101 Vibrant Voicings You Won’t Find On A Typical Chord Chart.

By Mike Beatham
Thank you for downloading Uncommon Chords!

As the title states, contained within are 101 chords you won't find on a typical chord chart.

As a result, using any of these chords in your songwriting, as alternatives to the standard barre and open chord forms we learn, will give your progressions an instant spark of originality.

Many of these chords make use of open strings (often referred to as open chords). This gives them a particularly vibrant, full sound.

However, included are also some lesser known movable chord forms which do not use open strings, and can therefore be positioned at any fret.

However you choose to use the chords featured in this book, I hope they inspire more creativity in your songwriting and original interpretations of existing music.

This list is by no means exhaustive, although this is likely only the 1\textsuperscript{st} volume of many! Try the chord forms you learn here in different positions, add and remove fingers/notes and see if you can expand the list further.

Enjoy it! Remember to visit \url{fretjam.com} for quality free guitar lessons.
Before We Begin

The diagrams show you where to put your fingers. First, number your fingers in the usual way, as shown below:

Some chords involve the use of a barred finger. For example, taking the standard E form major barre chord, our index (1) finger is barred across all six strings. Here’s how the barre would be represented in my diagrams:

The fingerings used in the diagrams are only suggestions. If you find a more comfortable way of playing the chord, by all means use it!
If a string is not used in the chord, there’ll be an \( \times \) marked on the diagram as follows:

![Diagram showing a marked string]

That would mean don’t play the A string. Any strings not marked with a fingering or an X should be played as they are – open. Pretty standard stuff!

Fret numbers will be marked on diagrams where the chord form is to be played up the neck.

If the chord is played down at the first few frets, however, you’ll see a black bar representing the nut (where the guitar neck meets the head) instead of a fret number:

![Diagram showing a nut]

That diagram has a nut, so that tells us we’re looking at the first 4 frets.

You’ll notice some chords are labelled with a fret number below the diagram and others aren’t. If there isn’t a fret number, it means the chord shape can be played at any fret (movable), as no open strings are used in the voicing.

That’s about it. Now let’s expand our chord vocabulary…
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Major Added 9th (Var. 3)

Major Added 6th / 9th flat 5th

Major 9th

Major Sharp 11th

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Useful Resources

Take your playing to advanced level...

**Jamplay**

Jamplay offers some of the highest quality guitar lessons on the web and mobile.

HD video with multiple camera angles, world class tutors, step by step progress tracker, backing tracks and apps, live lessons, massive song lesson library and a huge community of guitarists.

Whether you want to learn essential skills, your favourite songs or study influencial artists, Jamplay can help you reach your playing goals far quicker than any free site or YouTube alone.

**Learn more about Jamplay and get coupon codes here**

Recommended fretboard learning application...

**Guitar Notes Master**

A lot of guitarists find learning guitar theory a bit... dull.

But it's so beneficial to learn, as any serious guitarist will tell you.

If you want to be able to improvise confidently on guitar and come up with new ideas at the drop of a hat, you need to know the fretboard like the back of your hand.

By using interactive software, learning the fretboard becomes more engaging, productive and fun.
Guitar Notes Master is a very effective learning tool for beginners right through to advanced players because it encourages you to explore the fretboard intuitively, using “point and click” exercises and watching real time demonstrations right before your eyes (and ears).

By having a complete and deep understanding of the fretboard, chord construction becomes second nature and scales can be mapped out across the entire guitar neck, meaning freer, unrestrained soloing and improvisation.

If you want to make serious progress on guitar, I strongly recommend you take time to study the fretboard.

Guitar Notes Master makes this a breeze.

More information about Guitar Notes Master here