

# Unit: 5 Bar Chords and Chord Construction

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s): **Art Experience, Beginning Guitar**  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **5 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Enduring Understandings

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Bar chords are essential to playing the guitar.

Playing bar chords requires strength in the fretting hand, as well as independence between fingers.

Chords are based on the notes in a scale (Key).

Chords are based on formulas of varying intervals.

## Essential Questions

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Why are bar chords necessary?

How can you overcome the challenges of playing bar chords?

How will knowing all of the notes on the bass strings of the guitar help you know your bar chords?

What are the combinations of intervals that create major, minor, diminished and augmented chords?

## Content

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VOCABULARY:

Major, minor, Seventh, Root Note, 3rd, 5th; Bar (Barre), Chromatic, Diatonic, Whole step, Half step, Major scale, diminished, key

## Skills

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Perform chromatic scales on fourth, fifth and sixth strings.

Identify and execute Major, Minor and Dominant 7 chords based on the fourth, fifth and sixth strings.

Play repertoire containing a variety of bar chords.

Play all chords within a given key.

Play and analyze chords to a popular song (analyze by key; provide examples of modulation)

Compose an original work which uses bar chords. Analyze the composition in terms of scale and key.

## **Resources**

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## **Standards**

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### **NJ: 2014 CCCS: Visual & Performing Arts**

#### **NJ: Grade 12**

#### **1.2 History of the Arts and Culture**

1.2: History of the Arts and Culture: All students will understand the role, development, and influence of the arts throughout history and across cultures.

##### **A. History of the Arts and Culture**

1.2.12.A.2 Justify the impact of innovations in the arts (e.g., the availability of music online) on societal norms and habits of mind in various historical eras.

#### **1.3 Performance**

##### **B. Music**

1.3.12.B.1 Analyze compositions from different world cultures and genres with respect to technique, musicality, and stylistic nuance, and/or perform excerpts with technical accuracy, appropriate musicality, and the relevant stylistic nuance.

1.3.12.B.2 Analyze how the elements of music are manipulated in original or prepared musical scores.

1.3.12.B.3 Improvise works through the conscious manipulation of the elements of music, using a variety of traditional and nontraditional sound sources, including electronic sound-generating equipment and music generation programs.