

Learn two new chords: A minor & D major

Remember to read the diagram carefully from left to right, one string at a time, and ask:

- *What string?*
- *What finger?*
- *What fret?*

These three pieces of information will enable you to place your fingers accurately every time.



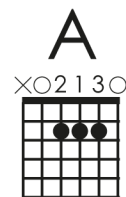
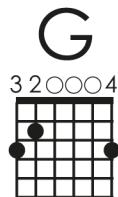
Before you strum the chord, always make sure:

- *Your thumb is behind the neck.*
- *Your fingers are arched.*
- *Your fingertips are snug behind the frets.*

Lesson

6

Learn two new chords: *G major & A major*



If the strings don't ring clearly when you strum, make adjustments with your left hand:

- *Is your thumb is behind the neck?*
- *Are your fingers arched?*
- *Are your fingertips snug behind the frets?*

Quite often, the reason why a string isn't sounding clearly (it makes a "thump" or "buzz" when you pick it) is that the back of another finger is touching it. Make sure you have clearance between the strings and the backs of the fingers on the other strings.

Sometimes, just a slight adjustment will make a huge difference.

Learn about basic strumming technique with Preparatory Strumming Exercise # 1

This exercise is extremely basic. It is designed to “teach” the strumming motion to your arm. By doing this for at least three to five minutes a day, you will be prepared for the upcoming lessons on strumming technique.

This kind of exercise is what we’ll call an “accelerator.” It helps you achieve more results in a shorter period of time.

Procedure:

- Grab the neck and strings with the left hand so that the strings are muted.
- Hold the pick in your right hand and strum the strings in an up and down motion.
- Strive for a smooth, continuous even motion.
- Make sure your pick strums all six strings during both the down and the up strums.