

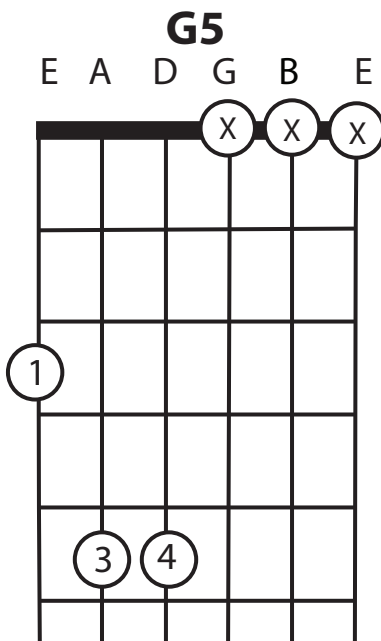
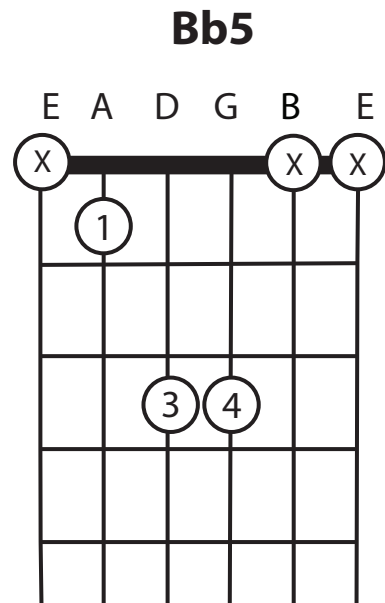
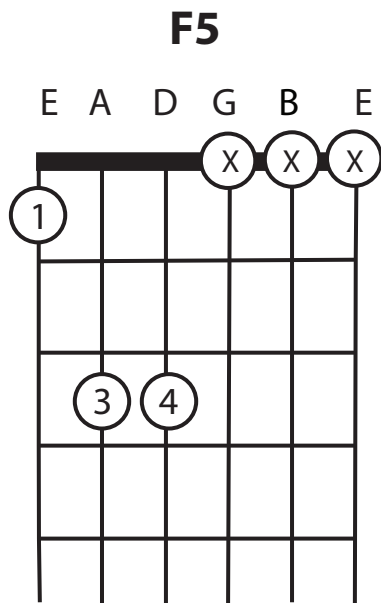
## Power Chords

Power chords, usually designated with the number 5 after the chord musical note name (C5, F#5, Ab5....etc.), are useful and often found chord structures in modern music. The harmony is the root of the chord and the fifth of the chord with the third omitted. Some examples: C5 would have the notes C and G; B5 would contain B and F#, Ab would contain Ab and Eb.

There are two primary advantages to this chord structure. First, the shape is fairly easy to make on the guitar and lends itself to strong rhythmic patterns in a song. Secondly, with the third of the chord omitted, the modality - that is the quality of major or minor - becomes rather enigmatic allowing for a variety of scales - major, minor, modal and pentatonic - to be used for improvising over these chords.

These chords are generally formed beginning on either the 6th or 5th strings. An additional technique commonly used when employing these chords is to dampen the sound by placing part of the palm of the right hand on the strings as the chord structure is being sounded.

Below are two examples of each:



X - not sounded  
1- index finger  
3 - ring finger  
4 - pinky

3rd fret

