

INTRODUCTION

If you are starting to learn to play the guitar or have been playing for a while and things just have not clicked you may be a visual learner. With these stickers the notes are laid out on the fretboard in a way that provides you with a manageable learning experience that you can see. I am going to show you the easiest way to quickly learn simple musical theory that will make everything you do from this point on make more sense. Just a bit of advice while you can learn a lot from just this eBook, I highly recommend that you purchase the sticker set C major and watch the complementary videos.

I am sure many of you may have taken lessons or have tried the self-taught/youtube route well I am going to ask you to forget everything you have learned because I know there is a lot of misinformation, incomplete confusing free lessons and just too many instructors that try to offer too much information that cannot be absorbed especially if you have not yet learned the basics of music theory.

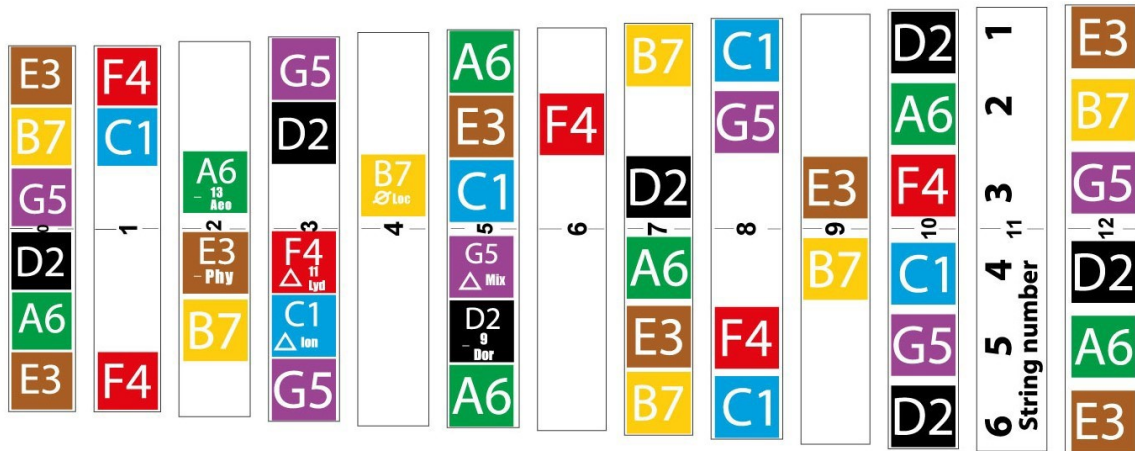
In this eBook I am going to show you how start from zero to unlock the secrets of basic music theory applied to the fretboard using the Lee fretmap stickers if you do not have the stickers yet they are available for purchase on my website and on amazon please note there are multiple sets available please choose the C major set.

www.leefretmap.com

www.amazon.com/leefretmap

Here are the complementary videos

www.youtube.com/leefretmap



FITS RIGHT AND LEFT HANDED GUITARS

C Major Set

Image 1 Lee fretmap

As you can see from the fretboard image above there are different colors, numbers and positions for each note. The frets are also numbered as well and the string numbers are indicated on the 11th fret. The square colored boxes indicate the notes of the string when fretted. The colors also help to quickly identify the notes as they are repeated on the fretboard. I have included a map of the modes the diatonic progression tones and how to find the 9th, 11th, and 13th notes.

CHAPTER 1

SCALES

Let's start with some basic musical theory there are only 12 notes in all of western music that's it 12 notes and most every song you have ever heard has no more than 7 different notes. This is an important concept to understand so lets look at the fretboard above and see if you can find 7 different notes you should have found C,D,E,F,G,A and B these are what are known as natural notes with no sharps or flats and are the most pleasing rounded sounds to most people's ears.

Now I started with the letter C and there is a reason for this I have just taught you all the notes in the C major scale. I am going to base a lot of information on this basic concept of the C major scale so be sure you have it memorized so here it is again to help you visualize where I want you to start.

THE C MAJOR SCALE

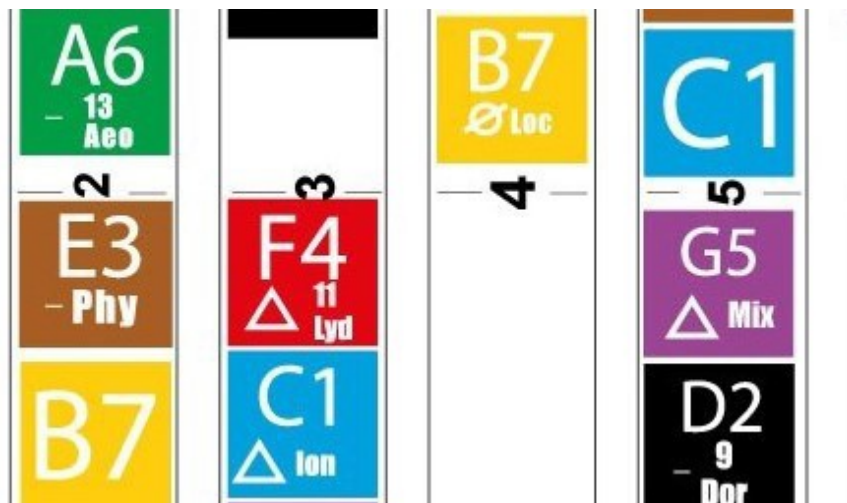


Image 2 The C major scale

You can read the scale starting in different places and this is ok there is no wrong way as long as you start with C note and end with a B note. The diagram above is the way I want you to start to learn the scale as this will help you to begin to think across the guitar and get you used to switching strings when you play.

Well that's it this is all there is to the major scale and you know what the other scales are just as easy.

THE MINOR SCALE

Ok now that you have mastered the C major scale let's move on to learning the A minor scale guess what the A minor scale has the exact same 7 notes as the C major scale this relationship is called the major minor relationship or another way of saying it is the relative minor of C is A or C major is the relative major of A minor.

In order to play the A minor scale you just start with the A note and go through the alphabet like this A,B,C,D,E,F,G take a look below on how I want you to finger this scale.

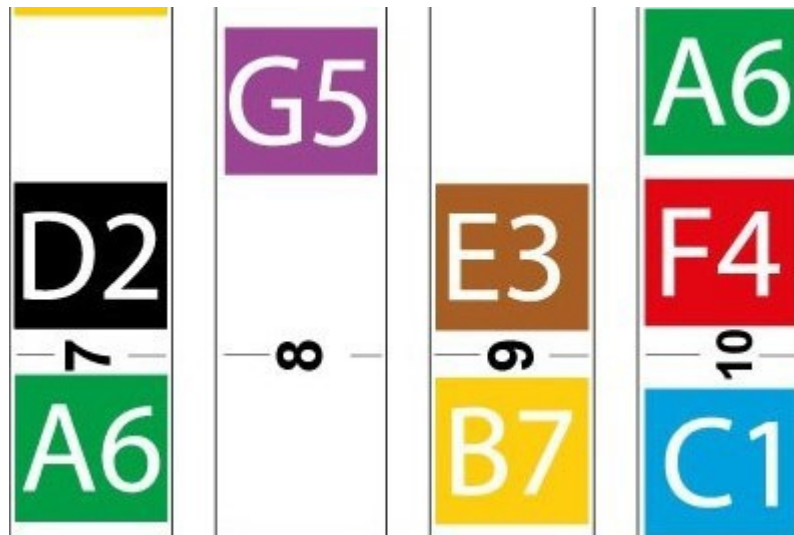


Image 3 The A minor scale

Now you may be wondering why this happens how can I get both a minor and a major scale by using the same notes well the answer lies in how the intervals fall between the notes in relation to the starting or root note. I am not going to get too much into it now but the intervals are the white spaces(or lack of)between the notes that you don't play for example the interval between the 7th(A) and 9th(B) fret in the diagram above is a whole step(when you have a white space). Now look between the 9th(B) and 10th(C) fret is a half-step interval. So, what makes a scale major(Ionian), minor (Aeolian), Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian or Locrian is the way the intervals are laid out starting from the first note. These strange sounding names are called modes and we are not going to worry about them just yet. As beginners we will stick with the major and minor scales as these are used most often.

EXERCISES

Ok now that we know the 2 most important scales in music let's get on with learning the fretboard. You may have noticed that each note has a unique color and number and they appear in many places on the fretboard these are all the same notes. They may sound different to you at first and what you are hearing is the same note being played in a different register or octave. You must learn to hear them and believe they are the same note this is key and only comes with practice.

Ok let's start on any C note and then find a C note in another position and play them one after the other and try to hear the similarities sometimes you might find that they sound to be the same octave pitch and sometimes not. be sure your guitar is in tune by using an electronic tuner. There are also many free tuner aps you can use I recommend the guitar tuna app the free version will work for guitar and the free boss tuner will work for bass.

Now that you are bouncing around the fretboard on the C notes try playing the C major scale starting on all the different C notes you can find first by playing on one string and then moving across the strings to find the notes be sure to go both ways ascending C,D,E,F,G,A,B and descending C,B,A,G,F,E,D until you get to the next C note. By starting and ending on the C notes this is one way to establish a tonal center in this case C major also known as the Ionian mode.

Now do the same thing with the A minor scale by ascending A,B,C,D,E,F,G and descending A,G,F,E,D,C,B. Don't forget to start and end on the A note this is also known as the Aeolian mode

Learning where the notes are on the fretboard and their relationships from string to string are very important as you will build everything around these notes.

Ok now that we know some scales lets learn to use them to build chords.

Chapter 2 chords

The major chord

Chords are nothing more than individual notes played together at the same time you need to have 3 or more notes sounding at the same time to be considered a true chord. Chords contain different notes that when played together have a distinct sound we are going to focus on learning the two main chords the major and minor.

Let's start with the major chord a major chord has 3 distinct notes in it now you can play these same 3 notes more than once but only these 3 notes are allowed (get it only 3 different notes).

The only 3 notes you are to play in a C major chord come directly from the C major scale they are the first note in the scale marked C1, the 3rd(major) note marked E3 and the 5th note marked G5 now you must sound all these notes at the same time in any order anywhere on the fretboard and let them vibrate together to do this you must find locations on the fretboard where this is possible (don't forget you can use the open strings as well).

You can watch my video to get some ideas on where you can form these chords here is a tip find the root note (in this case C) and then find the 3rd and 5th somewhere close and form the chord around it.

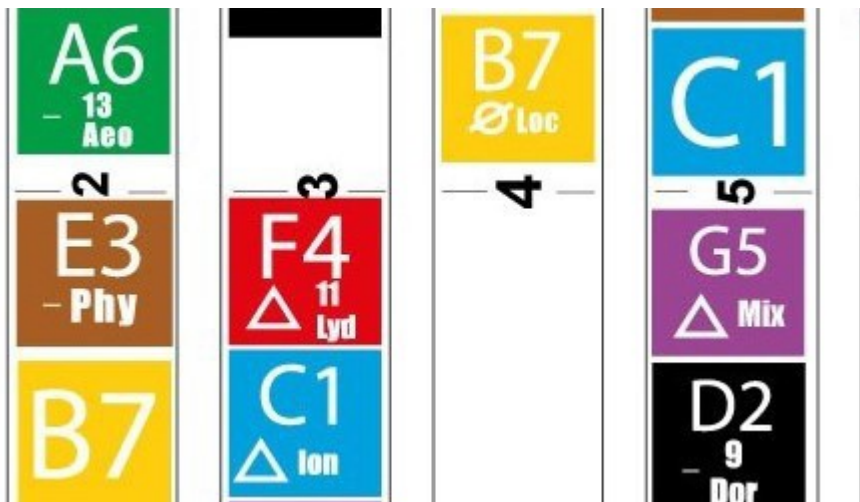


Image 4 The C major scale

THE MINOR CHORD

The A minor chord works exactly the same way only now we will be using the A minor scale to find our notes. When using the stickers the printed numbers should be ignored for this lesson. Our first note is going to be A now we count up 3 notes from the A note using notes in the scale and that takes us to the C note so C is our 3rd(minor) and then counting from A to E is 5 notes so E is the 5th so now we have the notes of the A minor chord A,C and E and just practice the same way you did with finding the major chords.

Now if you want to play another major chord that is not C major the same principles apply. By using the same C major pattern as before you can start with another root note (the 1st note in the scale) and keep the intervals the same you can easily find the 3rd and 5th notes to complete the chord. As you can see these scales are movable this is the next key you must learn to master the fretboard more on this later.

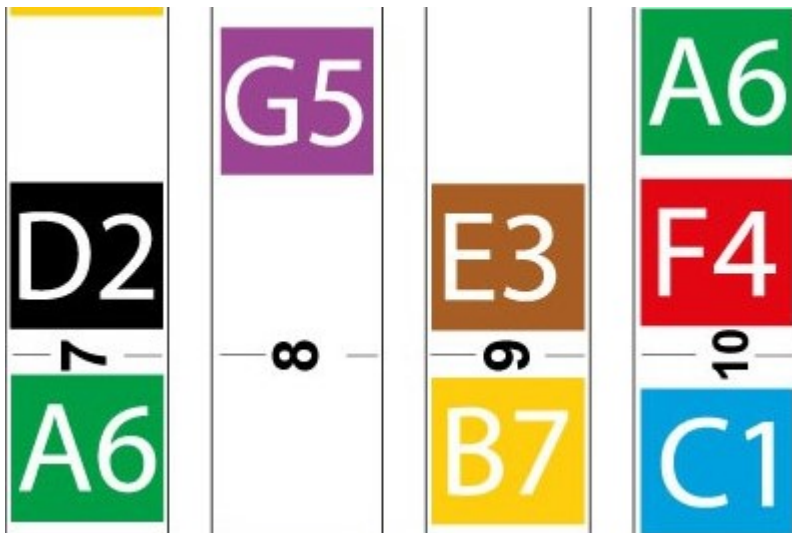


Image 5 the minor scale

Now let's practice by making the G major chord. We are looking for the 1st, 3rd and 5th note starting with G (the root note) B is the 3rd(major)note and D is the 5th note in the G major(mixolydian) scale. When you play these 3 notes G,B and D together anywhere in any order on the fretboard you are playing a G major chord.

You may ask what makes these chords major or minor well it all depends on the 3rd note in the scale there are major 3rds and minor 3rds. These 3rds are different because their intervals(remember the whole and half step lesson) are different in relation to the scale so just by moving a minor 3rd note up a half step you can change the chord to a major and by moving a major 3rd down a half step you will have a minor chord.

Now you should start to see some fingering patterns or grips for chords start to take shape around the root notes as you move them up and down the fretboard. They stay the same you just move the same grip up or down the fretboard and the root note dictates the chord.

Ok by now we have covered a lot of information you should be able to play any major or minor scale anywhere on the fretboard. You should also be able to find any major or minor chord on the fretboard.

From what you have already learned you are able to play thousands of songs with just these chords and scales.

CHORD PROGRESSIONS

Before you can play songs you need to learn about chord progressions. You can look at a chord progression as a map through a song let's take a simple song structure verse, chorus, verse, chorus.

A verse is generally where you develop your ideas(words) and the chorus is generally where you reinforce these ideas with repetition.

Now each of these passages have a movement of chords this is the progression for example the verse may have a chord progression of C1 to F4 to G5 this would be called a 1 4 5 or C F G progression this is a simple but very important point be sure you understand it before you move on.

Ok now you might be asking what chords should I play with this progression are they major or minor well there is a general rule for this and it is called the diatonic progression.

THE DIATONIC PROGRESSION

The diatonic progression follows the major scale and goes like this the 1st note is a major chord the 2nd note is a minor chord the 3rd is a minor chord the 4th is a major chord the 5th is a major chord the 6th is a minor chord and the 7th is a diminished chord. The 7th chord is not used very often so we will skip it for now.

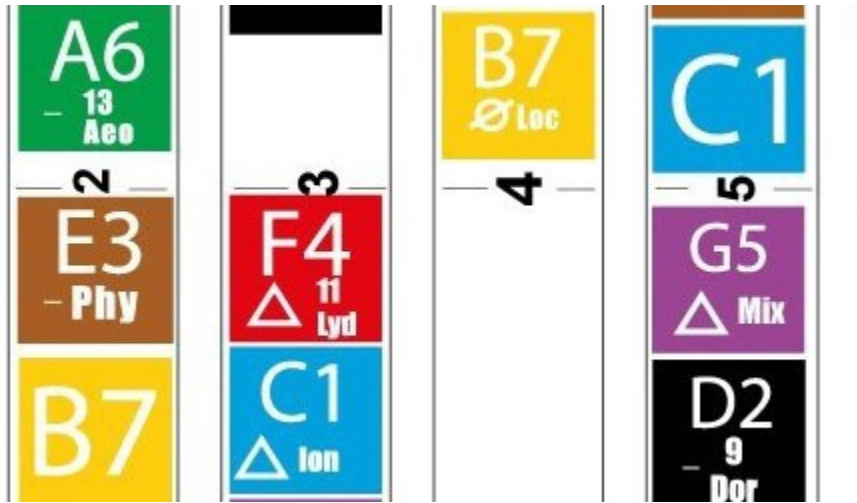


Image 6 Diatonic progression

You can see where I have these tones marked above the notes the triangle is major and the - is minor and the circle with the diagonal line is diminished.

Ok so what does this mean well the first chord tone in the diatonic progression in going to be in this case a C major the 2nd will be a D minor the 3rd tone will be a E minor the 4th tone will be a G major the 6th tone will be a A minor and the 7th tone will be a B diminished.

Now we can go back to our 1 4 5 progression and figure out that all three chords will be major chords. You can use this same method to find the chord tones for any progression this is important learn it and you will be able to follow songs you are learning. Now try to find the chords for a 2 5 1 progression.

7th CHORDS

Ok now we are moving into 7th chords this is where we are going to add more color to the major and minor chords, we do this by adding another note to the 3 notes that we already have yes it is the 7th note of the scale.

The first chord I am going to tell you about is the major 7th chord this is just like the major chord but you will be adding the 7th note of the major scale or the major 7th to your 1,3,5 so now you will be playing the 1,3(major),5 and 7(major) together the notes are C, E, G, B

There is also a minor 7th chord this is made by playing the 1,3(minor),5 and 7th note of the minor scale starting with the A the notes are A, C, E, G

Now there is also what is called the dominant 7 chord this is a major chord built on the major scale but you lower the 7th note by one half step(one fret) so you have the following notes 1,3,5 and a lowered 7th(dominant). Try making this chord using G as the root note.

Now if we were to follow the diatonic scale using the 7th chords we would have the following progression. 1-M7th, 2-m7th, 3-m7th, 4-M7th, 5 dominant 7th, 6-m7th and 7 is a diminished chord.

THE DIMINISHED CHORD

Now I have mentioned the diminished chord a couple of times these dissonant sounding chords are not used much outside of jazz so I will only briefly talk about it this chord uses the 1,3,5 and 7 from the Locrian(scale starting on the 7th note) mode. Basically on the fretmap you would be playing the B,F,A and D notes try forming this chord around the B note 2nd fret 5th string.



Image 7 The Dorian mode and the 9th

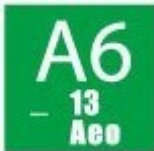
Image 8 The Lydian mode and the 11th

Image 9 The aeolian and the 13th

THE 9TH 11TH AND 13th CHORDS

These chords are variations of major and minor chords I am not going to say much on these but they are built in much the same way as the 7th chords as you can see in the following diagram I have marked which notes are the 9th 11th and 13th above their respective notes. Basically, how you find them is by counting. When you get to the B7 note the scale repeats with the C but this time we are going to count that C as 8 so the D would be 9 the F would be 11 and the A would be 13. The 9ths 11ths and 13ths are generally added to the major and minor chords at a higher register (pitch) within the chord but not always.

These chords are used a lot in jazz and blues music

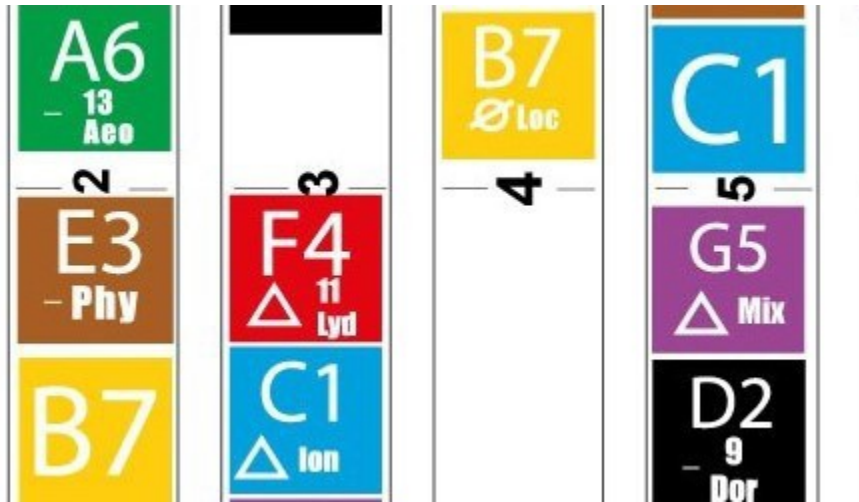


Image 10 The modes

THE MODES

I will also touch briefly on the 7 modes. Ok remember how we learned the major(Ionian) and minor(Aeolian) scales. The other notes have scales attached to them as well but the intervals are different. The modes for C major are as follows the scale starting with A is called Aeolian, B is Locrian, C is Ionian, D is Dorian, E is Phrygian, F is Lydian, and G is Mixolydian.

There is a lot more to using the modes and what intervals in each scale give a more modal feel but this is beyond the scope of this eBook.

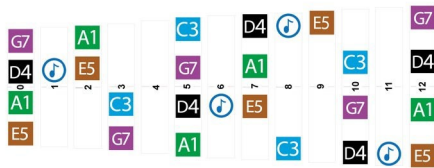
CONCLUSION

I hope my eBook, videos and stickers have helped you along the road to becoming a better musician remember to practice daily with a perfectly tuned instrument. Please continue your studies in this short eBook I have only covered the basics but this information is much more than most people need to play thousands of songs.

I also have stickers available for 4 string bass guitars



Lee fretmap®
bass guitar fretboard stickers
4 String Bass Set



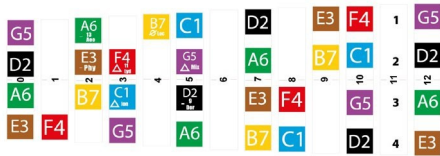
Fits right and left handed Basses

A minor Pentatonic set
with blue note 

Image 11 Lee fretmap for 4 string bass pentatonic with blue note



Lee fretmap®
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FITS RIGHT AND LEFT HANDED BASSES

C Major Set

Image 12 Lee fretmap for bass C major

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C major



Pentatonic set



Fits right and left handed Bases

Multi pack

Image 13 Lee fretmap for bass guitar multi pack

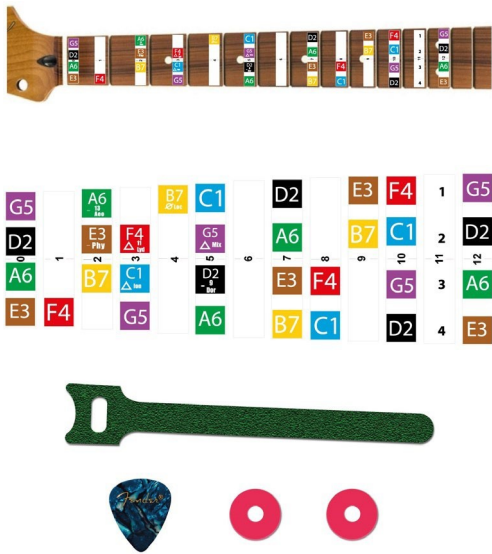
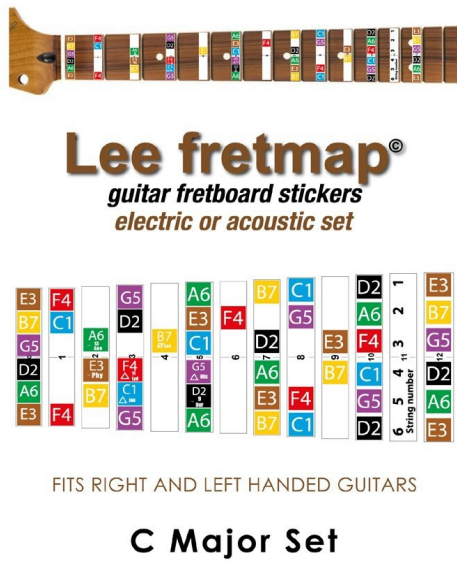


Image 14 Lee fretmap bass accessories



FITS RIGHT AND LEFT HANDED GUITARS

C Major Set

Image 15 Lee fretmap for electric and acoustic guitar C major



Lee fretmap[®]
guitar fretboard stickers
electric or acoustic set



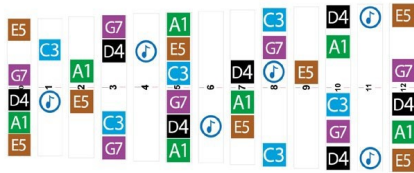
A Harmonic
 Minor set

Fits right and
 left handed guitars

Image 16 Lee fretmap for electric and acoustic guitar A harmonic minor



Lee fretmap[®]
guitar fretboard stickers



A minor
 Pentatonic set
 with blue note

Fits right and
 left handed guitars

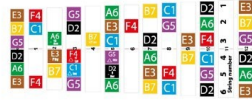


Image 17 Lee fretmap for electric and acoustic guitar pentatonic with blue note

Lee fretmap®
guitar fretboard stickers
electric or acoustic set



C Major Set



Pentatonic set



Multi pack Fits right and left handed guitars

Image 18 Lee fretmap for electric guitar multi pack

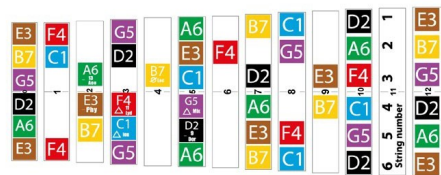
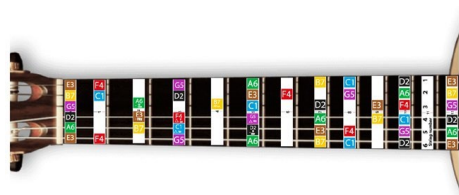
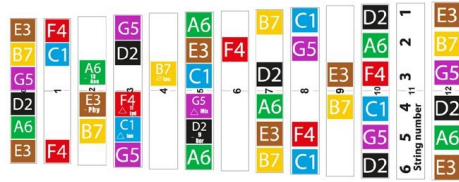


Image 19 Lee fretmap guitar accessories



Lee fretmap®
guitar fretboard stickers
nylon string guitar set



FITS RIGHT AND LEFT HANDED GUITARS

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Image 20 Lee fretmap for nylon guitar

Lee keymap®

Piano keyboard note stickers
35 stickers for 61 keys

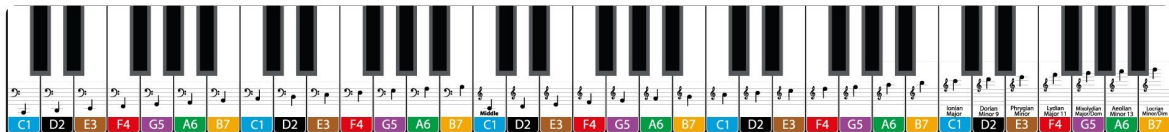


Image 21 Lee fretmap keymap for piano

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