used by guitarists as lovely accompaniment figures for voice and other instruments. They are used as ostinato bass figures, also known as Alberti Bass. They are also part of the roadmap for guitarists to master the fret board.

Below are some basic one and two octave major and minor arpeggios to incorporate into your playing. Associate these various arpeggio forms to their related scales and use them to move from one position on the fret board up (or down) to the next.

G major arpeggio at 3rd fret using the E form bar chord. Notice the fingering change on the D string when playing the 1 octave figures.



This fourth diagram is the two octave arpeggio pattern for the dominant 7th G chord on the third fret. Adding the 7th, an F, actually makes the pattern flow a little more gracefully.

Practice these arpeggios slowly on quarter note values to get them in hand. Then increase speed using eighth note and triplet figures on the two octave versions to go through the arpeggios.

