

(Book 5.) Lesson 19c.

Four Part Triad (fingerings) on the E-A-D-G Strings

F6      F7      Fmaj7      F

Root Position  
Fm6      Fm7      Fm(maj7)      F

Detailed description: This system shows the root position fingerings for F6, F7, Fmaj7, and F on the E-A-D-G strings. The top staff shows the treble clef with notes on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th strings. The bottom staff shows the bass clef with notes on the 5th, 4th, and 3rd strings. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4. For F6, the 3rd string has a 2, the 4th has a 3, and the 5th has a 1. For F7, the 3rd has a 1, the 4th has a 3, and the 5th has a 1. For Fmaj7, the 3rd has a 3, the 4th has a 4, and the 5th has a 1. For F, the 3rd has a 2, the 4th has a 4, and the 5th has a 1.

F6      F7      Fmaj7      F

1st Inversion  
Fm6      Fm7      Fm(maj7)      F

Detailed description: This system shows the first inversion fingerings. The top staff has notes on the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd strings. The bottom staff has notes on the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd strings. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 and circled numbers 6, 3, 4, 1, 3, 4, 2, 6. For F6, the 4th string has a 4, the 3rd has a 1, and the 2nd has a 2. For F7, the 4th has a 1, the 3rd has a 4, and the 2nd has a 2. For Fmaj7, the 4th has a 4, the 3rd has a 1, and the 2nd has a 3. For F, the 4th has a 3, the 3rd has a 4, and the 2nd has a 1.

F6      F7      Fmaj7      F

2nd Inversion  
Fm6      Fm7      Fm(maj7)      Fm

Detailed description: This system shows the second inversion fingerings. The top staff has notes on the 1st, 3rd, and 2nd strings. The bottom staff has notes on the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd strings. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 and circled numbers 6, 3, 4, 1, 3, 4, 2, 6. For F6, the 1st string has a 1, the 3rd has a 3, and the 2nd has a 2. For F7, the 1st has a 4, the 3rd has a 1, and the 2nd has a 2. For Fmaj7, the 1st has a 4, the 3rd has a 1, and the 2nd has a 2. For Fm, the 1st has a 3, the 3rd has a 4, and the 2nd has a 2.

F6      F7      Fmaj7      F

3rd Inversion  
Fm6      Fm7      Fm(maj7)      Fm

Detailed description: This system shows the third inversion fingerings. The top staff has notes on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th strings. The bottom staff has notes on the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd strings. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 and circled numbers 6, 3, 4, 1, 3, 4, 2, 6. For F6, the 1st string has a 1, the 3rd has a 1, and the 4th has a 1. For F7, the 1st has a 1, the 3rd has a 3, and the 4th has a 2. For Fmaj7, the 1st has a 1, the 3rd has a 4, and the 4th has a 3. For Fm, the 1st has a 1, the 3rd has a 3, and the 4th has a 4.

As suggested in Lesson 19b, it is a good idea to practice these chord sequences in reverse order because that is the more likely scenario in popular music.

Some of the chords are only practical in three note form. Extremely large and wide hands may be able to play all of the four note possibilities. Smaller hands may have to do some logical editing to produce three note formulas. Keep in mind that the 3rd and 7th (or 6th) must always be present to represent the chord properly. The Root and 5th are the neutral notes in major and minor type chords.

Relax the left hand and allow the fingers to stretch. Don't practice so much that the hand begins to hurt. Pain usually is a warning about an injury about to happen or in drastic cases, an injury that has already taken place.

Move up the finger board to whatever pitch is practical on your guitar.

Also practice randomly, being sure to spell the chords in your head as you play. If you are using the traditional method of simply memorizing chord fingerings, you may be dooming yourself to a future failure.