Chord Voicing for Flamenco Guitar

Chord voicings and substitutions are simply ways of expressing an idea, but an idea of sound. Chords have functions - they create or resolve tension - and in music there is always a new way to express a function.

In this PDF we are simply presenting you with some of the more common voicings used in flamenco. We have categorized these chords by function, which simply means that we are presenting various ways to express the idea of, say, Bb when playing Por Medio.

For this reason, each chord is labelled as follows:
Function (Specific voicing) - for example, "Bb (Bb 9, #11)" means that the chord's function is that of Bb, which tends to want to resolve to A, but the specific voicing includes a 9 and a #11. Where a chord is simply labeled C, or Cm that means that the voicing is a triad with no notes added.
If this terminology means nothing to you don't worry. It's enough to know that this voicing can serve as a Bb any time you are playing Por Medio.

This PDF is by no means definitive or comprehensive. These are simply some common voicings in the flamenco guitarist's repertoire. You may see a player use different voicings, and you may know a few voicings that are not present here. You can simply add any voicings you learn elsewhere to your repertoire of voicings that serve the function you are trying to express.

For the sake of consistency and clarity we will adhere to the following terminology:

C = a C Major Triad
Cm = a C minor triad
CM7 = a C Major 7 chord
Cm7 = a C minor 7 chord
C7 = a C Dominant 7 chord
C addX = a C Major triad with added notes (NOT a dominant chord)
C/G = Indicates that the bass note is a G
C9, C13, etc.. = a C Dominant 7 chord with added notes
C no 3rd = a C chord that has no 3rd, and is therefore neither Major nor minor

Por Medio
Bb Function

Bb
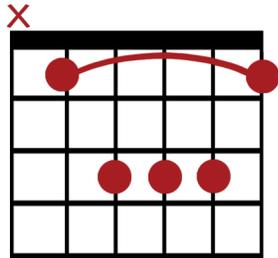
Bb (Bb7)
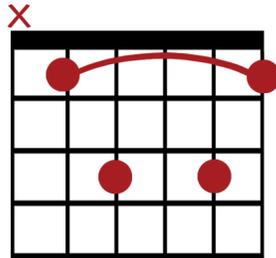
Bb (Bb add #11 13)
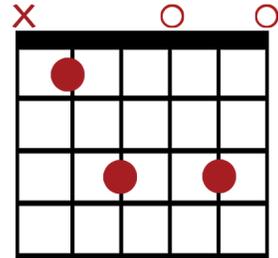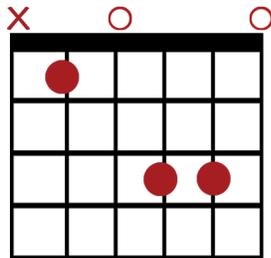
Bb (Bb add #11)

### Bb (Bb add #11/F)

Bb (Bb9 #11/F)


Bb (Bb13/Ab)


Bb (BbMaj7 #11 13)

### Bb
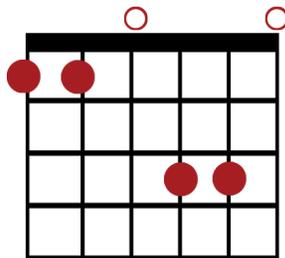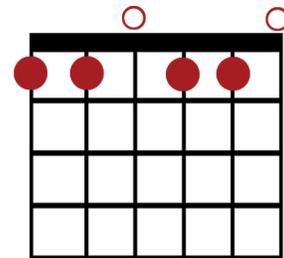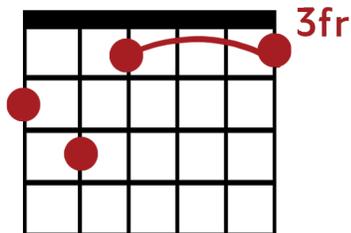
Por Medio
A Function

A
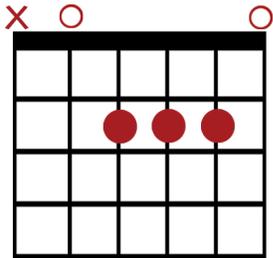
A (A add b9)
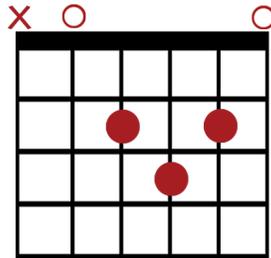
A (Asus4 add b9)

A (A7/G)

A
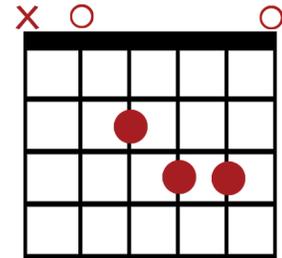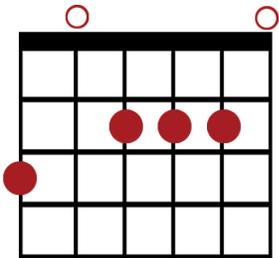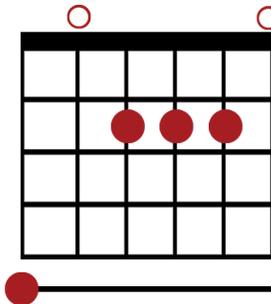
A (Asus 4 add b9)
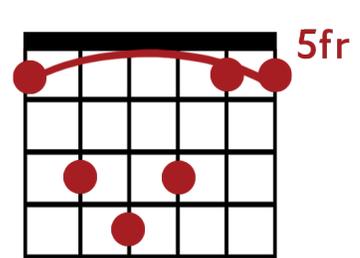
Por Medio
## Dm, C, Bb, A Progressions with like voicings

Triadic voicings
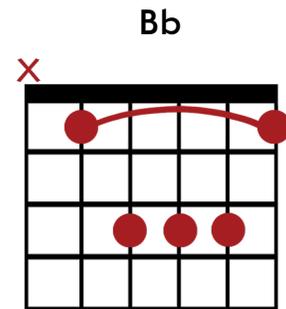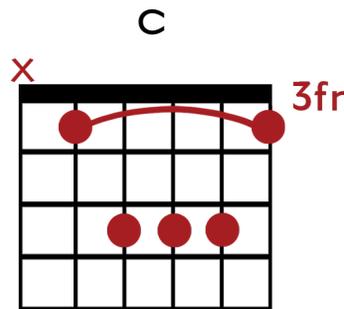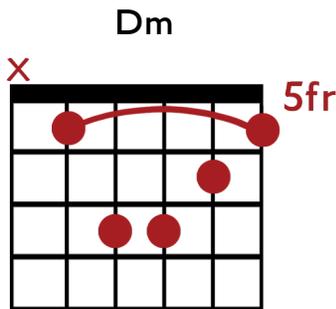
7th Chords
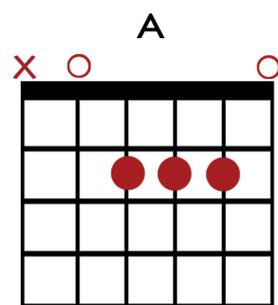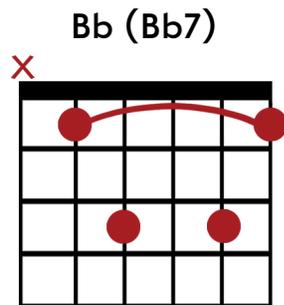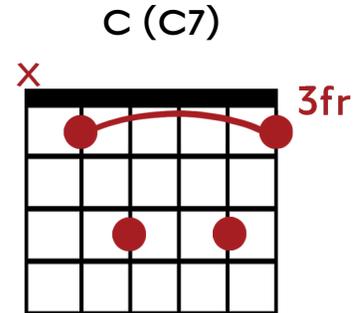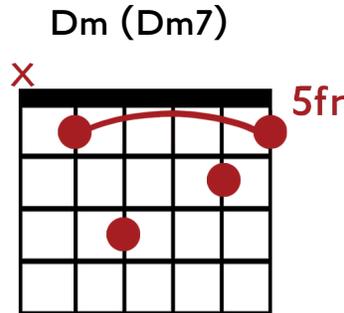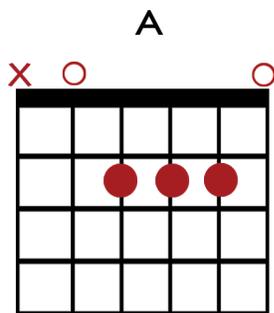
Por Medio

D-, C, Bb, A Progressions with like voicings

9th Chords

Dm (Dm9)   C (C9)   Bb (Bb9 # 11)
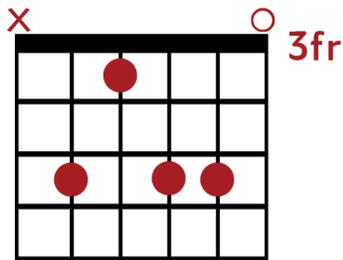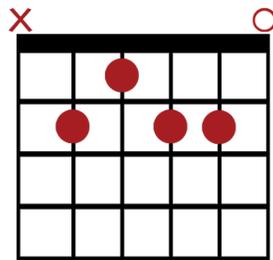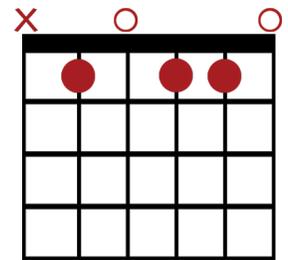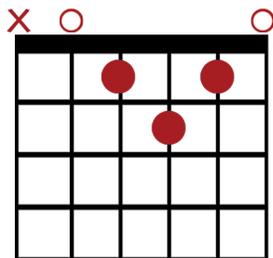
A (Asus4)

With G & E open

Dm (Dm add 9, 11)   C   Bb (Bb add #11 13)
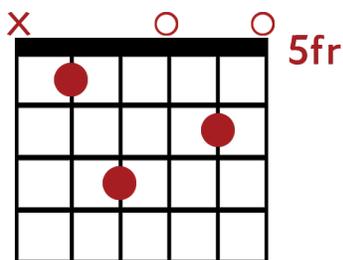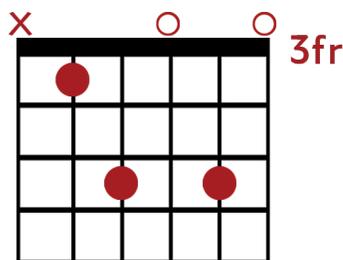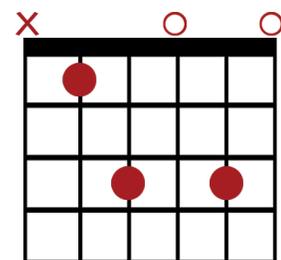
Por Medio

D-, C, Bb, A Progressions with like voicings

With G & E open

A (Asus 4)
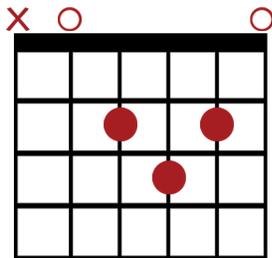
With no 3rd add 9
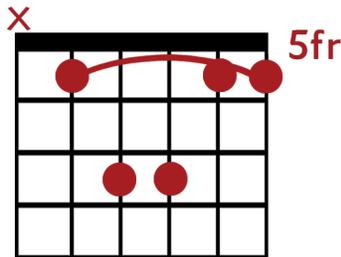
Dm (Dm no 3rd add9)   C (C no 3rd add9)   Bb (Bb no 3rd add9)

5fr   3fr

A
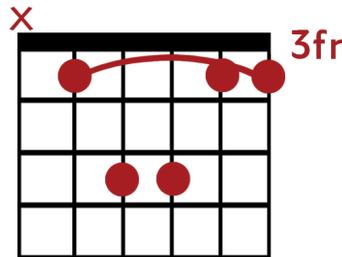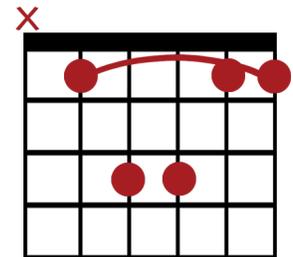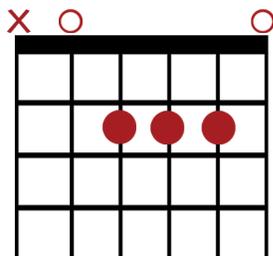
Por Medio
Open Position Dm Voicings

Dm   Dm (Dm add9)   Dm (Dm add9/F)
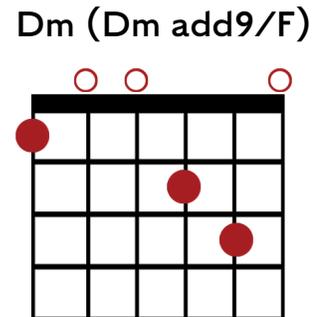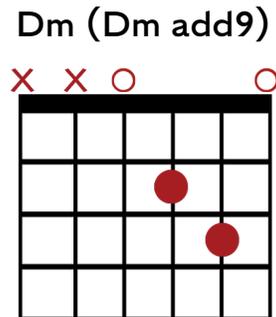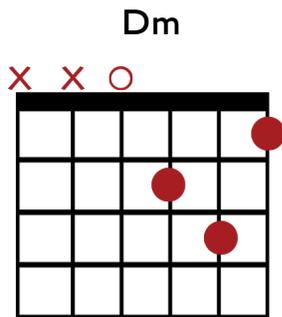
Por Medio
Open Position C Voicings

C

C (C/G)

C (C7)
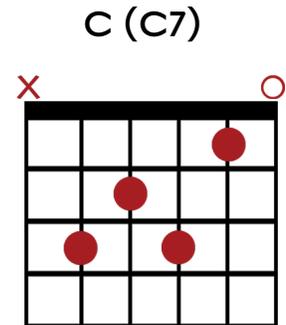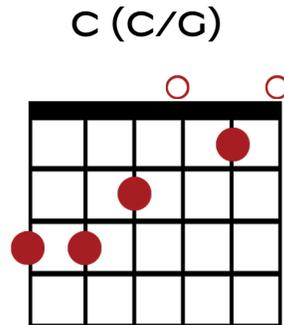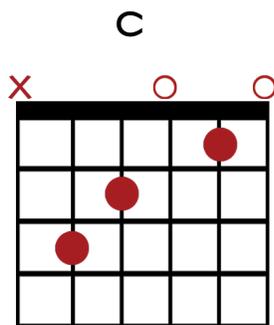
C (C7/G)

used mainly to resolve to F

C (C9)
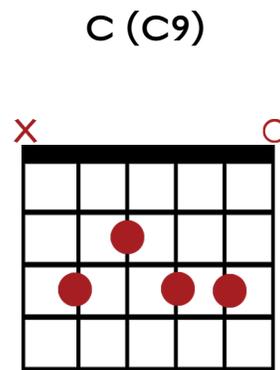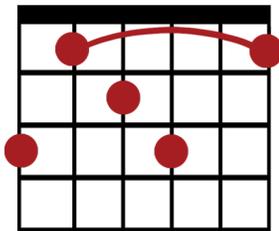
# Por Medio
Common open-position Dm, C, Bb, A progressions

Dm
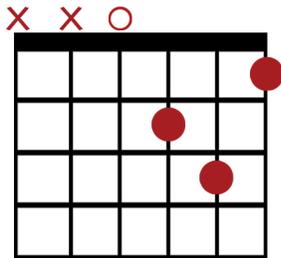
C
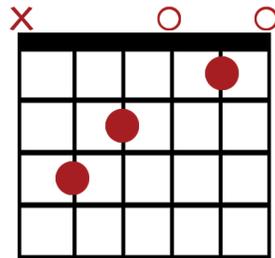
Bb
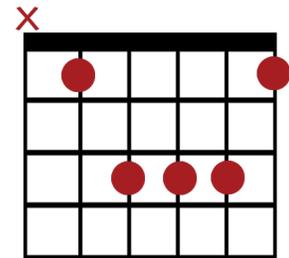
A
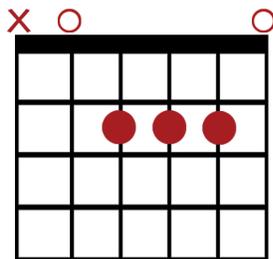
Dm (Dm add b13 or Bb/D)
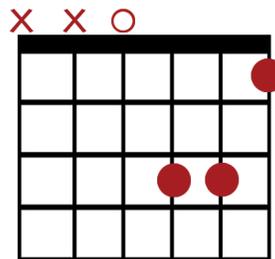
C (C9)
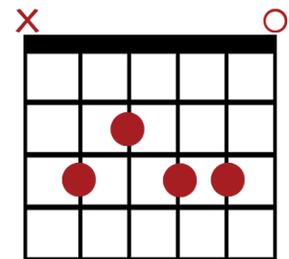
Bb (Bb add #11)

A
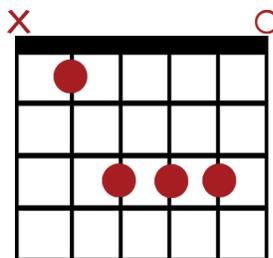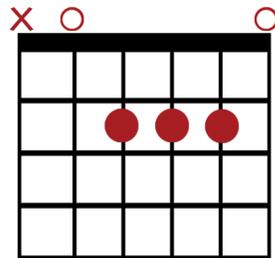
Por Arriba
Voicings we use for the E function

E
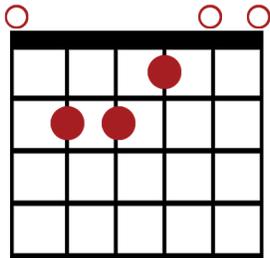
E
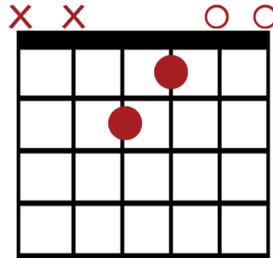
E (E add b9)
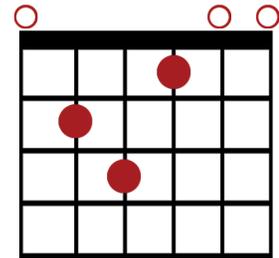
E (E add b9)
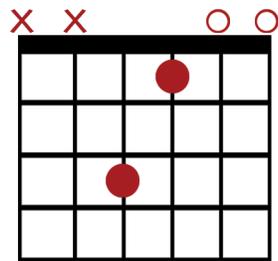
E (Esus4 add b9)
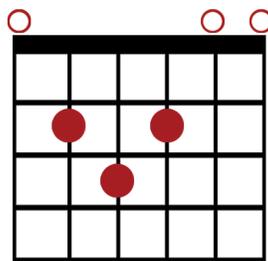
E (E no 3rd add b9)
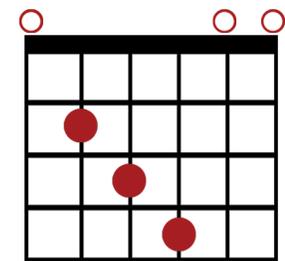

E (E no 3rd add b9)
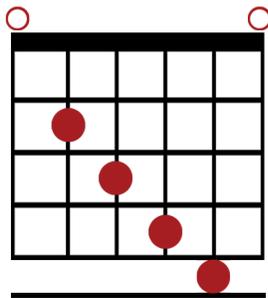
E (Esus4 add b9)
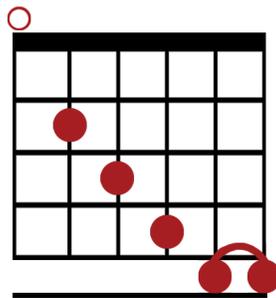
E (E no 3rd)
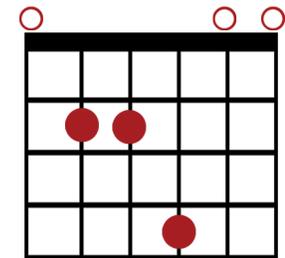
Por Arriba
## Voicings we use for the E function

E (E/G#)

E (E add b9/G#)
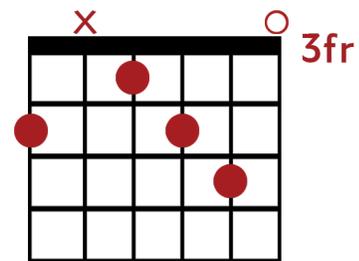
3fr

# Por Arriba
Voicings we use for the F function

F (FM7 #11)
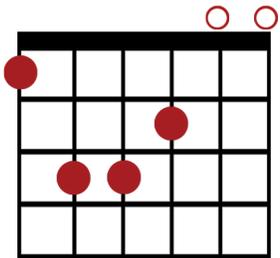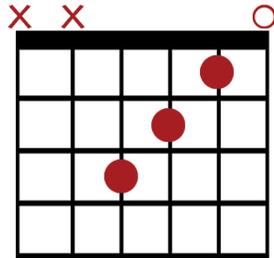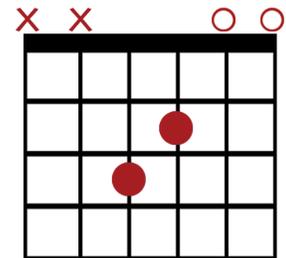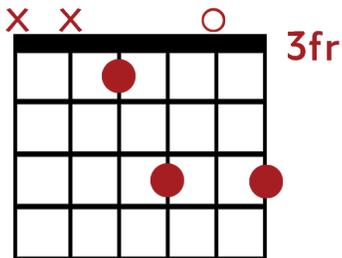
F (FM7)

F (FM7 #11)

F (F add #11)

F

F (F/A)
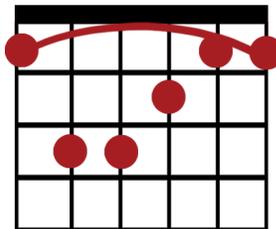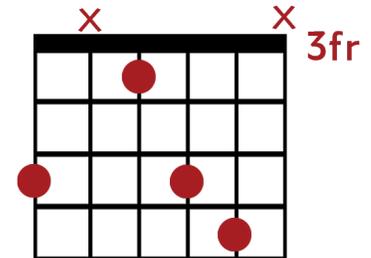
Por Arriba
Common voicings for Am, G, F, E Progressions

Triadic Voicings

Am

5fr

G

3fr
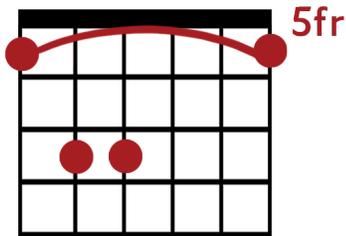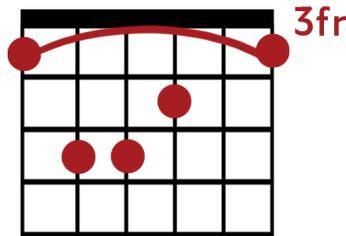
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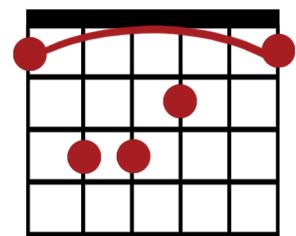
E

7th Chord Voicings

Am (Am7)
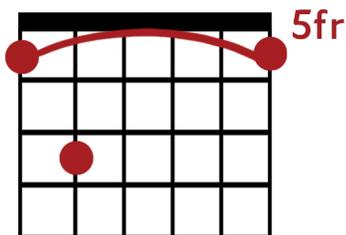
5fr

G (G7)

3fr

F (F7)
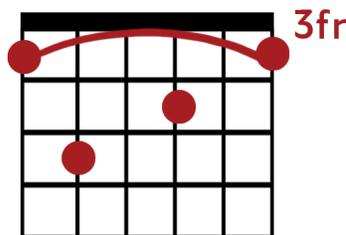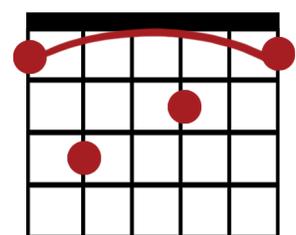
Por Arriba
Common voicings for Am, G, F, E Progressions

7th Chord Voicings

E (E add b9)
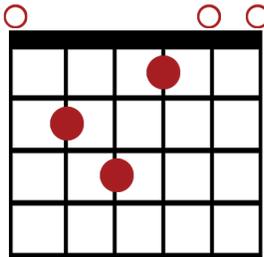
With Open Strings

Am (Am9)
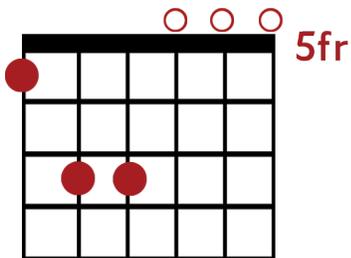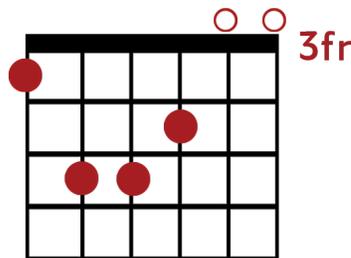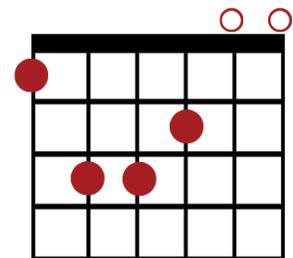
5fr

G (G add 13)

3fr
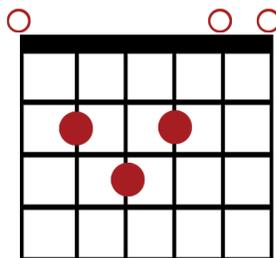
F (FM7 #11)

E (Esus4 add b9)

# Por Arriba
## Common voicings for Am, G, F, E Progressions

A Pedal Voicings
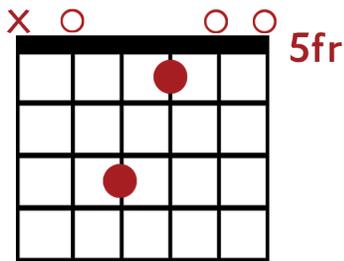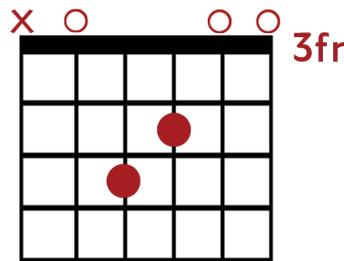
Am (Am add9) G (G add 9, 13) F (FM7 #11)
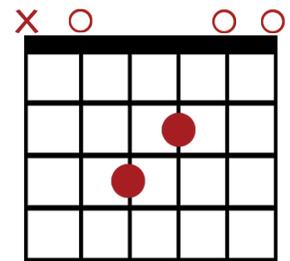
E (Esus4 add b9)
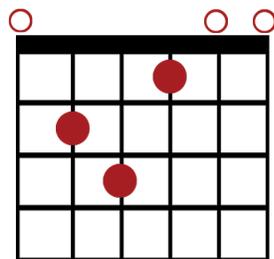
Darker 7th Chords

Am (Am7) G (G7) F (F7)
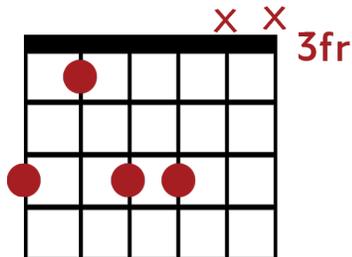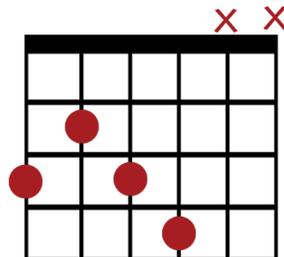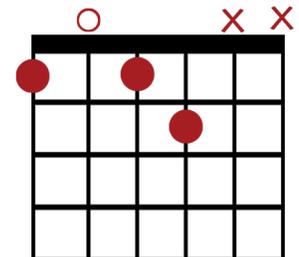
Por Arriba
Common voicings for Am, G, F, E Progressions

Darker 7th Chords

E (E add b9)
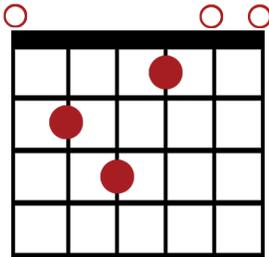
## Open Position - 1
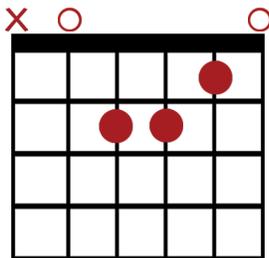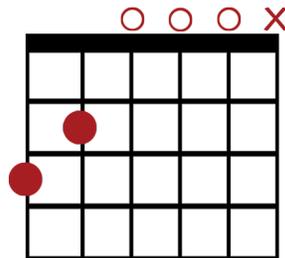
Am

G


F (FM7 #11)

E
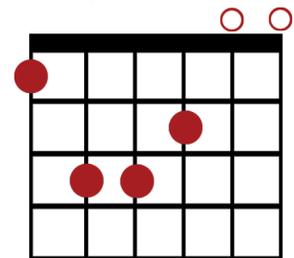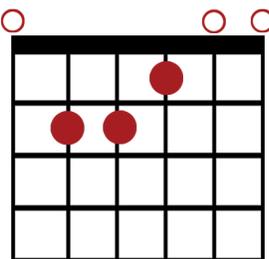
Por Arriba
Common voicings for Am, G, F, E Progressions

Open Position - 2

Am (Am add9)
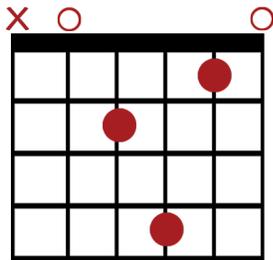
**G (G add11, 13)**
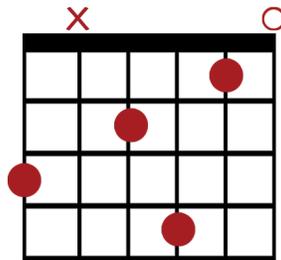
F (FM7 #11)
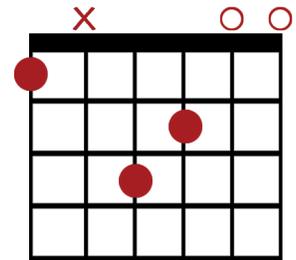

**E (E add b9)**
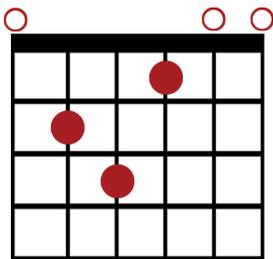
Por Arriba
## Some Miscellaneous Voicings

E (E no 3rd)
Basically a power chord!
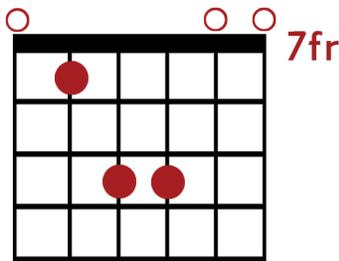
E (E no 3rd add b9)

E (E add b9)

E (E add b9)

F (FM7 b7 #11)

F (FM7 b7 #11)