CHORD IRANSITION TRANSITIONS IN JUST WEEKS CHORD TRANSITIONS IN JUST WEEKS

CHORD TRANSITION TRAINER

DEVELOP CLEAN CHORD TRANSITIONS IN JUST WEEKS

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The Chord Transition Trainer Method

5-Step Chord Transition Trainer Method

- 1 Get your guitar set up.
- 2 Develop some basic chording technique.
- 3 Play the individual chords on their own first.
- 4 Only work on two chords at a time at first.
- **5 Slowly put things together.**

Choose a Commitment Level

Consistent practice is the biggest factor for success with the 5-Step Chord Transition Trainer Method. You don't have to practice for hours every day, but you do need to pick a commitment level and stick to it. Commit to at least 20-30 minutes per day, 4-6 days per week.

Print the calendar on the following page and schedule your practice session for the next few weeks. Alternatively, you can schedule your practice on your digital device.

Practice Calendar

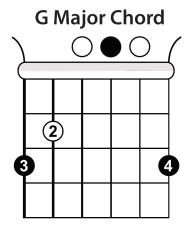
Chord Transition Trainer Practice Calendar

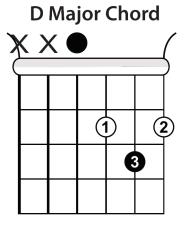
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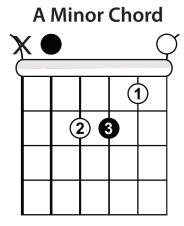
Chording Technique

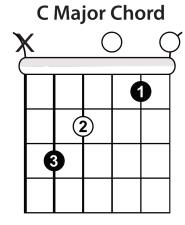
Four Chords for This Course

There are only four chords covered in this course, but the principles presented here work for any chord transition you might encounter in the future. The chords covered here are G major, D major, C major, and A minor.









Chording Technique

Clean Chord Checklist

- 1 Use a footstool or strap to elevate the neck of the guitar.
- 2 Start with a relaxed and neutral posture.
- 3 Don't kink your wrist too far one way or the other.
- 4 Keep your fingers right behind the frets.
- 5 Approach the string around a 45° angle. (This is mostly for open chords. Bar chords are a little different.)
- 6 Try to have curved and tall fingers when making chords.
- 7 Bring your elbow to the side of your body (just let it hang).
- 8 Check each individual string and adjust accordingly.

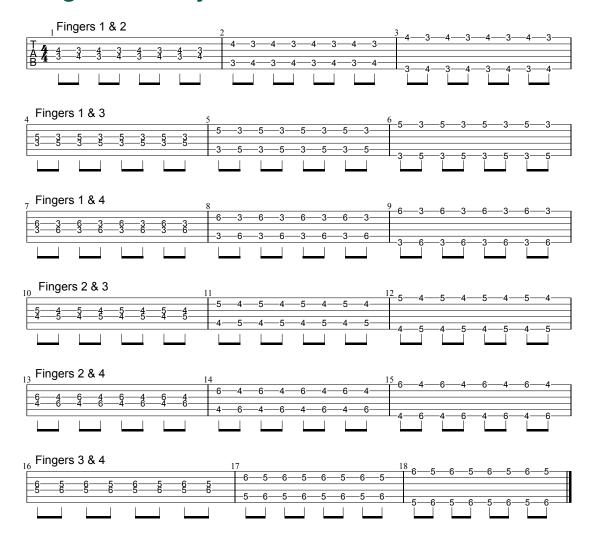
Individual Chords on Their Own First

Tips for Landing Individual Chords

- 1 Take note of which fingers are going on first and last.
- 2 Focus on landing all of your fingers at once.
- 3 Cross-train your fingers. Intentionally start with the finger that usually lands last and vice versa.
- 4 Create the chord in midair before landing.
- 5 Practice multiple times per day if possible.
- 6 Put in the practice time and fight to develop finger independence and control.
- 7 Incorporate the Finger Dexterity Exercise on the following page into your daily practice.

Individual Chords on Their Own First

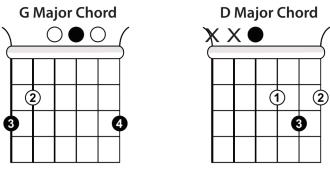
Finger Dexterity Exercise

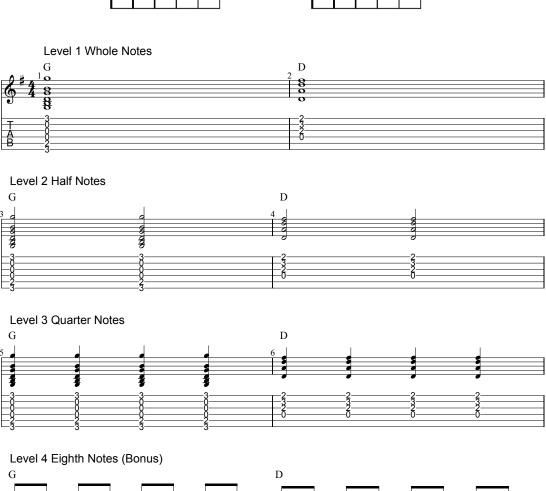


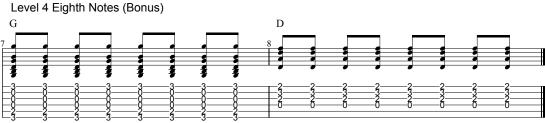
Tips for Clean Chord Transitions

- 1 Be sure you can go to the individual chords on their own first.
- 2 Start with only two adjacent chords at a time.
- 3 Start out SLOW!
- 4 Practice awareness of the next chord.
- 5 Focus on what the next chord feels like.
- 6 Focus on what the next chord looks like.
- 7 Keep the strumming simple at first.
- 8 Practice without a metronome at first.
- 9 Once you feel comfortable, start incorporating a metronome into your practice.
- 10 Stay consistent and practice multiple times per day if possible.

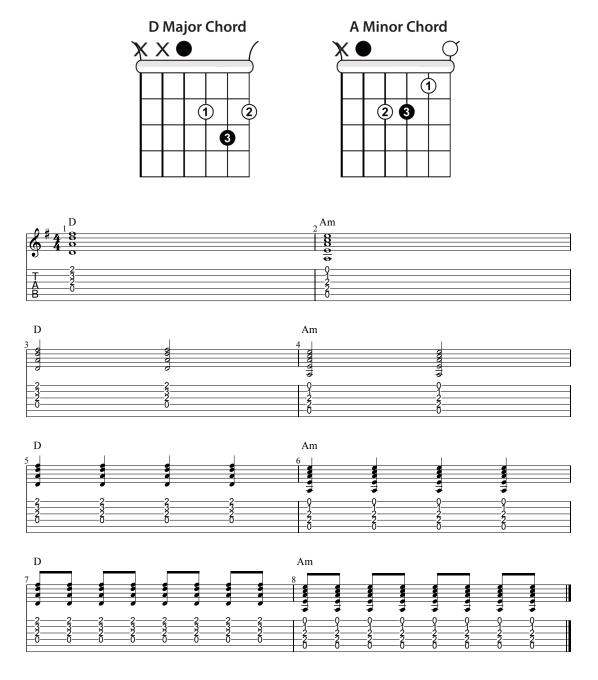
G & D Chords



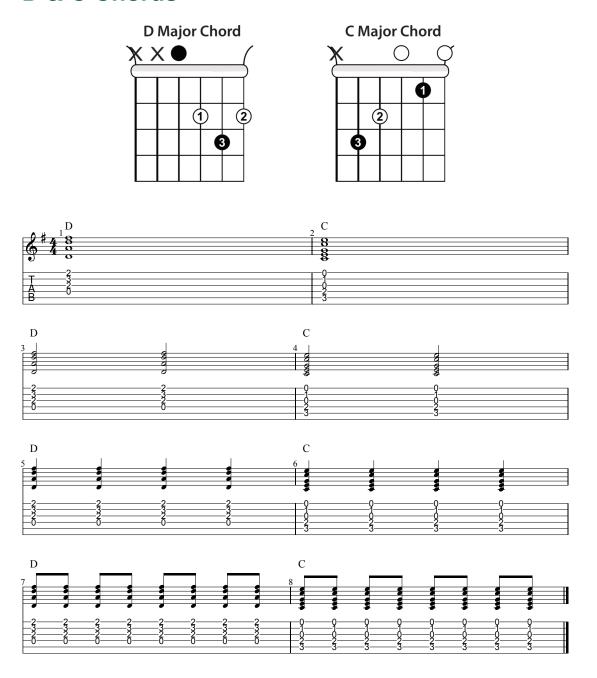




D & A Minor Chords



D & C Chords

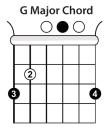


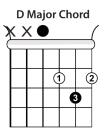
Putting Everything Together

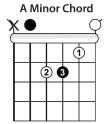
Tips for Full Chord Progressions

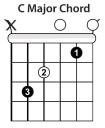
- 1 Familiarize yourself with the chord progression first. Memorize it if possible.
- 2 Start with no metronome.
- 3 Go as slowly as you need to make zero mistakes.
- 4 Practice awareness of the chord that is coming next.
- 5 Have the sheet music where you can see it.
- 6 When you are feeling confident, start incorporating a metronome.
- 7 Isolate your strumming and timing with the Strumming Dr. course if necessary.
- 8 Keep your strumming simple at first, and gradually make it more advanced.
- 9 Be consistent with your practice and practice multiple times per day if possible.

Putting Everything Together

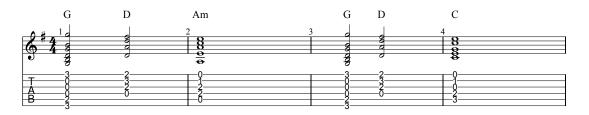




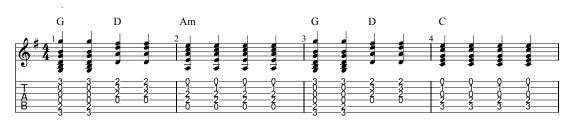




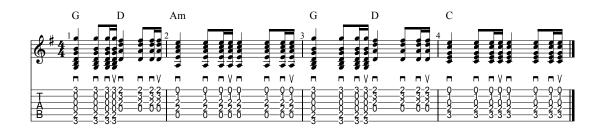
Full Progression With Whole & Half Notes



Full Progression With Quarter Notes



Full Progression With 16th Note Pattern



Where Do You Go From Here?

Once you have your chord transitions under control, it's important to make sure your strumming and timing are on equally solid ground. I recommend going through the first few modules of The Strumming Dr. Course here on the Guitar Fam site. Getting bar chords under your fingers is an important skill as well. You can check out the first four modules of The Bar Chord Masterclass to get started with those.

After you've developed the core skills of strumming, timing, clean chords, and smooth chord transitions, you will want to focus on learning fun songs. Most of what you practice should flow from the pieces of music you've chosen. We have loads of easy songs available here on the Guitar Fam site for you to learn. Go to the Songs page on the site and pick one or two to start working on today.

Of course, you will most likely want to get into some specific styles of guitar, like the blues or fingerstyle. When you are ready to tackle one of these styles, we've got you covered with the Fingerstyle Masterclass and the Blues Hound course.

Be sure to stay consistent with your practice, break things down into their smallest components, and apply everything you work on to songs. We are here for you as you progress. Just email us at support@guitarfam.com if you have any questions.

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