

Fancy Bass Chords

and Their Voicings

(B) E A D G



<https://fancychords.com>

Movable Shapes

Bass closed, so they move

shape root on bottom example

fifths

02xx	E	R	13xx = F5
x02x	A	R	x13x = Bb5
xx02	D	R	xx13 = Eb5
3x0x	E	R	4x1x = Ab5

major

02x1	E	R	13x2 = F
320x	E	R	431x = Ab
x320	A	R	x431 = Db

minor

02x0	E	R	13x1 = Fm
310x	E	R	421x = Abm
x310	A	R	x421 = Dbm

- Shape is the fingering above its lowest fret.
- Slide it one fret, the chord rises a semitone.
- Bottom is the degree on the lowest string.

Root Positions

Bass

	(B)	E	A	D	G
C	1	8	3	10	5
Db	2	9	4	11	6
D	3	10	5	0	7
Eb	4	11	6	1	8
E	5	0	7	2	9
F	6	1	8	3	10
Gb	7	2	9	4	11
G	8	3	10	5	0
Ab	9	4	11	6	1
A	10	5	0	7	2
Bb	11	6	1	8	3
B	0	7	2	9	4

Fret for the root of each key on each string. Everything else is measured from there.

Patterns

Bass counted from the root

Root + fifth + octave

The default. Works under

anything in the key.

degree	R	5	8
string	R	1+R	2+R
fret	R0	R2	R2

Major arpeggio

Major, maj7, 6.

degree	R	5	8	3
string	R	1+R	2+R	3+R
fret	R0	R2	R2	R1

Minor arpeggio

Minor, m7, m6.

degree	R	5	8	b3
string	R	1+R	2+R	3+R
fret	R0	R2	R2	R0

Dominant seventh

Any 7 chord. The b7 pulls to

the four.

degree	R	5	b7	3
string	R	1+R	2+R	3+R
fret	R0	R2	R0	R1

Minor seventh

The two and the six chord.

degree	R	5	b7	b3
string	R	1+R	2+R	3+R
fret	R0	R2	R0	R0

Walking approach

Leading into the next chord.

degree	R	5	6	b7
string	R	1+R	1+R	2+R
fret	R0	R2	R4	R0

Numbers

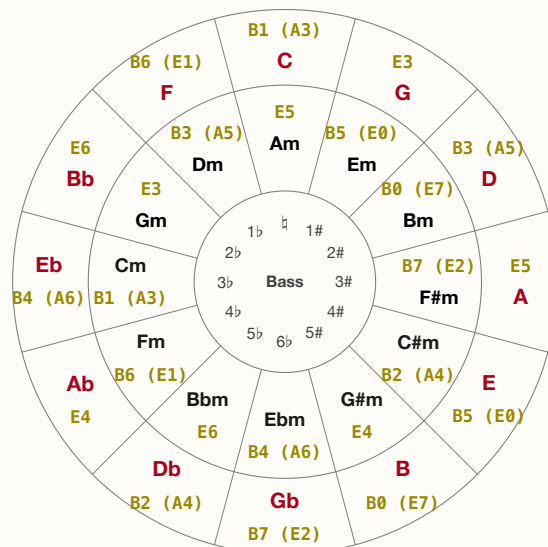
Bass the major scale, degree by degree

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
C	C	D	E	F	G	A	B
D ^b	D ^b	E ^b	F	G ^b	A ^b	B ^b	C
D	D	E	F [#]	G	A	B	C [#]
E ^b	E ^b	F	G	A ^b	B ^b	C	D
E	E	F [#]	G [#]	A	B	C [#]	D [#]
F	F	G	A	B ^b	C	D	E
G ^b	G ^b	A ^b	B ^b	C ^b	D ^b	E ^b	F
G	G	A	B	C	D	E	F [#]
A ^b	A ^b	B ^b	C	D ^b	E ^b	F	G
A	A	B	C [#]	D	E	F [#]	G [#]
B ^b	B ^b	C	D	E ^b	F	G	A
B	B	C [#]	D [#]	E	F [#]	G [#]	A [#]

Read across: in the key on the left, the four is the note under the 4. A minor key borrows the same row, starting from its six.

Bass

Circle of Fifths



String and fret for each root: **A3** is the third fret of the A string.

Lowest that falls under the hand.

Five-string first, four-string in parentheses.

Tunings

Bass (B) E A D G

The guitar's lowest four strings, an octave down.

What to Play Under

Bass degrees from the root

major	R 3 5	°7	R b3 b5 6
m	R b3 5	m7b5	R b3 b5 b7
5	R 5	7sus4	R 4 5 b7
+	R 3 #5	7b5	R 3 b5 b7
°	R b3 b5	7#5	R 3 #5 b7
sus2	R 2 5	9	R 9 3 5 b7
sus4	R 4 5	maj9	R 9 3 5 7
6	R 3 5 6	m9	R 9 b3 5 b7
m6	R b3 5 6	add9	R 9 3 5
6/9	R 9 3 5 6	madd9	R 9 b3 5
7	R 3 5 b7	7b9	R b9 3 5 b7
maj7	R 3 5 7	7#9	R b3 3 5 b7
m7	R b3 5 b7	m11	R 9 b3 4 5
			b7

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Downloads and a printable copy:
<https://fancychords.com>

Source and corrections:
<http://github.com/linenoise/voicings>

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Play the root, and the fifth if there is one.

Add the tone that names the chord, the **b3** or the **b7**, only when it wants hearing.

The rest belongs to whoever is playing chords.