

LEVEL II (The more info. than you might need section)

We can play everything we've learned in different places on the guitar neck.

I have put all the lessons in the key of A and E. Most all of these can be played in A and E using other places on the neck. Also, by moving them around (up or down) the neck, to different strings and frets, we can play them in any key. By far the easiest way to do this is to use a capo. [Supplement #7] But whether we use a capo or some other methods, (like barre chords) we first need a way to figure out how far up the neck to go in order to play in different keys, or just to play the same things in different places. Some players just try things out in various places until it sounds right. Congratulations to those who get what they need this way. But since I'm writing a book, I will explain the most common ways. Ones that don't require a great ear, or much theory. (But you need a little.)

First, we need to know what I call "The Musical Alphabet". [Supp.#6 Theory] Here are those notes, from the "musical alphabet" placed on the guitar neck. (6th and 5th strings only)

THEORY: Some notes have two names!
Example Eb (E flat) is the same note as D# (D sharp). [see Supplement #6 Theory]
For now, just being aware of this fact is enough.

Now, find the D note on the 5th string 5th fret. We also find it on the 6th string 10th fret! You will find it is nice to have more than one place to find the same thing. Some players use the dots on the fret board (if your guitar has them) to help find and remember certain notes. (Most guitars have those dots or fret markers in the same basic arrangement.) You will notice that most guitars mark the 12th fret with something special like two dots. This is because we use that 12 note "musical alphabet". [Supplement #6 again] So if you play that big E string (6th) open, it is an E note. If you play it on the 12th fret that also is an E note one octave up. [Bet you know where to look-Supp.#6]

	E	A		
	0	0		
F	0	0	Bb/ A#	
Gb/ F#	0	0	B	
G	0	0	C	•
Ab/ G#	0	0	Db/ C#	
A	0	0	D	•
Bb/ A#	0	0	Eb/ D#	
B	0	0	E	•
C	0	0	F	
Db/ C#	0	0	Gb/ F#	
D	0	0	G	
Eb/ D#	0	0	Ab/ G#	
E	0	0	A	•

Let's see how this "fretboard knowledge" can be applied.

For lesson #1, just find those root notes up the neck on 5th & 6th strings.