## Introduction to the study of Chord Diagrams

Up to this point, all material has been presented only in musical notation. While this is still the most logical method from a musical aspect, it may not be the method for everyone. Guitar players are accustomed to seeing chord forms in diagrams. The graphic fingerboard demonstration is often the preferred method for players who have not developed their music reading ability to any great level. The following lessons are simply a graphic review of some of the material that has been previously presented in this book.

It is assumed that the player has a working knowledge of chord spelling and other fundmental theory. (If not, even these graphic demonstrations will mean very little.)

There are basically four ways of playing a four voiced chord on the guitar. The first of these being the "close" voicing works perfectly well in triad harmony but rarely works for four part chords. For all practical considerations, "close" voiced four part chords will be considered as "chords of occasion."


The above demonstration uses a note on the 6th string as the starting point, but the formula would be much the same if you use the 5th string as the bass note.

Dispersed fingerings can't exist with the bass note on the 4th string because the dispersal of the chord tones will usually spread the notes over five strings. (Yes, there are rare chords which might actually be dispersed and yet played on a set of four adjacent strings.)

Note: Lessons 24a and 24b present yet another way to think of the voice arrangement in both Series 1 and Series 2 dispersed voiced chords. What thinking process you follow is up to you. The final result should always be much the same.

