



## Seamless Change III: Streamline!

By Lisa McCormick

One of the most challenging tasks for a new guitarist can be making chord changes smoothly and quickly, without creating a pause in the music. Often times, coming up with a specific strategy for getting from one chord to the next can make all the difference.

The first two strategies we looked at in this tutorial involved chords which share a note in common, and chord changes in which one of your fingers will remain on the same string, and will simply slide into place as you go from one chord to the next.

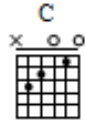
But not all chord changes offer such easy solutions. Still, there are two more strategies you can try to make your chord changes faster and smoother.

The first involves checking your fingers and making sure they are making no unnecessary moves. Sometimes a finger likes to stray up into the air or pull away from the neck of the guitar as it goes from one chord to the next. But this can cost you time, cause you to lose your hand's orientation to the neck of the guitar, and create an unwanted pause in the music.

Check to see if any of your fingers will end up in the same fret as they switch from one chord to the next, as in the example showing the switch from C to D. Take advantage of this connection to keep your fingers streamlined, and eliminate any extraneous moves.

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<p>C</p>	<p>D</p>
<p>T A B</p>	