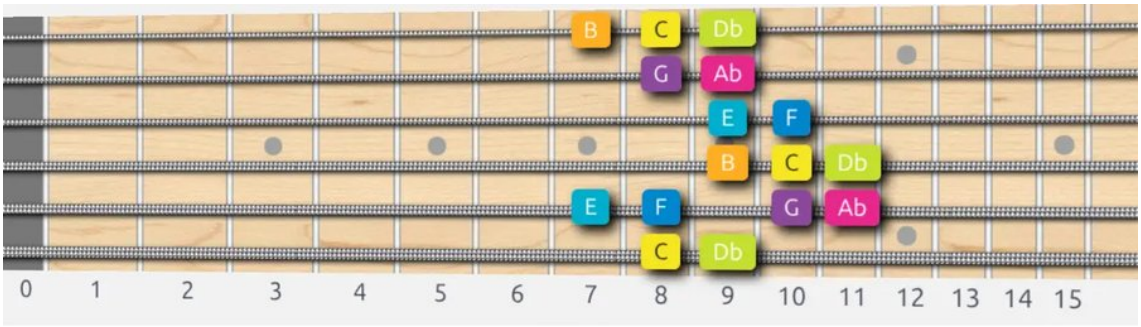
FACHORDS GUITAR

Exotic Guitar Scales

Eight scales from other traditions, in six fretboard patterns each.



WELCOME

Exotic guitar scales

Eight scales with a very different color: Indian, Japanese, Arabic, Persian, Neapolitan, Byzantine, Gipsy Hungarian and the Jewish scale (Phrygian dominant). Each one comes in five box patterns plus a pattern that plays the scale string by string (3 notes per string, or 2 for the five-note scales when that run is not already a box), all in the key of C.

Stop memorizing shapes.
Start understanding music.

What is inside

- **How to read the diagrams** and how to move a pattern to another key.
- **Eight exotic scales**, each with its formula, its notes in C and six patterns.
- **Scale formulas** in the interval colors of the site.

> **Free scale library**
>
> Every diagram in this book is a link. The scale library has every scale in every key. www.fachords.com/guitar-scale/

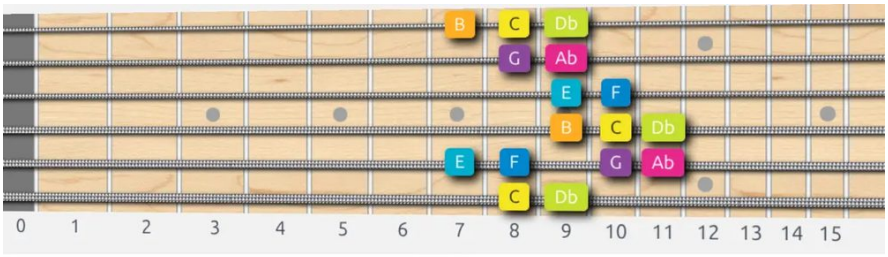
Want to know the why?

The three FaChords books explain why things work, not only where to put your fingers: Chords Domination, Scales Over Chords and 52 Chord Progressions.

Questions? Write to band@fachords.com.
Gianca, founder of FaChords Guitar

THE BASICS

How to read these diagrams



Byzantine in C, box pattern 1

- The diagram shows the fretboard as you see it looking down at your guitar: the thickest string (low E) is at the bottom, the thinnest (high E) at the top.
- The numbers under the neck are the frets. Each colored square is a note of the scale.
- The color is the interval. The root, the note that names the scale, is always yellow.
- All the patterns are in C. To play the same scale in another key, move the whole pattern: D is two frets above C, so the pattern moves up by two frets.
- Exotic scale names are not standard: other books may give the same notes another name. The grey line next to each scale name lists the other names.

The colors are the intervals

root · b2 / b9 · 2 / 9 · b3 · 3 · 4 / 11 · b5 / #11 · 5 · #5 / b13 · 6 / 13 · b7 · 7

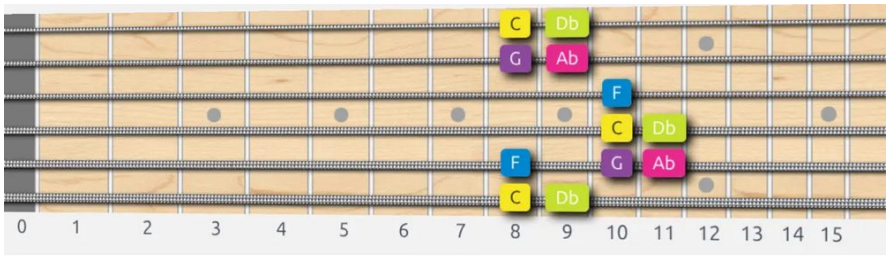
Free tutorials on exotic scales

Fast scale playing and the practice exercises. www.fachords.com/go/learn-scales-exotic/

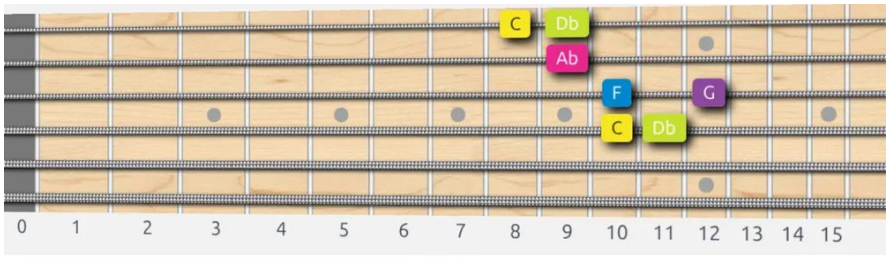
Eight exotic scales

Indian Scale also: Japanese In, In-sen

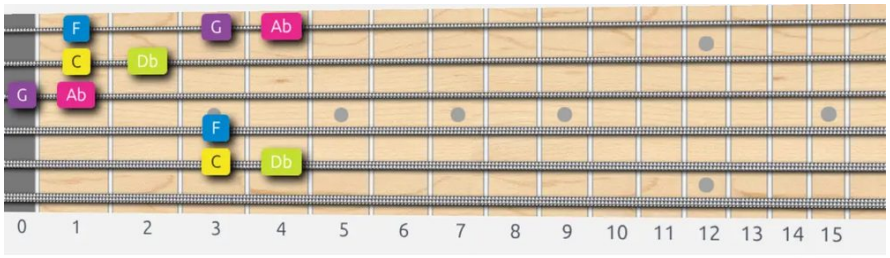
1 b2 4 5 b6 C Db F G Ab (in C)



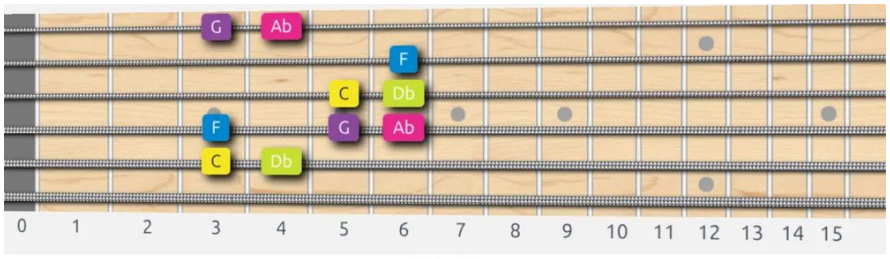
Indian in C, box pattern 1



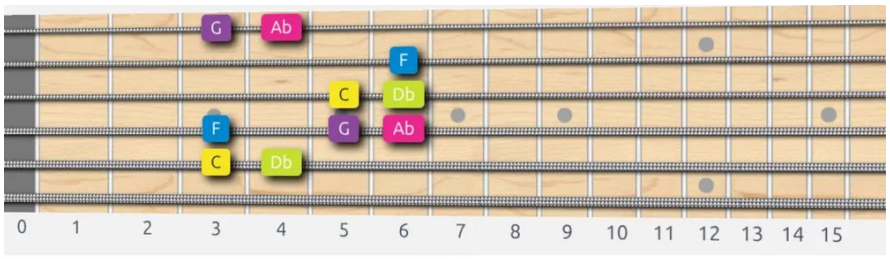
Indian in C, box pattern 2



Indian in C, box pattern 3

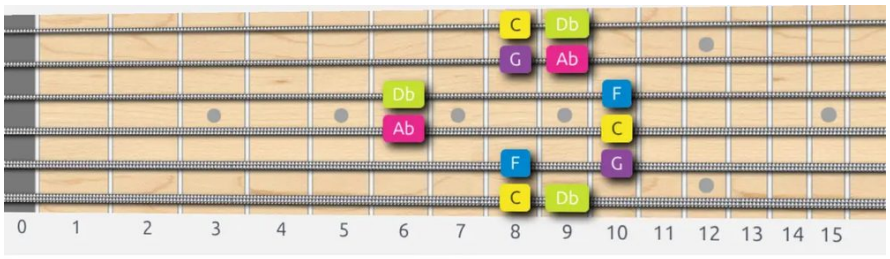


Indian in C, box pattern 4



www.fachords.com

Indian in C, box pattern 5



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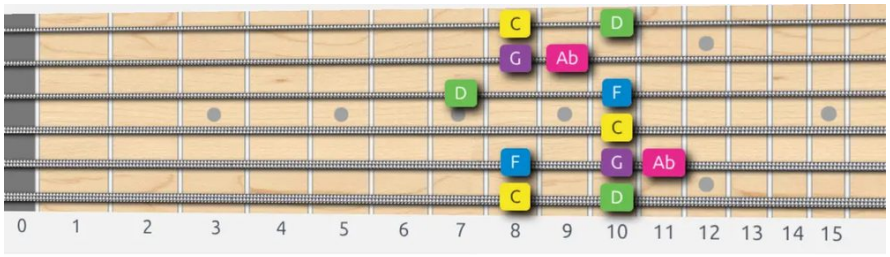
Indian in C, 2 notes per string

Japanese Scale also: Japanese B

1 2 4 5 b6 C D F G Ab (in C)



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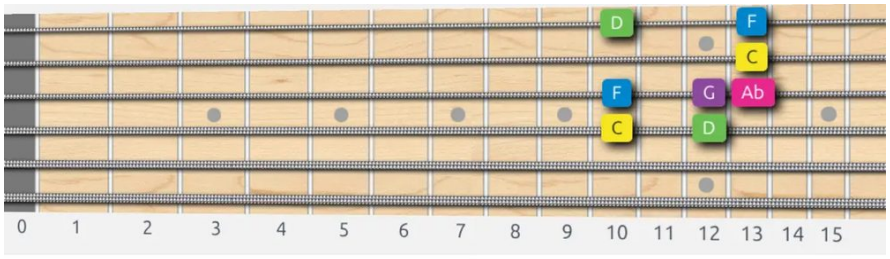
Japanese in C, box pattern 1



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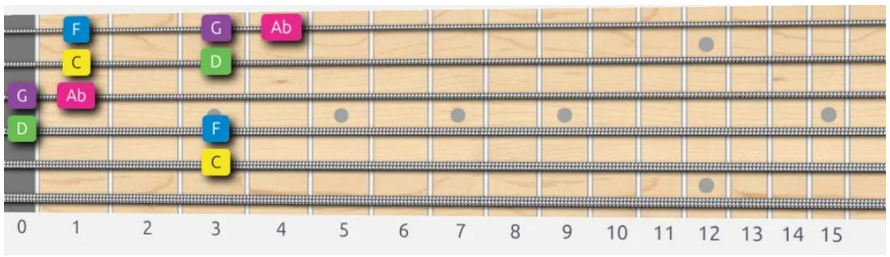
Japanese in C, box pattern 2



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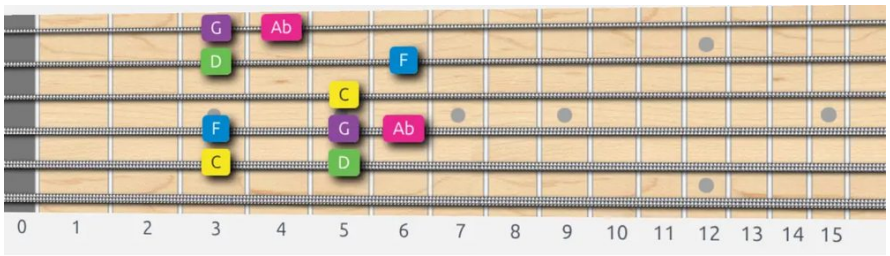
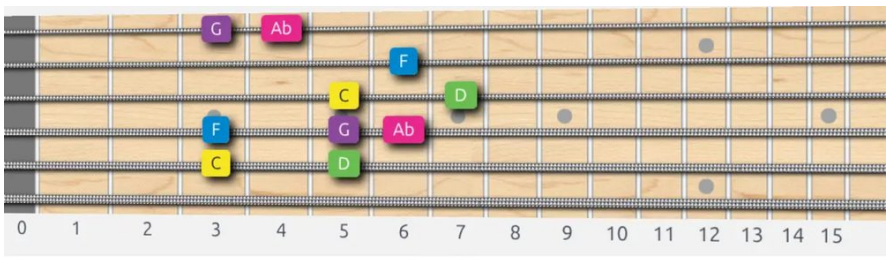
Japanese in C, box pattern 3



www.fachords.com

Japanese in C, box pattern 4



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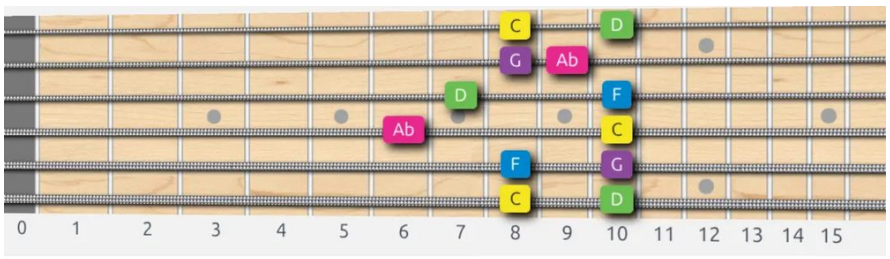
Japanese in C, box pattern 5

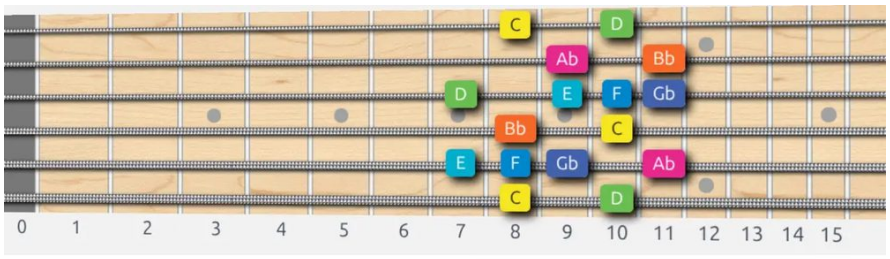


www.fachords.com

Japanese in C, 2 notes per string

Arabic Scale also: Major Locrian

1 2 3 4 b5 b6 b7 C D E F Gb Ab Bb (in C)



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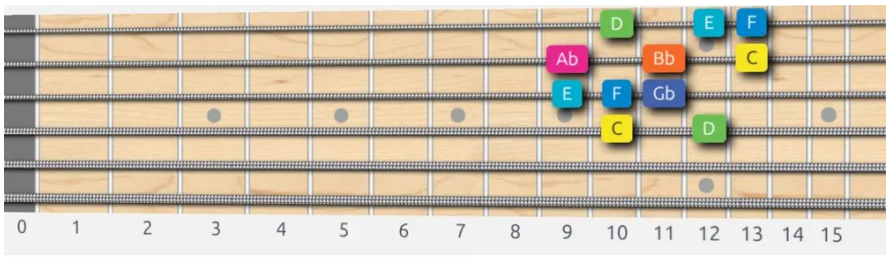
Arabic in C, box pattern 1



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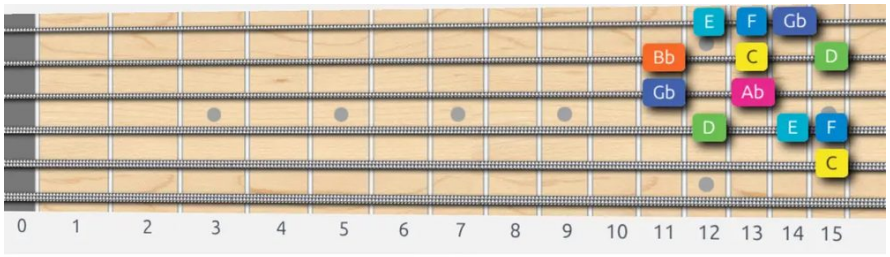
Arabic in C, box pattern 2



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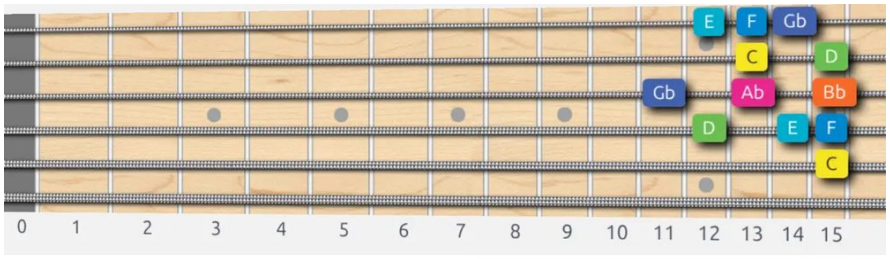
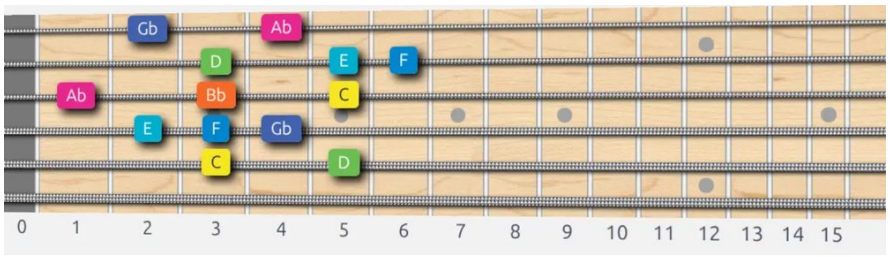
Arabic in C, box pattern 3



www.fachords.com

Arabic in C, box pattern 4



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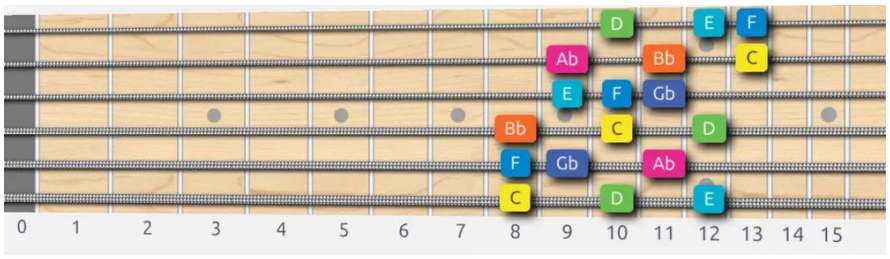
Arabic in C, box pattern 5



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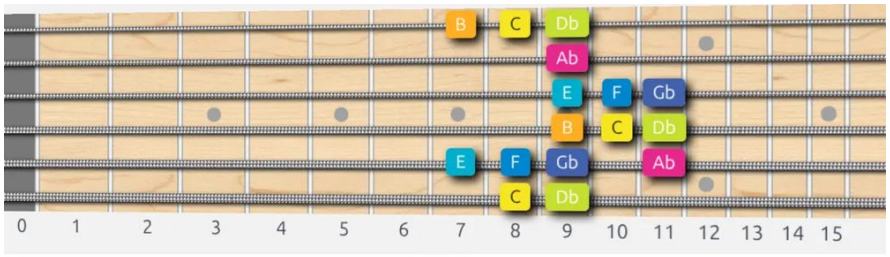
Arabic in C, 3 notes per string

Persian Scale

1 b2 3 4 b5 b6 7 C Db E F Gb Ab B (in C)



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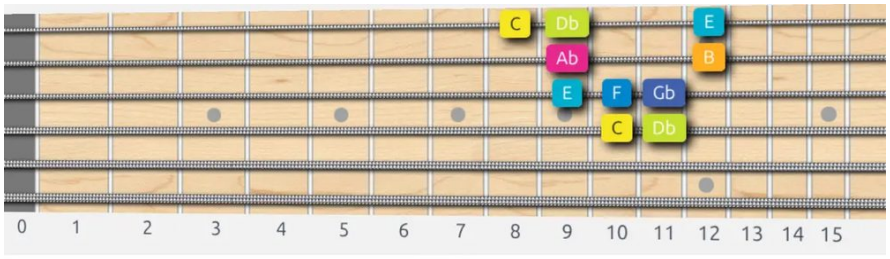
Persian in C, box pattern 1



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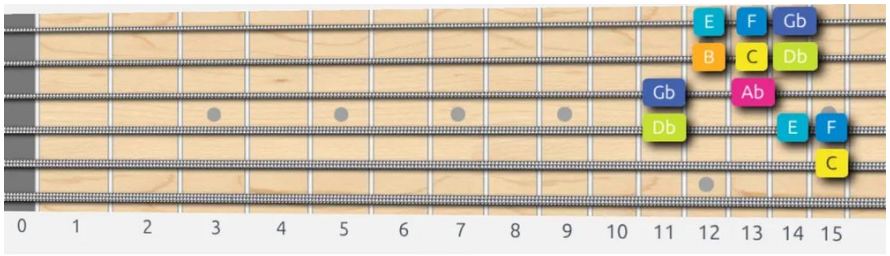
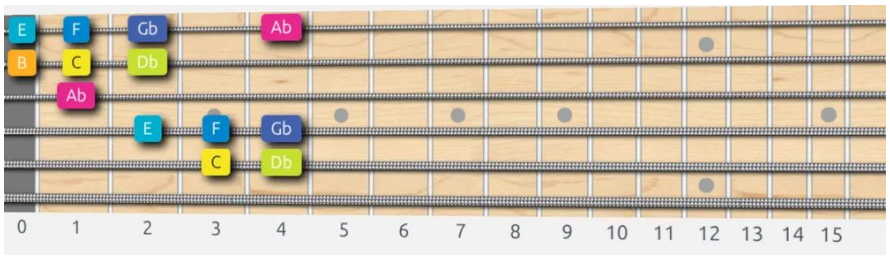
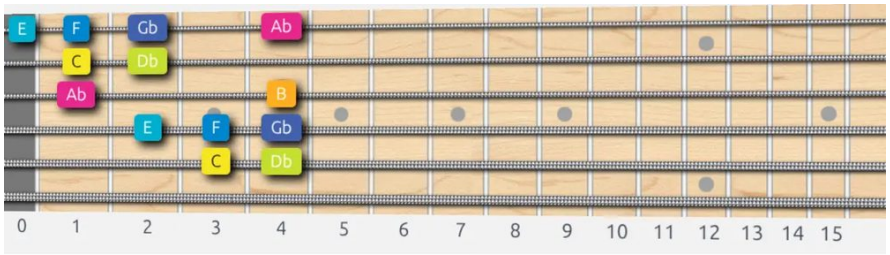
Persian in C, box pattern 2



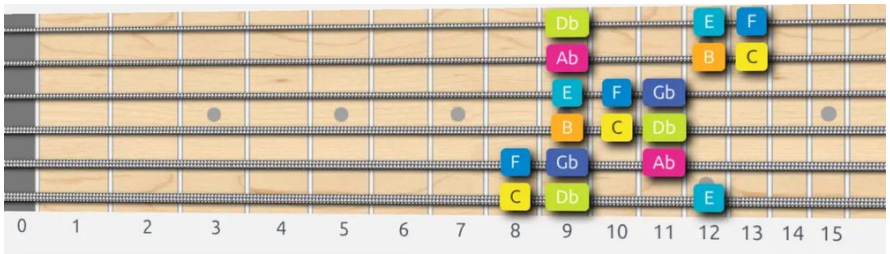
Persian in C, box pattern 3



Persian in C, box pattern 4



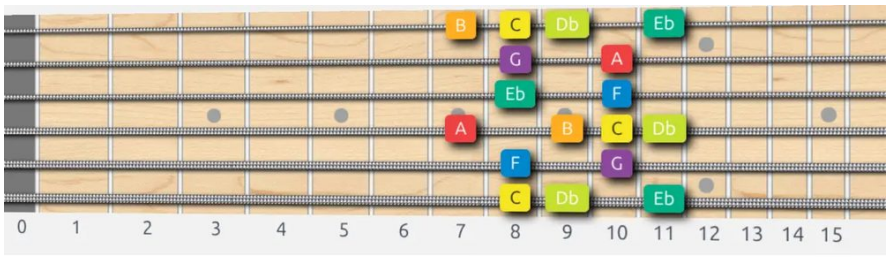
Persian in C, box pattern 5



Persian in C, 3 notes per string

Neapolitan Scale also: Neapolitan Major

1 b2 b3 4 5 6 7 C Db Eb F G A B (in C)



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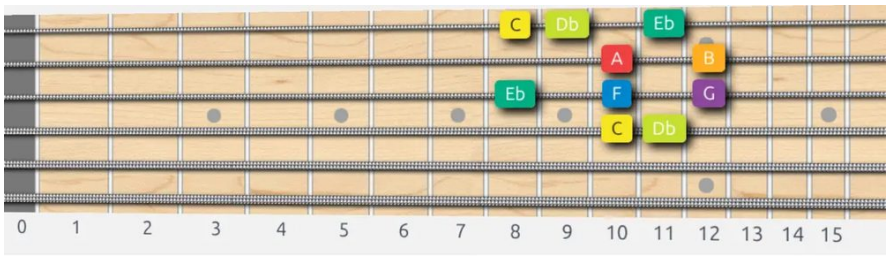
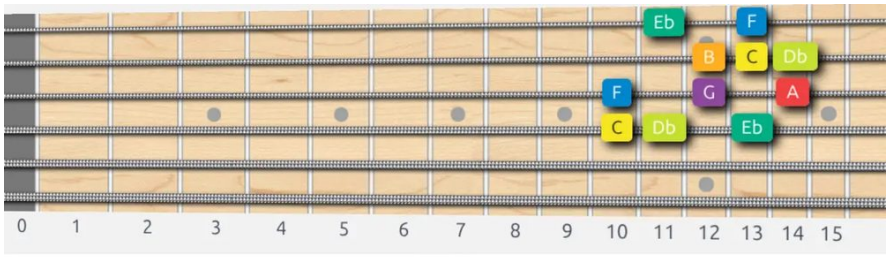
Neapolitan in C, box pattern 1



www.fachords.com

Neapolitan in C, box pattern 2



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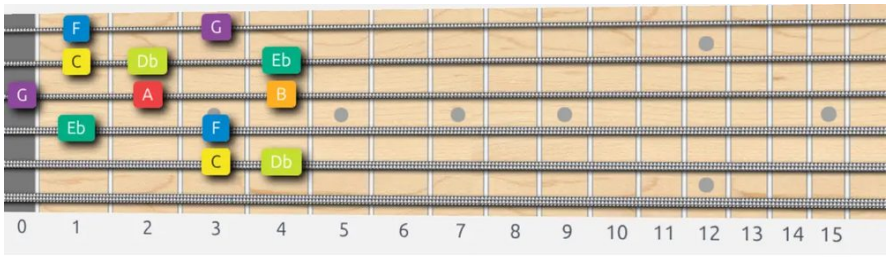
Neapolitan in C, box pattern 3



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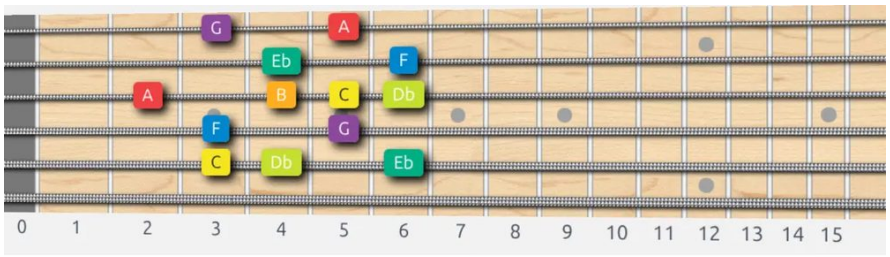
Neapolitan in C, box pattern 4



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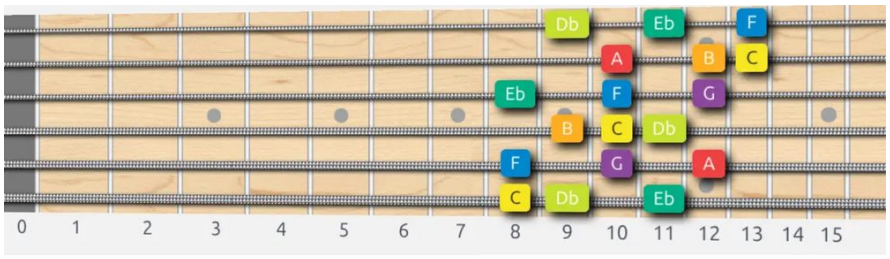
Neapolitan in C, box pattern 5



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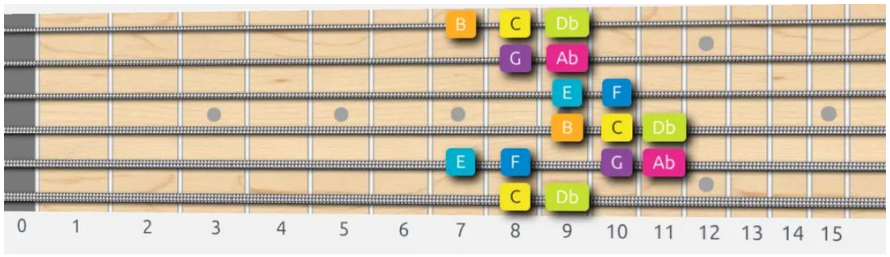
Neapolitan in C, 3 notes per string

Byzantine Scale also: Double Harmonic Major, Hijaz Kar

1 b2 3 4 5 b6 7 C Db E F G Ab B (in C)



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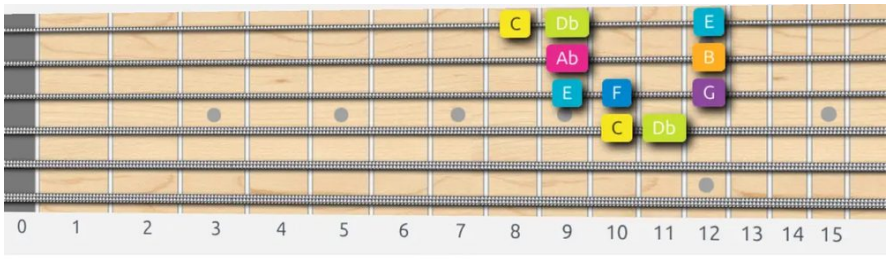
Byzantine in C, box pattern 1



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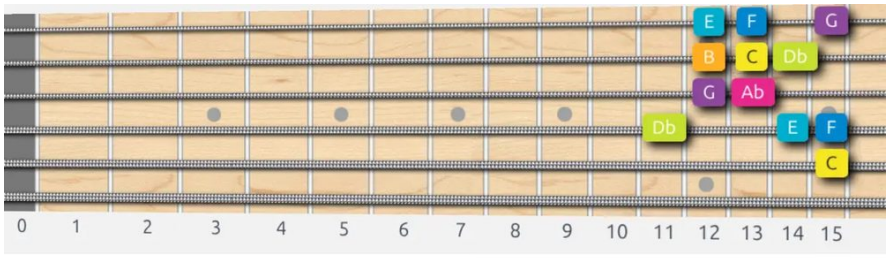
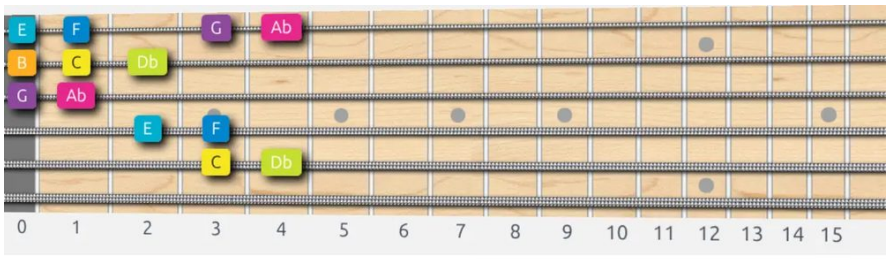
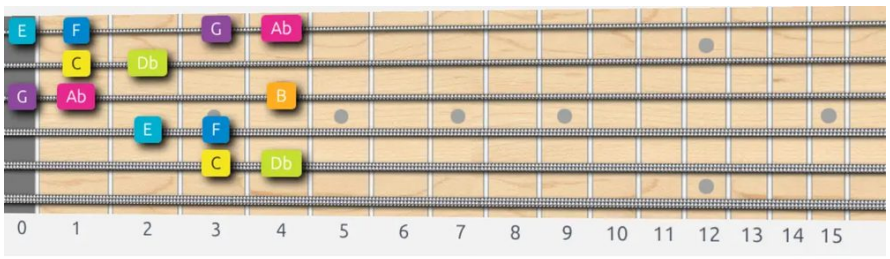
Byzantine in C, box pattern 2



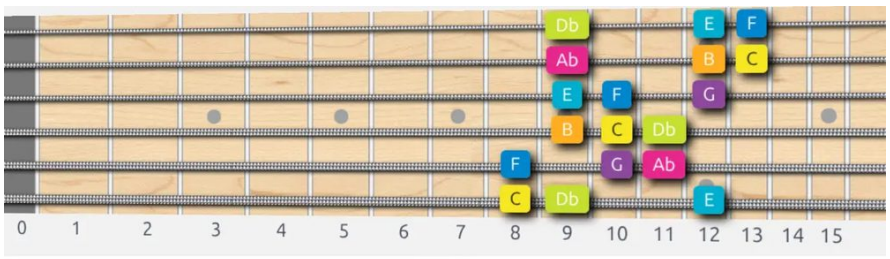
Byzantine in C, box pattern 3



Byzantine in C, box pattern 4



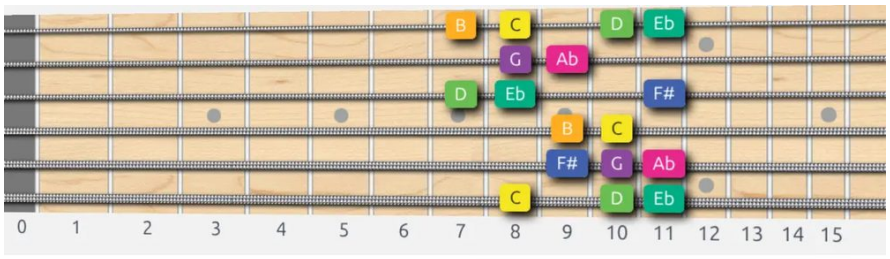
Byzantine in C, box pattern 5



Byzantine in C, 3 notes per string

Gipsy Hungarian Scale also: Hungarian Minor

1 2 b3 #4 5 b6 7 C D Eb F# G Ab B (in C)



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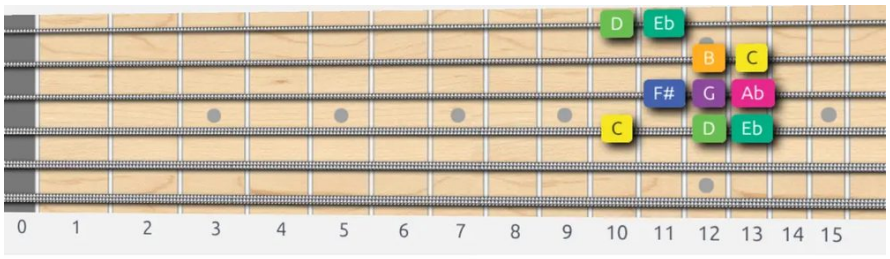
Gipsy Hungarian in C, box pattern 1



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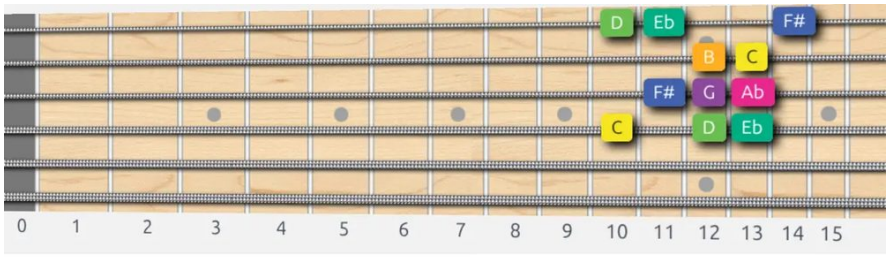
Gipsy Hungarian in C, box pattern 2



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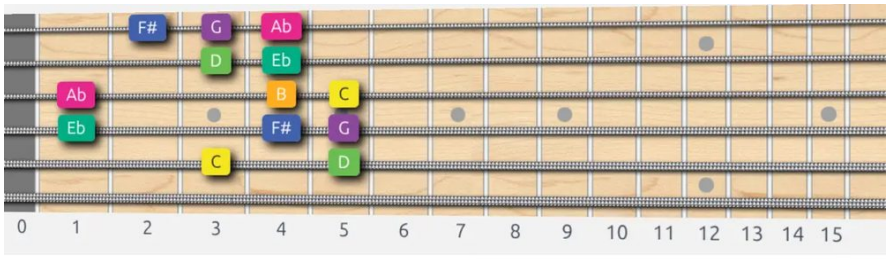
Gipsy Hungarian in C, box pattern 3



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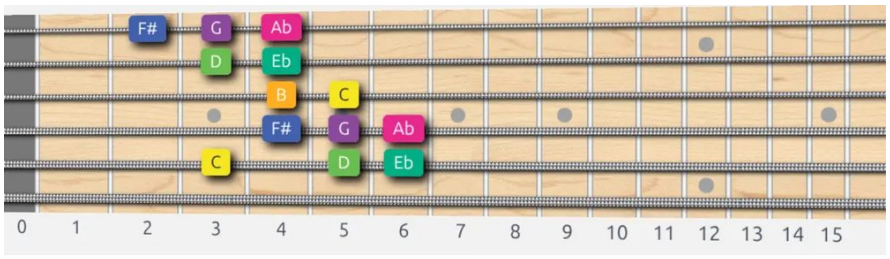
Gipsy Hungarian in C, box pattern 4



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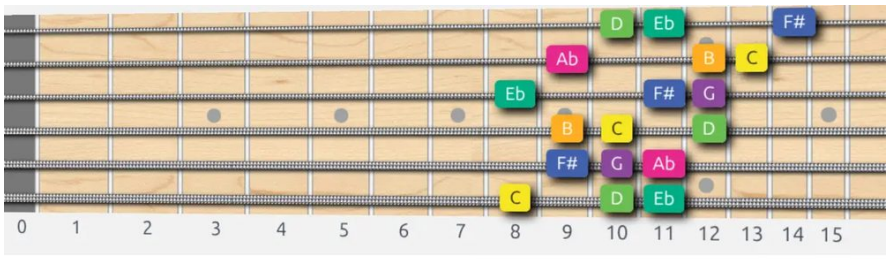
Gipsy Hungarian in C, box pattern 5



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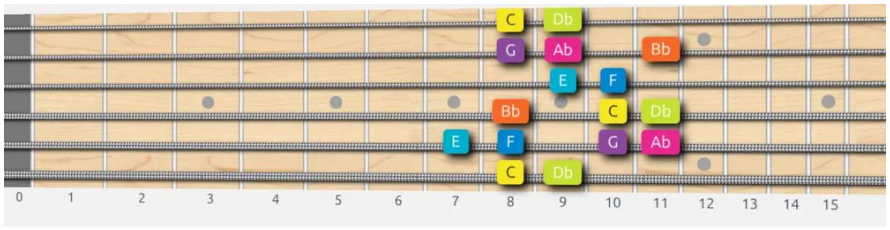
Gipsy Hungarian in C, 3 notes per string

Phrygian Dominant Scale also: Jewish Scale, Ahava Raba, Freygish, Spanish Phrygian

1 b2 3 4 5 b6 b7 C Db E F G Ab Bb (in C)



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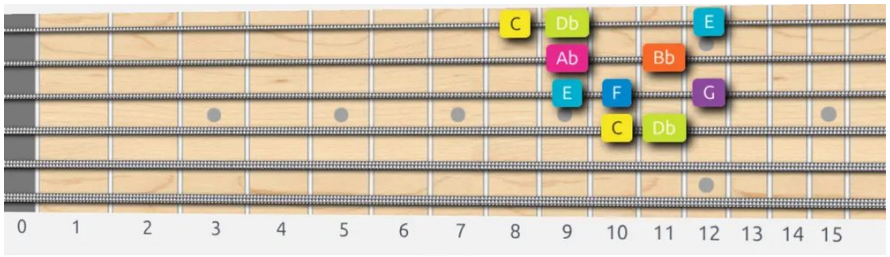
Phrygian Dominant in C, box pattern 1



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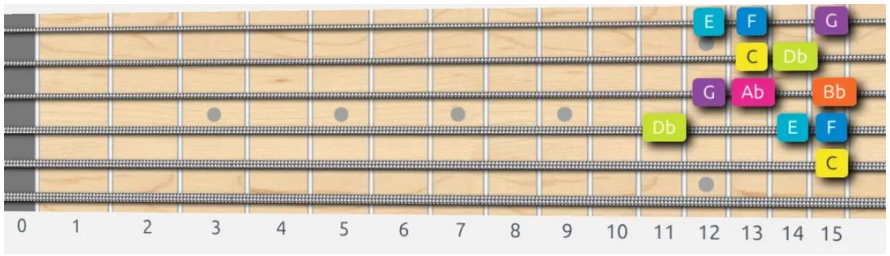
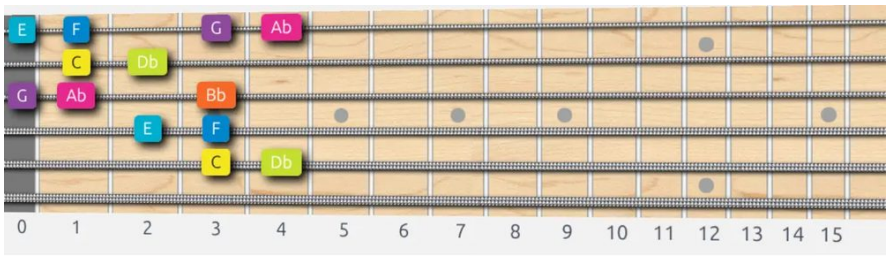
Phrygian Dominant in C, box pattern 2



www.fachords.com

Phrygian Dominant in C, box pattern 3



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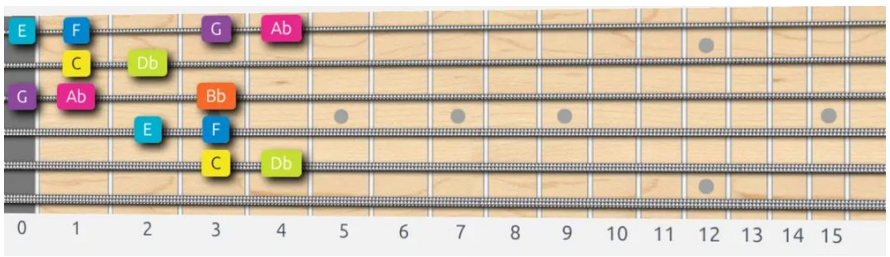
Phrygian Dominant in C, box pattern 4



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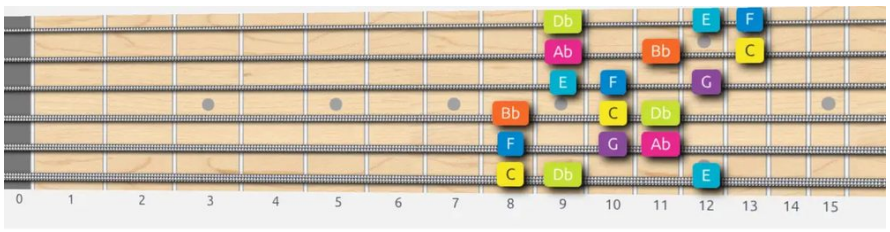
Phrygian Dominant in C, box pattern 5



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Phrygian Dominant in C, 3 notes per string

REFERENCE

Exotic scale formulas

Every scale is a formula: a list of degrees compared to the major scale. The last column shows the notes in C.

Scale	Formula	Notes in C
Indian	1 b2 4 5 b6	C Db F G Ab
Japanese	1 2 4 5 b6	C D F G Ab
Arabic	1 2 3 4 b5 b6 b7	C D E F Gb Ab Bb
Persian	1 b2 3 4 b5 b6 7	C Db E F Gb Ab B
Neapolitan	1 b2 b3 4 5 6 7	C Db Eb F G A B
Byzantine	1 b2 3 4 5 b6 7	C Db E F G Ab B
Gipsy Hungarian	1 2 b3 #4 5 b6 7	C D Eb F# G Ab B
Phrygian Dominant	1 b2 3 4 5 b6 b7	C Db E F G Ab Bb

NEXT STEP

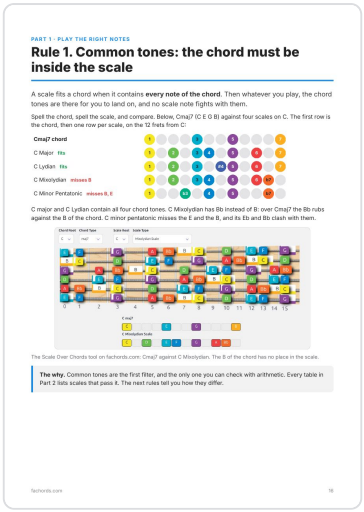
Stop memorizing shapes. Start understanding music.

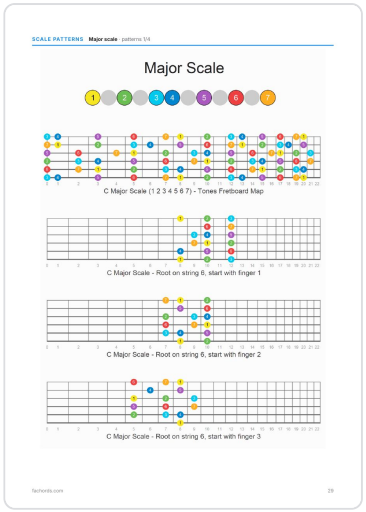
A chart tells you what to play. The FaChords books also tell you why it works, so you stop memorizing and start understanding.

Scales Over Chords

Not just patterns: Scales Over Chords explains the why. You learn which scale fits which chord and the reason it sounds right, with 42 chord-to-scale tables.

See Scales Over Chords





The other two books of the series:

Chords Domination

Not just shapes: Chords Domination explains the why. You learn how a chord is built, why each shape works and how to make any chord yourself, with about 800 voicings to practice on.

See Chords Domination →

52 Chord Progressions

Not just chord lists: 52 Chord Progressions explains the why. You learn what each chord does in the key and how to change it, one progression a week, with 164 progressions in five keys.

See 52 Chord Progressions →

All three books: fachords.com/products/

KEEP GOING

Where to go next on the site

- Free scale library: every scale, every key, five positions each.
- Free chord library: the chords to play your scales over.
- Exotic guitar scales: the full article.
- Tutorials on exotic scales.
- More free PDFs: arpeggios, scales, chords in keys and more.

About

FaChords Guitar is made by Gianca. The goal is simple: **stop memorizing shapes, start understanding music.**

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