

# Lesson 14

## Bar Chords

Bar chords are common in all styles of guitar music. They allow you to easily play chords that might otherwise be difficult to play in **open position**.

The bar chords below are simply E and Em formation chords. The first finger functions as a **capo**, allowing you to **transpose** these chords up the neck. The root of these chords will always be on the 6th string, so whatever note your first finger touches on the 6th string, that is the name of the chord. For example, below are the F and Fm chords. Notice that in both chords, the first finger bars the 1st fret and that the note on the 6th string, 1st fret is F, the root. Because the root will always be on the 6th string, the lowest sounding string on the guitar, this bar chord will always have a nice and full sound, just like the open E and Em chords!

**E-Formation Bar chord**

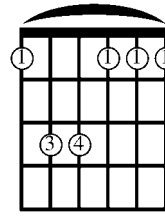
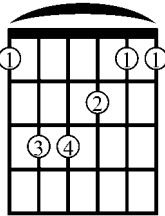
**F**

**Fm**

**Em-Formation Bar chord**

The 1st finger functions as a capo →

The rest of the fingers form a → standard E major chord



The 1st finger functions as a capo

The rest of the fingers form a standard E minor chord

## Politik

(Excerpt)

ColdPlay

**VERSES**

C7 (Let ring) Fm C7 Fm

**CHORUS**

C7 1st Time: Play 3 Times  
2nd Time: Play 2 Times

Fm 1st Time: D.S.

## Stairway Exercise

Am 5fr. ← Bar the 5th fret

G 3fr.

F

## Flamenco Flirt Revisited

Am 5fr. (Students strum whole notes.)

G 3fr.

F

E

Teacher