



## Introducing the C Major Chord

By Christopher Schlegel

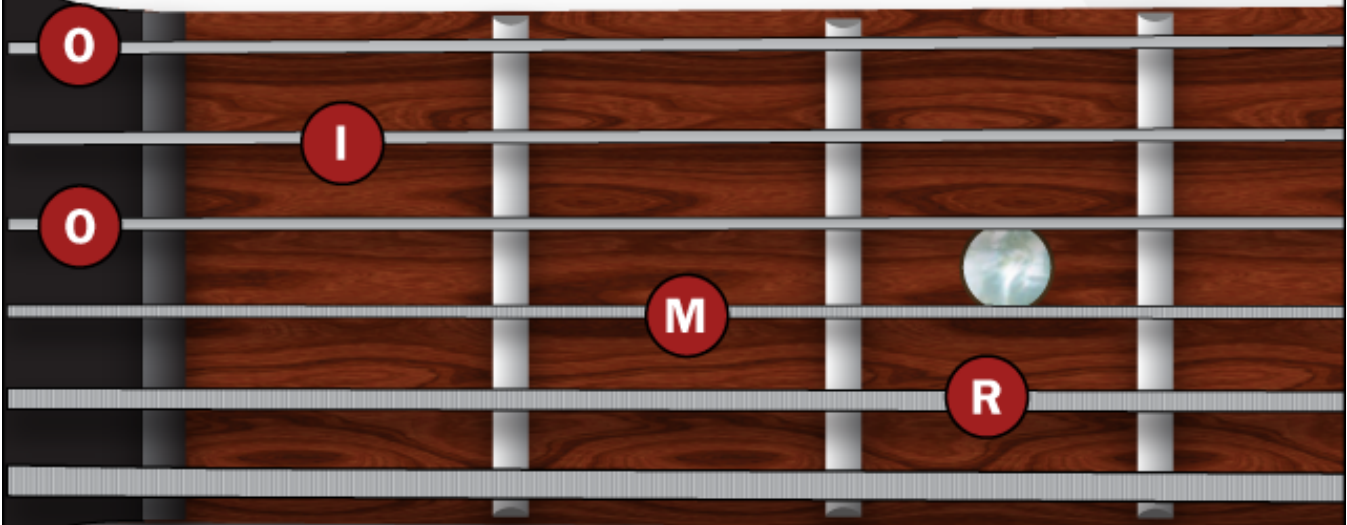
In this lesson we are going to play a C major chord. The same ideas about proper fingering apply to this chord shape also.

Remember that from the last knuckle of your finger to the fingertip your fingers should be arched so they are pointing straight down into the string & fretboard. Remember that your fingertip should be right behind the fret you are playing. Not on top of the fret. Remember to keep your fingers clear of strings around the one it is holding down. You don't want to mute strings that should be ringing clearly. Make sure your hand and fingers are "hovering" or "arched" slightly over any string that is supposed to make sound.

Place your index finger on the first fret of the B string. Make sure it does not touch the E string or the G string and mute them from ringing open. Reach over the G string with your middle finger and play the second fret of the D string. Reach over the D string with your ring finger and play the third fret of the A string. Be careful to keep all fingertips straight down into the strings and only holding the appropriate string it is assigned.

Strum the chord one string at a time very slowly to make sure that each note is sounding as clearly as possible. Then you can go ahead and strum the chord, lightly grazing the pick over each string quickly right after one another. Practice strumming a lot. It will come in handy. Once you can strum down, then try to strum back and forth.

## C Major Chord Shape "Open Position"



**Finger Legend:**  
**I** = Index  
**M** = Middle  
**R** = Ring  
**P** = Pinky  
**O** = Open String



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# C Major Chord

The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is a standard musical staff in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef. It contains a melody of four notes: C4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), and C5 (half). A red '1' is above the first measure, and a red '2' is above the second measure. The bottom staff is a guitar tablature staff with six lines. The notes are represented by numbers: 3 on the 6th line, 2 on the 5th line, 0 on the 4th line, 1 on the 3rd line, and 0 on the 2nd line. A red '1' is above the first measure, and a red '2' is above the second measure. The word 'TAB' is written vertically on the left side of the staff, and the word 'TAB' is written vertically on the right side of the staff.