

# How to Memorize the Notes on the Guitar Neck

## Why do it?

The one piece of knowledge that is missing with many guitarists, often players who want to play rock styles, is the knowledge of where every single note is on the fretboard.

The main reason is because the guitar is so visual that a player can learn everything by patterns and shapes. Patterns and shapes do work to get people playing, but where learners have problems is when they are trying to move patterns to different parts of the neck, change key, transpose and re-finger chords or scales. You need to be able to quickly calculate where a note is on the neck. It is the basis for understanding scales, chords, music theory, improvisation and ultimately 'freedom of expression' on the guitar.

## The Quickest Way to Memorize the Neck

Memorizing the notes on the neck may seem difficult, but it really isn't. You only learn this once and it is in your brain forever, so why not open up your guitar world and get it learned? It will only take approx. 5-10 minutes a day for a month or two and this knowledge will be permanently implanted in your brain so that you can instantly apply it whenever you need it! It is only 30-60 days out of your life and very worth it.

The below exercises applied EVERY DAY (5-10 minutes) for 1-2 months WILL give you this knowledge:

Memorize this note sequence or have it in front of you:

**B E A D G C F**

Play these notes in that order on each string one string at a time while saying them out loud - saying them out loud is VERY important and this will not work if you don't.

E (low) string		A string		D string		G string		B string		E (high) string	
Fret	Note	Fret	Note	Fret	Note	Fret	Note	Fret	Note	Fret	Note
7	B	2	B	9	B	4	B	0	B	7	B
0	E	7	E	2	E	9	E	5	E	0	E
5	A	0	A	7	A	2	A	10	A	5	A
10	D	5	D	12	D	7	D	3	D	10	D
3	G	10	G	5	G	0	G	8	G	3	G
8	C	3	C	10	C	5	C	1	C	8	C
1	F	8	F	3	F	10	F	6	F	1	F

# Sharps and Flats

Once you have the natural notes memorized learning the sharps and flats is really simple.

## NOTES ON THE NECK OF THE GUITAR

NATURAL NOTES

NATURALS, SHARPS & FLATS

	Open	E	A	D	G	B	E
1		F				C	F
2			B	E	A		
3		G	C	F		D	G
4					B		
5		A	D	G	C	E	A
6						F	
7		B	E	A	D		B
8		C	F			G	C
9				B	E		
10		D	G	C	F	A	D
11							
12		E	A	D	G	B	E
		6	5	4	3	2	1

	Open	E	A	D	G	B	E
1	F <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>#</sup> F	A <sup>#</sup> B <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>#</sup> E <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>#</sup> A <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>#</sup> C	E <sup>#</sup> F
2		F <sup>#</sup> G <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> C <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> F <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup> A	C <sup>#</sup> D <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>#</sup> G <sup>b</sup>
3		G <sup>b</sup> G	B <sup>#</sup> C	E <sup>#</sup> F	A <sup>#</sup> B <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>b</sup> D	G <sup>b</sup> G
4		G <sup>#</sup> A <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>#</sup> D <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>#</sup> G <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> C <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>#</sup> E <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>#</sup> A <sup>b</sup>
5		A <sup>b</sup> A	D <sup>b</sup> D	G <sup>b</sup> G	B <sup>#</sup> C	E <sup>b</sup> F <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup> A
6		A <sup>#</sup> B <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>#</sup> E <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>#</sup> A <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>#</sup> D <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>#</sup> F	A <sup>#</sup> B <sup>b</sup>
7		B <sup>b</sup> C <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> F <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup> A	D <sup>b</sup> D	F <sup>#</sup> G <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> C <sup>b</sup>
8		B <sup>#</sup> C	E <sup>#</sup> F	A <sup>#</sup> B <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>#</sup> E <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>b</sup> G	B <sup>#</sup> C
9		C <sup>#</sup> D <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>#</sup> G <sup>b</sup>	B <sup>b</sup> C <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> F <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>#</sup> A <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>#</sup> D <sup>b</sup>
10		D <sup>b</sup> D	G <sup>b</sup> G	C <sup>b</sup> C	F <sup>b</sup> F	A <sup>b</sup> A	D <sup>b</sup> D
11		D <sup>#</sup> E <sup>b</sup>	G <sup>#</sup> A <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>#</sup> D <sup>b</sup>	F <sup>#</sup> G <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>#</sup> B <sup>b</sup>	D <sup>#</sup> E <sup>b</sup>
12		E <sup>b</sup> F <sup>b</sup>	A <sup>b</sup> A	D <sup>b</sup> D	G <sup>b</sup> G	B <sup>b</sup> C <sup>b</sup>	E <sup>b</sup> F <sup>b</sup>
		6	5	4	3	2	1 <sub>1</sub>