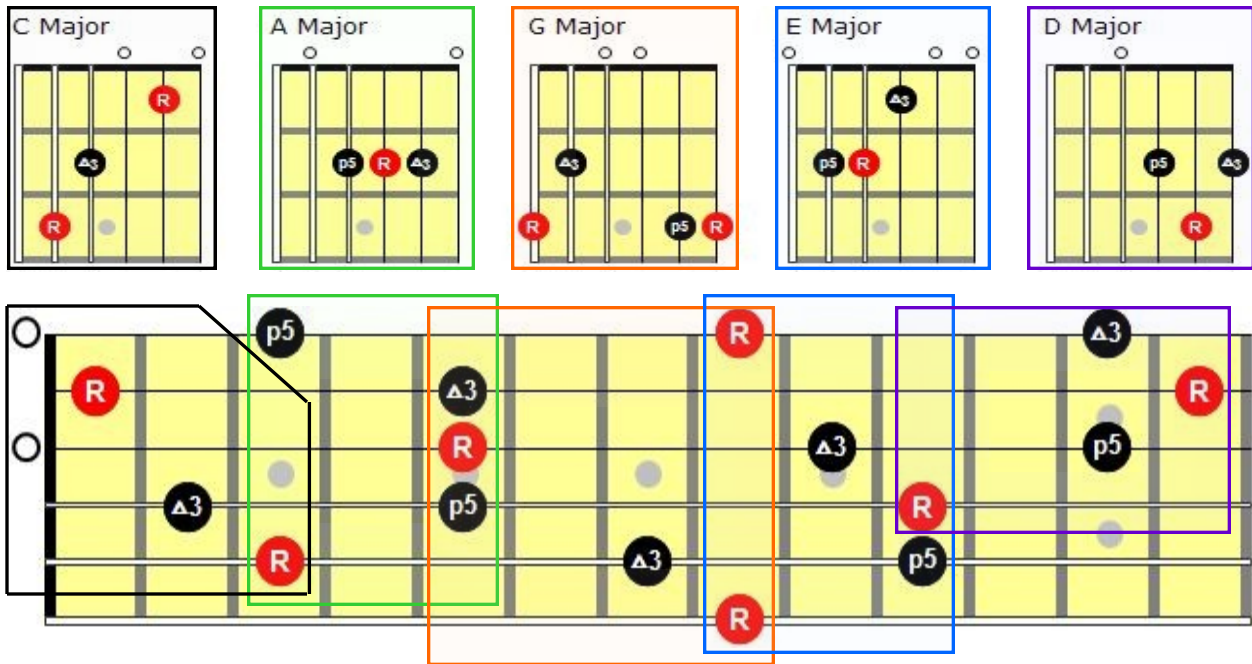
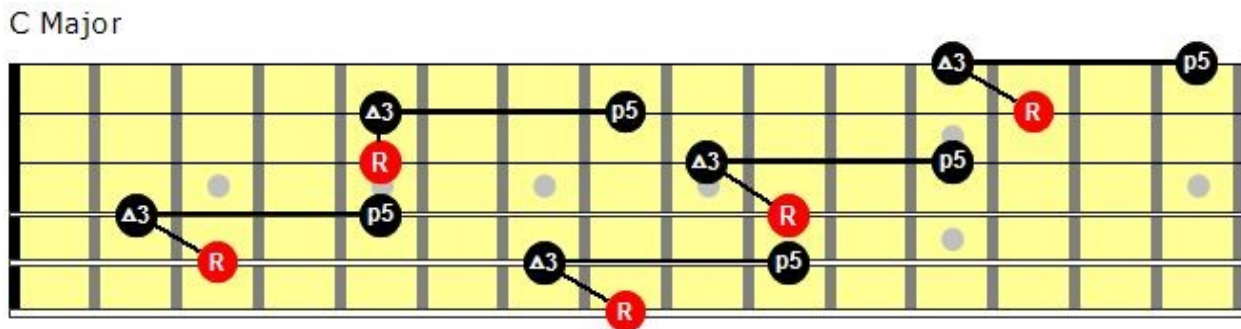


Introduction to the CAGED System

The **CAGED** system is a very useful tool in developing greater fretboard visualization. The open chord shapes of those five major chords naturally overlap up the neck. The chord boxes below show the five open chord shapes, and the extended neck diagram shows a C major chord played using each of the shapes. The sequence repeats accordingly, regardless of which shape you start with, so if you start with the G shape, the sequence will go **GEDCA**, and so on.



The example utilizes basic R-3-5 triads, the basis for chord structure. A few relevant notes, such as the $P5(G)$ at the 8th fret of the 2nd string, have been removed from the diagram for easier visualization of the chord shapes. But if you put back in those notes, you have triad forms which can also be used for arpeggios, as shown in the example below.



In addition to triads, arpeggios, and chords, this visualization scheme also works with pentatonic and diatonic scales and modes. Check out our other free resource sheets for those areas!