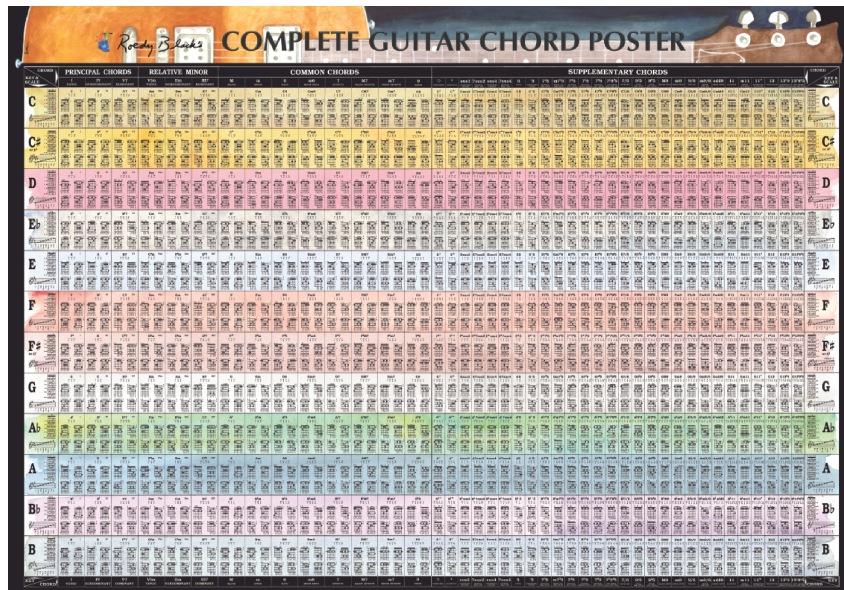


*Roedy Black's*

# COMPLETE GUITAR CHORD POSTER

## User Guide



The poster is a comprehensive reference tool for guitarists, organized into four main sections: PRINCIPAL CHORDS, RELATIVE MINOR, COMMON CHORDS, and SUPPLEMENTARY CHORDS. Each section contains a grid of chord names and their corresponding fretboard diagrams. The PRINCIPAL CHORDS section is divided into Major, Minor, and Diminished categories. The RELATIVE MINOR section shows the relationship between major and minor chords. The COMMON CHORDS section includes various triads and dyads. The SUPPLEMENTARY CHORDS section covers more complex chords and extensions. The poster is color-coded by chord type: Major (yellow), Minor (blue), Diminished (red), and Extended (green). Each chord entry includes a diagram showing the fretboard with fingerings and a list of notes.

PRINCIPAL CHORDS		RELATIVE MINOR		COMMON CHORDS		SUPPLEMENTARY CHORDS	
Major	Minor	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	Major	Minor
C	A	D	B	E	C	F	D
C <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>+</sup>	D <sup>+</sup>	B <sup>+</sup>	E <sup>+</sup>	C <sup>+</sup>	F <sup>+</sup>	D <sup>+</sup>
D	B	E	C	F	D	G	E
E <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>b</sup>
E	C	F	D	G	E	A	F
F	D	G	E	A	F	B <sup>+</sup>	G <sup>+</sup>
F <sup>+</sup>	D <sup>+</sup>	G <sup>+</sup>	E <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>+</sup>	F <sup>+</sup>	B	G
G	E	A	F	B	G	C <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>
A <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	C	A
A	F	B	G	C	A	C <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>+</sup>
B <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>+</sup>	D <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup>
B	G	C	A	D	B	D	B



## **ALSO FROM ROEDY BLACK MUSIC**

*How Music REALLY Works!*

*The Gold Standard Song List*

*Roedy Black's Complete Keyboard Chord Poster*  
(various chart and book editions)

*Roedy Black's Guitar & Keyboard Scales Poster*  
(various chart and book editions)

*Roedy Black's Chord Progression Chart*  
(various chart and book editions)

*Roedy Black's Musical Instruments Poster*

# 1.

## How to Read the Chord Diagrams

If you're unsure of the meaning of any of the numbers and symbols on the *Complete Guitar Chord Poster*, refer to this example:

**M7**  
**MAJOR SEVENTH**

**CM7**

C E G B  
1 3 5 7

o = Play these strings open

Nut: narrow end of fingerboard

x = Don't play this string

These are the notes you are playing in this position

Scale degree of each note in this fingering position

Chord type

Name of this chord

This chord is comprised of these notes

Barre chord: hold down all strings with index finger

Fret number: 7th fret in this diagram

Scale degree of each note in this chord

o = Play these strings open

Nut: narrow end of fingerboard

x = Don't play this string

These are the notes you are playing in this position

Scale degree of each note in this fingering position

## 2.

# About the *Complete Guitar Chord Poster*

The *Complete Guitar Chord Poster* shows the fingering positions of every guitar chord in standard tuning, including the inversions. Players at all levels, from beginner to advanced, can take advantage of this poster's various features:

- ***Beginners***—The chart shows the fingering positions for the simple, basic chords in all major and minor keys. The poster also includes major scales for each key.
- ***Intermediate-level players***—As you move from left to right across the poster, the chords become progressively more extended. This enables you to learn new, unusual chords and chord inversions at your own pace, without losing track of your progress. Color bands identify the chords in each key. This makes it possible to quickly transpose the chords of a song from the original key to any other key.
- ***Advanced players***—Even expert players usually don't have all chords in all keys memorized. The right side of the *Complete Guitar Chord Poster* shows the fingering positions of extended jazz chords such as 11ths and 13ths, organized so that you can find any chord fingering position in any key at a glance.

### 2.1

## Color Bands, Keys, and Transposing

All chords and chord progressions in the same key are located in the same horizontal color band. For example, all chords in the key of F are located in the orange band; all chords in the key of A $\flat$  are located in the green band.

Key-specific color bands make it visually easy to transpose the chords from one key to another. Suppose, for example, that the chords of a given song are in the key of D major. The chords are as follows:

**D, Bm, F $\sharp$ 7, Dm7, and A7.**



And suppose you would like to transpose these chords to the key of G major. Here's how:

- The red horizontal bar contains all the chords in the key of D:

D, G, A7, Bm, Em, F#7, Dm, D6, Dm6, D7, DM7, Dm7, etc.

- The grey horizontal bar contains all the chords in the key of G:

G, C, D7, Em, Am, B7, Gm, G6, Gm6, G7, GM7, Gm7, etc.

- So, wherever any chord appears in the red bar (key of D), just play whichever chord appears in the *same column* in the grey bar (key of G).

Here's the original chord sequence in the key of D, followed by transposed chords in the key of G:

- Chords in original key (key of D, red bar):

**D, Bm, F#7, Dm7, A7**

- Chords in transposed key (key of G, grey bar):

**G, Em, B7, Gm7, D7**

## 2.2

### 36 Chord Types

The *Complete Guitar Chord Poster* shows several fingering positions for each of 36 chord types in each key. The chords are arranged in logical order across the poster. The simplest chords are on the left side. The jazziest (most extended) chords are on the right side.

Here's a list of the 36 chord types:

- Major
- Minor
- 6th
- Minor 6th
- Dominant 7th
- Major 7th
- Minor 7th
- 9th
- Diminished
- Augmented
- Suspended 2nd
- 7th, Suspended 2nd
- Suspended 4th
- 7th, Suspended 4th
- 5th
- Diminished 5th
- 7th, Diminished 5th
- Minor 7th, Diminished 5th
- 7th, Augmented 5th
- 7th, Minor 9th
- 7th, Augmented 9th
- 7th, Minor 9th, Augmented 5th
- 7/6
- 9th, Diminished 5th
- 9th, Augmented 5th
- Major 9th
- Minor 9th
- 9/6
- Minor 9/6
- Added 9th
- 11th
- Minor 11th
- Augmented 11th
- 13th
- 13th, Minor 9th
- 13th, Minor 9th, Diminished 5th

## 2.3

### Major and Minor Chord Progressions

On the left side of the *Complete Guitar Chord Poster* is a special section called “Principal Chords/Relative Minor.” This section shows the fundamental chord types (each with four different fingering positions) that comprise the basic major and minor chord progressions in each key. For example, in the key of C, these chords are:

- C Major (I-chord)
- F Major (IV-chord)
- G7 (V7-chord)
- A minor (VI<sub>m</sub>-chord)
- D minor (II<sub>m</sub>-chord)
- E7 (III7-chord)

This section is especially useful when writing songs and working out chord progressions.

For more information on chord progressions and how they work, see Chapter 6 of *How Music REALLY Works!, 2nd Edition*, available at [www.howmusicreallyworks.com](http://www.howmusicreallyworks.com).

## 2.4

### Notes and Scale Positions

Immediately below each chord diagram on the *Complete Guitar Chord Poster*, you will find two rows of letters and numbers. These are the notes and the scale positions of the notes that make up each chord and each inversion.

## 2.5

### Major Scales: Fingerboard and Treble Clef Staff Locations

The left and right margins of the poster contain fingerboard diagrams of all 12 major diatonic scales. Each fingerboard diagram shows the name of each scale note.

Below each fingerboard diagram is a treble clef staff showing the location of each note of the scale on the staff. (Guitar notes actually sound an octave lower than they appear on the treble clef staff.)

## 2.6

### Twins: The *Complete Guitar Chord Poster* and the *Complete Keyboard Chord Poster*

The *Complete Keyboard Chord Poster* (available at [www.roedyblack.com](http://www.roedyblack.com)) is the twin of the *Complete Guitar Chord Poster*. The two charts match each other in content, size, and layout.

The same information is located in the same places on each chart. If you play guitar but not keyboard, or vice-versa, you can learn to play the same chords on the other instrument, using the twin chart.