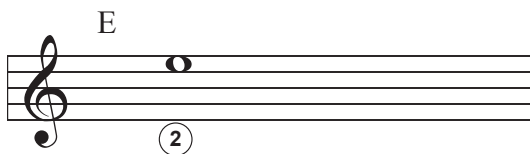
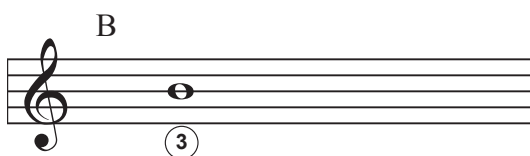


## 2nd Position with NO OPEN STRINGS

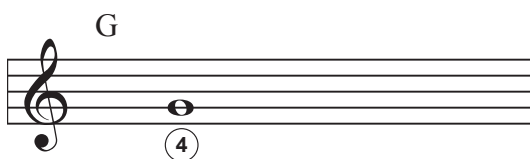
There are no hard and fast rules saying when you should play a note as an open string or as a fingered note but generally, a fingered note sounds better than the open string which tends to be overly resonant. This is true on any guitar either electric or acoustic.



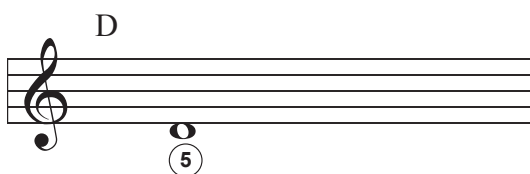
The note E is at the 5th fret of the second string. Usually in 2nd position, it will be the role of the fourth finger.



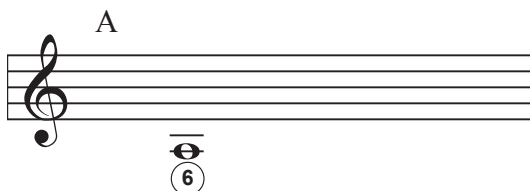
The note B is at the 4th fret of the third string, usually played with the third finger in 2nd position.



The note G is at the 5th fret of the fourth string and again is usually played with the fourth finger in 2nd position,



The same holds true for the note D which is at the 5th fret on the fifth string.....



.....and also the note A which is at the 5th fret of the sixth string.

If the above is a great surprise to you, I would be similarly surprised that you have gotten this far in your guitar playing endeavours. All of this has already been presented in the instructions on tuning the guitar in the Guitar Fundamentals Primer.

The guitar is the ultimate "alternate fingering" instrument. This is one of the reasons that makes guitar players shy away from learning to read music. All stringed instruments have many alternate fingerings but the guitar, having six strings and about a three and a half octave range takes this to a different level. Stringed instruments such as a violin or a cello have similar problems but only have four strings. To top it off, bowed instruments, although they are capable of playing some two note harmonies (double stops) are not truly polyphonic. (=capable of playing many notes at the same time.) This being said, does not mean that bowed instruments are easy to play. Under the fingers of a master, magical things can happen with a violin or a cello.

Not all, but much of the following material in this book, will be dedicated to playing in "closed fingering" which means "not using open strings." For extra practice, students are urged to return to previously studied material to try a revised fingering system. Any basic melody that has preceded is open game. Arpeggio and chord studies may be challenging if not impossible at times.

Let's begin with the Key of C in 2nd position.