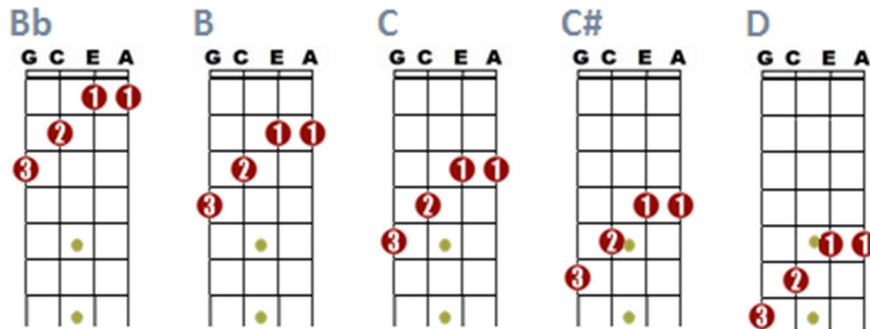


Andy's ukulele blog

LESSON 11:

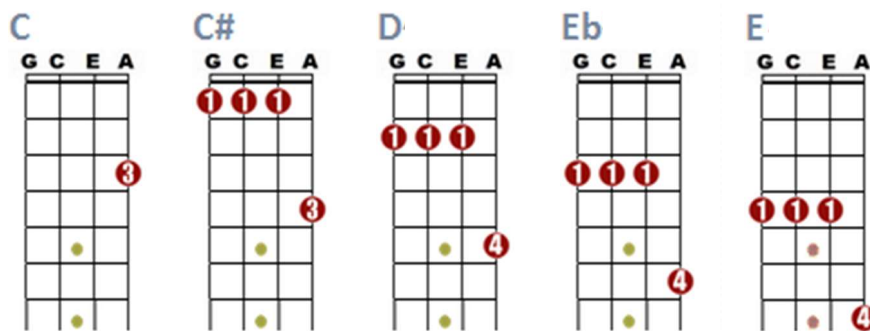
Necking It

What have the following chords got in common?



They all have the basic Bb major chord shape but as it moves up the neck of the ukulele one fret at a time the chord changes by a semitone each time. By this means you can go as high as the length of your fretboard will allow. On smaller ukuleles such as the soprano the final fret could be the twelfth fret, but even that means that you have climbed the entire scale.

You can do something similar with the basic C shape using your first finger as a bar. This means you hold all the strings together at any particular fret by laying your first finger across them.



It takes a bit of perseverance to get the trick of holding down a bar with your first finger, but it is well worth the practice. All the basic chord shapes can be played at any point on the fret board increasing both the range of your instrument and the variety of songs you can play.

A good exercise for this one is "Rock Around The Clock" – [Song Sheet Number 8](#) - Although it is a basic 3 chord rock song it exploits the fact that these three chords are replicated in various different places on the keyboard.