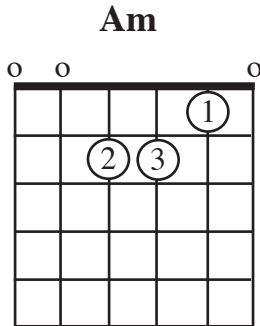


## THE A MINOR (Am) CHORD

To learn this chord, follow the instructions.



Picture 6

1. Place your left thumb in proper position. One at a time, position the left hand fingers as shown in the chord diagram.

① = Place finger 1 on string 2 behind fret 1.

② = Place finger 2 on string 4, fret 2.

③ = Place finger 3 on string 3, fret 2.

2. Above the nut you will see an "o" over three strings: 1, 5 and 6. These strings are to be played OPEN, which means there will be no left hand fingers placed on them.
3. Picture 6 shows the *Am* chord. Notice that the fingers are curved, with only the tips touching the string and fretboard. Imitate this picture.
4. Squeeze and hold the *Am* chord. Strum the chord with your right thumb, making sure that all six strings sound equally. Strum several times, keeping an even beat.

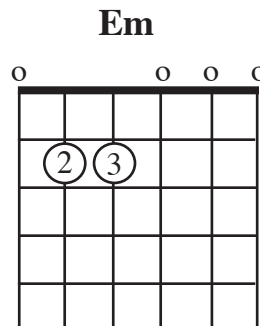
## THE E MINOR (Em) CHORD

**Learn the correct left hand position for the *Em* chord without the help of your teacher. Always maintain the following:**

- 1) good body position,
- 2) careful placement of your right arm,
- 3) proper left thumb position.

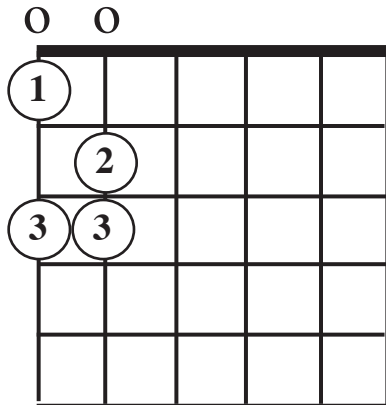
**PRACTICE** strumming *Em*, keeping the right hand relaxed.

**DO WORK SHEET 1.**

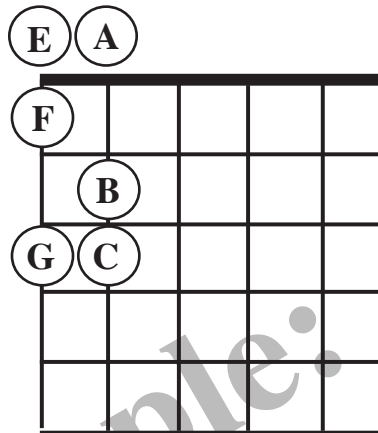


## ADDING THE BASS LINE

The bass part uses notes played on strings 5 and 6 of the guitar. Bass notes are usually played ONE AT A TIME.



**CHART 1**



**CHART 2**

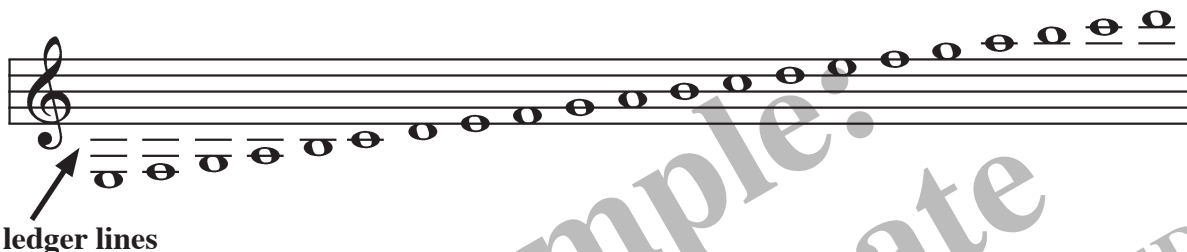
FOLLOW THESE STEPS CAREFULLY.

- 1) Begin with Chart 1. Play string 6 OPEN.
- 2) Place finger 1 on string 6, fret 1. Play.
- 3) Place finger 3 on string 6, fret 3. Play.
- 4) Play all three notes on string 6 ONE AFTER ANOTHER. LEAVE FINGER 1 IN PLACE AS YOU PLAY FINGER 3. SAY: *open - 1 - 3* as you play. As soon as you can do this easily, play these three notes backward.
- 5) Practice the string 6 notes FORWARD AND BACKWARD, ALWAYS SAYING THE FRET NAME AS YOU PLAY. When your fingers automatically go to the correct fret, do step 6.
- 6) Learn the notes on string 5, using the same method as in steps 1-5 above. When you are fluent, go on to step 7.
- 7) Play the notes on strings 6 and 5 one after another, up and down.
- 8) MOVE TO CHART 2. Play the notes on string 6, but instead of saying the finger numbers, SAY THE LETTER NAMES OF THE NOTES. (Notice that the music alphabet only goes to G, then starts over.) Play up and down.
- 9) When you have mastered the note names on string 6, learn the ones on string 5.
- 10) PUT THE NOTES OF THE TWO STRINGS TOGETHER-----WHEN IT'S PERFECT, GO TO THE NEXT PAGE.

## VOCABULARY

NOTATION: the written representation of sound

Guitar music is written on the lines and spaces of the TREBLE (G) staff. However, the guitar can play many more notes than the nine which fit on the staff itself. These other notes are written using LEDGER LINES located above and below the staff itself.



The notes on strings 6 and 5, **E - F - G - A - B - C**, are written on ledger lines **BELOW** the staff. Low "E" sits on a space below three ledger lines. The other five notes are **HIGHER** and follow "E", going upward on ledger lines and spaces.

**String 6**

NOTE: E F G  
FINGER: 0 1 3

**String 5**

A B C  
0 2 3

Chart 2

**PLAY THE STRING 6 AND 5 NOTES , USING THE BOXED EXAMPLES ABOVE.**

- 1) **PLAY E - F - G ON STRING 6.** Keep your eyes on the NOTES IN THE BOOK. There is no need to look at your fingers. They already know what to do. Play up and down, saying note names as you go.
- 2) **PLAY A - B - C ON STRING 5 IN THE SAME FASHION.**
- 3) **NOW PUT THEM ALL TOGETHER, USING EXAMPLE 5 ON THE NEXT PAGE. SAY THE NOTE NAMES AS YOU PLAY.**

## PLAYING CLASSICAL MUSIC

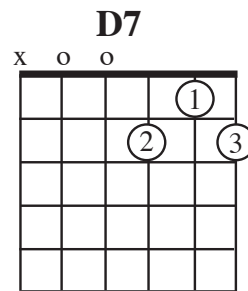
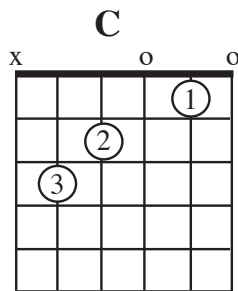
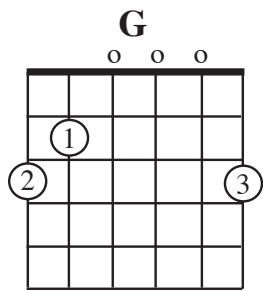
The term "**classical music**" has different meanings for different people. Most commonly, we use the term when referring to art music which is generally listened to closely by an audience. Classical music is found in many of the world's cultures. You may have seen and heard some of the classical music of other countries through cultural exchange concerts, on television or through the internet.

The classical music of our country is based on the Western European tradition. Famous composers in this style include J. S. Bach, Ludwig Beethoven, Johannes Brahms, Frederic Chopin, George F. Handel, Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Maurice Ravel, Peter Tchaikovsky, Richard Wagner and many others. Classical American composers include Leonard Bernstein, Ernest Bloch, John Cage, Aaron Copland, George Gershwin, William Grant Still and Randall Thompson. Play the practice piece below with two of your friends or as a class guitar orchestra.

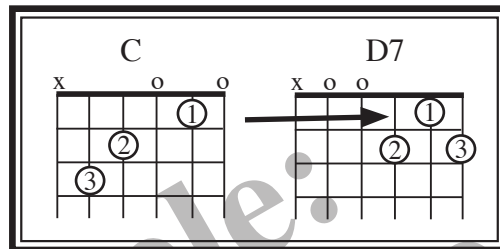
NOTE: G      G #  
 FINGER: 0      1



Folk song tunes are often used as the basis for classical compositions. The one on the next page has been used by many composers. One of the most famous was an Austrian, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756-1791. To learn more about him, refer to an encyclopedia in your media center or to the internet. Periodicals may mention *Amadeus*, a play (and movie) about Mozart and another composer of his time, Salieri.



The C chord is used in the song below. You will find it quite easy moving from C to D7 due to the common finger (see the E-Z MOVER). However, the G and C chords have no common, guide or relative fingers. Practice this change **patiently** until it is smooth.



**THE KEY SIGNATURE**

Sharps or flats appearing after the clef are called the **key signature**. They indicate the notes which are to be raised or lowered **THROUGHOUT THE PIECE**. This song is in the Key of G. All F's are sharped. (There are no F#'s in the melody, but there is one in the D7 chord. Find it.)



Key of G



**When the Saints Go Marching In**

Traditional American Hymn

Musical score for "When the Saints Go Marching In" in G major. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord diagrams are placed above the notes they apply to.

Staff 1: Measures 1-4. Chord G is indicated above the 3rd measure. Lyrics: "Oh, when the saints go march - ing in,"

Staff 2: Measures 5-8. Chord D7 is indicated above the 8th measure. Lyrics: "oh, when the saints go march - ing in."

Staff 3: Measures 9-12. Chord G is indicated above the 10th measure, and Chord C is indicated above the 12th measure. Lyrics: "Lord, I want to be in that num - ber"

Staff 4: Measures 13-16. Chords G, C, D7, and G are indicated above the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th measures respectively. Lyrics: "when the saints go march - ing in."



# This Old Man

English folk tune/ arr. Marsters

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The score consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The music begins with a melody in the top staff, followed by accompaniment in the middle and bottom staves.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Measure 5 is marked with a '5' and the word 'melody'. The top staff contains the melody. The middle staff contains guitar strumming patterns with 'x' marks, and the bottom staff contains the bass line. Chord markings 'G', 'C', and 'D7' are placed above the middle staff.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The top staff contains the melody. The middle staff contains guitar strumming patterns with 'x' marks, and the bottom staff contains the bass line. Chord markings 'G', 'D7', and 'G' are placed above the middle staff.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Measure 13 is marked with a '13' and the instruction 'play the notes'. The top staff contains the melody. The middle and bottom staves contain the accompaniment.