

# Len Collins - Guitar Edition



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## The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# Introduction to the Fretboard

The first section in The Music Readers Toolbox – Guitar Edition – is the fretboard.

I believe it's the best place to start. Knowing the names of the notes on the fretboard will help build a bridge to reach your full potential. Without the fretboard you can read music but can't play it. Whatever your skill level, experienced guitar player or beginner, all guitarists need to know the fretboard.

Everything I teach comes from my own experience as professional guitarist. The knowledge gained by learning the fretboard will be with you forever, as it is with me.



I held the Guinness World Record for the largest guitar lesson from 2004 -c2007

# This is how I teach

My students start their first lesson by discovering and listening to all the names of the notes on the fretboard. I don't hand them a printed sheet of paper full of note names. They have their guitar. I have pen and notepad.

Together we go through each sound and give it a name. Together we listen to each note and I give the note a name. My student repeats the name of the note. I write it down. They play the sound.

I have written the fretboard section in the same manner.



When you are preparing to read the scales, music reading and the modes and chords sections of The Music Readers Toolbox your knowledge of the fretboard will determine the speed you will be able to use the information.

# Where the fretboard takes you

My guitar lessons emphasise the huge benefits of reading music. The staff is a collection of lines and spaces. A guitar player needs to feel confident, to feel comfortable reading and playing the notes placed on the staff.

You must develop the art of communication from brain to fingers and the fretboard. With practice reading from the staff to the fretboard will get quicker.

The Music Readers Toolbox is clear and each page essential. I want you to sight read music to a professional level in the shortest time possible. To do this you must learn the fretboard.

**Section 2: Scales** - It's easy to learn the notes that make up a scale but where do you play them? On the fretboard.

**Section 3: Music reading** - The fretboard is at the heart of your sight reading capabilities.

**Section 4: Mode and Chords** - This is the final section of The Music Readers Toolbox, here I will demonstrate how to link the fretboard to the modes and the chords they produce.

# Practice – Patience – Performance

If you are a beginner, you must find a teacher with enthusiasm for the job, someone willing to help you follow the knowledge within this tuition course. If told you don't need this, keep looking. It isn't luck that makes you play better, it's hard work.

You need a brain (to organise everything), quick fingers (to play) and trained ears (to listen).

## Practice, Patience and Performance.

The three P's are your commitment to becoming a successful guitarist, and a successful musician.

Remember - Practice (there's no point if you don't), Patience (you have to have it) and Performance (play to anyone who will listen).

The menu on the next page links to the six strings on the guitar. First we play the sounds going higher (sharps) followed by the sounds going lower (flats).

# The Fretboard: Main Menu

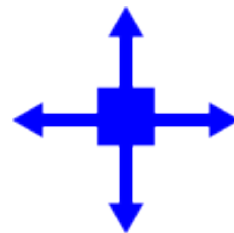
Introduction

Strings with Sharps

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- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

Strings with flats

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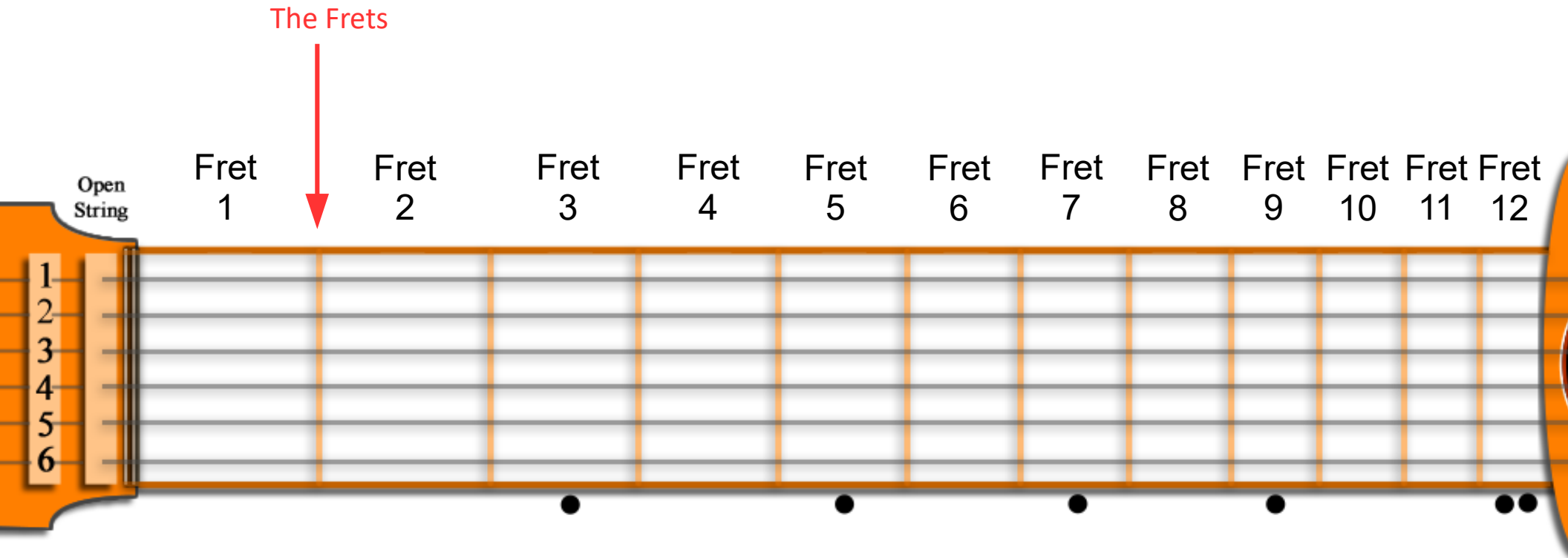
Summary

## The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# The Fretboard

The fretboard is divided by metal strips called frets.

The space between the frets is also called a fret. You place your finger, on the string, just behind the metal strip and press down.



Video 1

Why you should find a teacher.

The blank fretboard.

Where they should place their fingers on the fretboard.

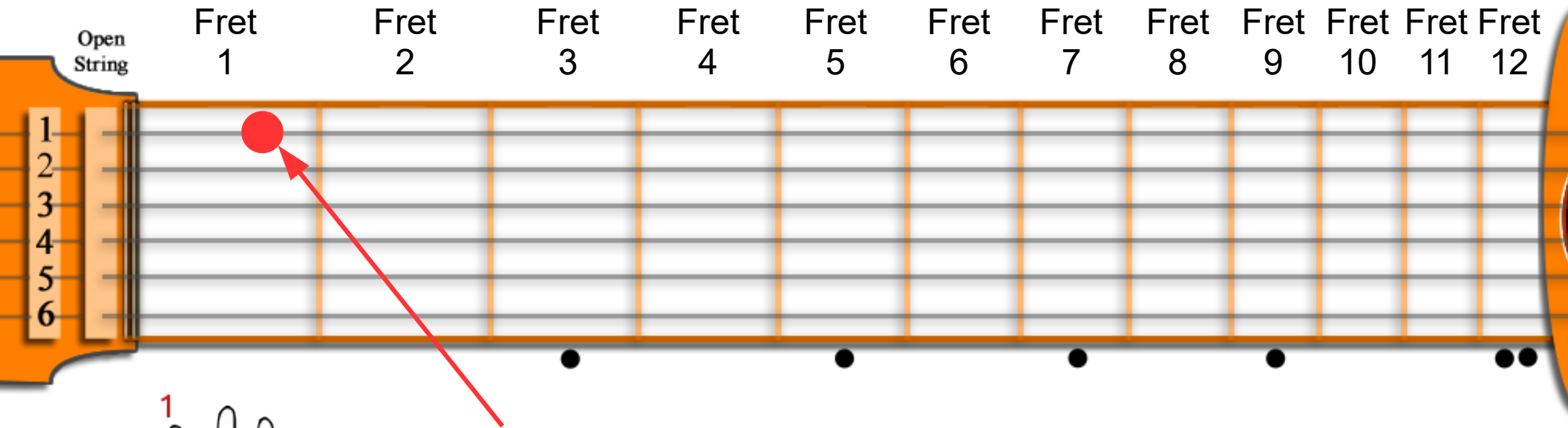
Using a guitar tuner.

Listening to the open strings vibrate

# Beginners should find a teacher

If this is your first attempt at playing guitar it might be difficult to get a clear sound. Press down on the string with your first finger. Strike the string with a plectrum in the other hand to make the string vibrate.

The faster the vibration the higher the sound. Listen carefully to the sound.



Play the first string 1<sup>st</sup> fret – **place your finger just behind the metal strip (fret).**



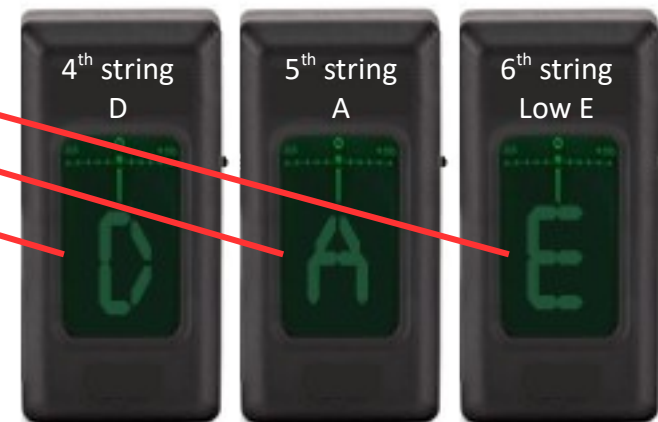
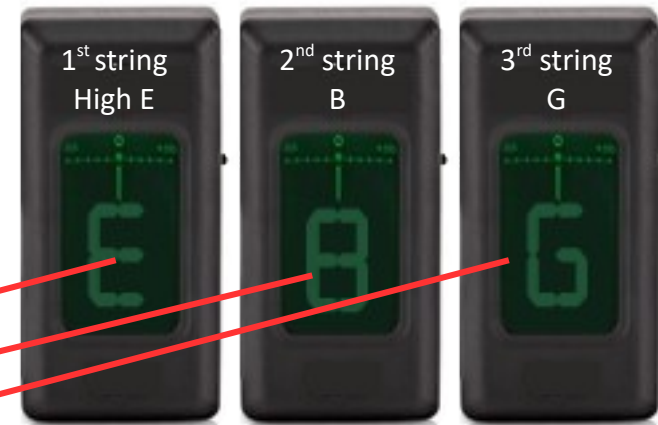
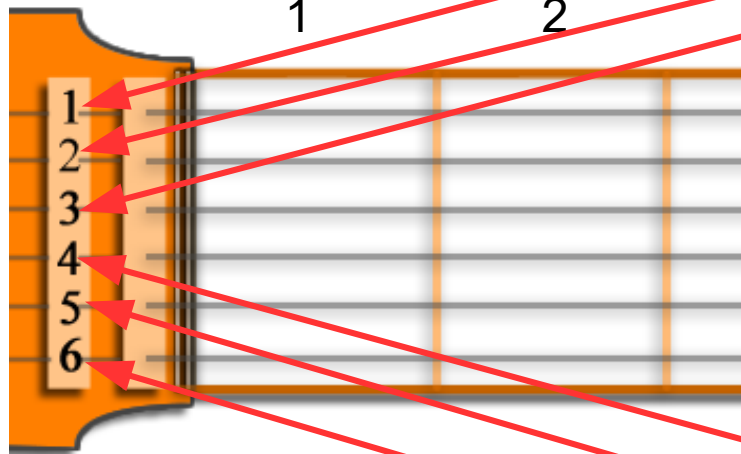
# Buying an electronic tuner is essential

There are two ways of tuning the guitar:

1. By ear – comparing sounds.
2. Using an electronic tuner.

I will explain both methods as we move through the strings.

Open Strings

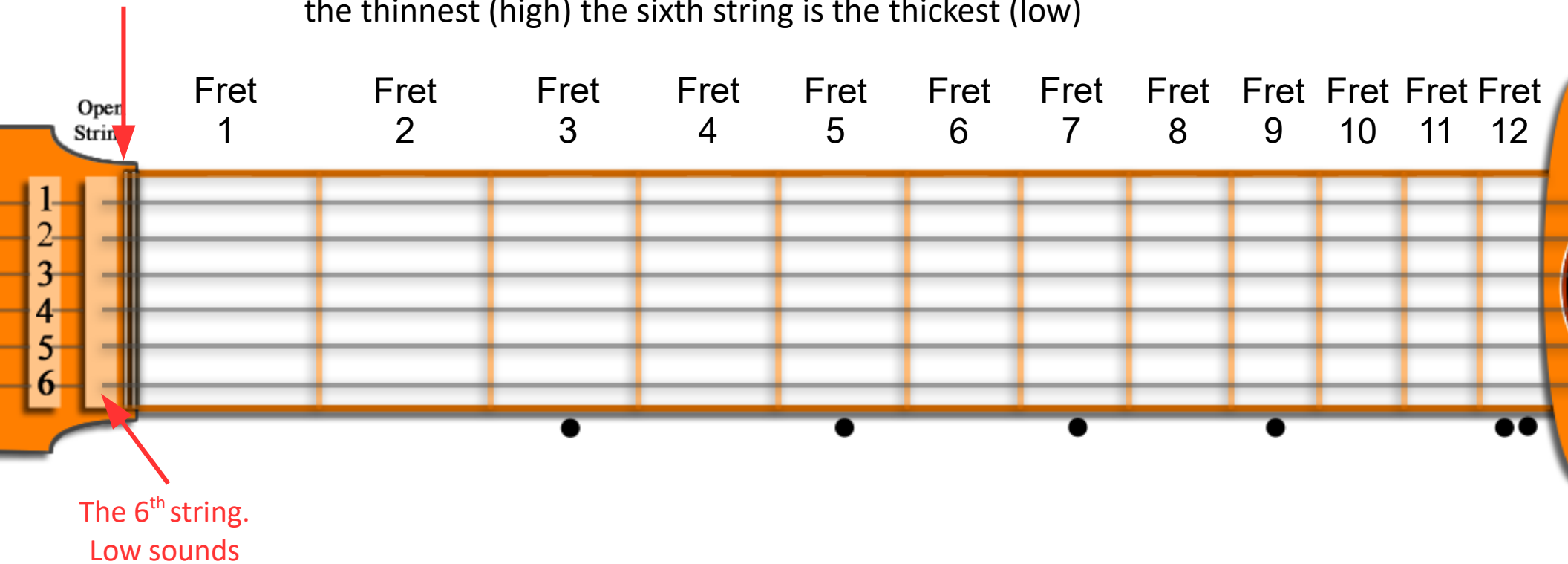


# Before we start

Sound, as I said earlier, is created by striking the string with a plectrum and making it vibrate. The faster the vibration the higher the sound.

Play the 1<sup>st</sup>  
string open

Play the first string open (No fingers are used when playing an open string).  
**Listen carefully to the sound.** Play each of the six strings open. The first string is the thinnest (high) the sixth string is the thickest (low)

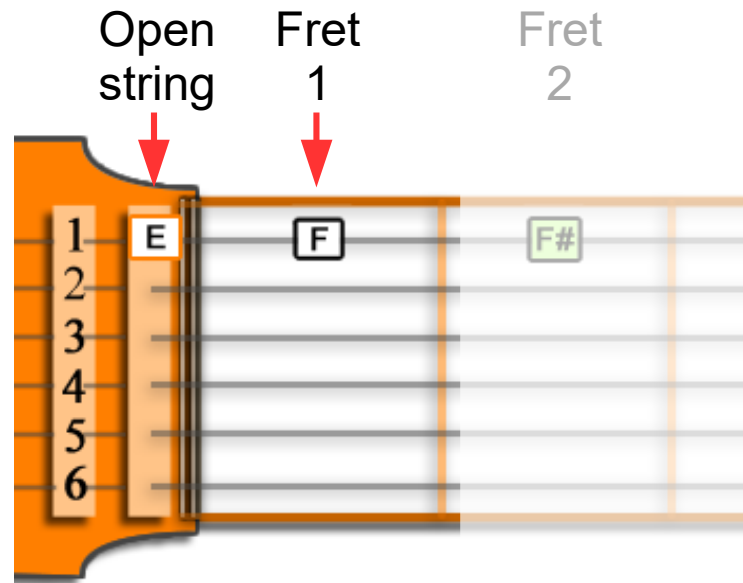


# Naming each note – the alphabet

The sounds are named using the first seven letters of the alphabet.

**A – B – C – D – E – F – G**

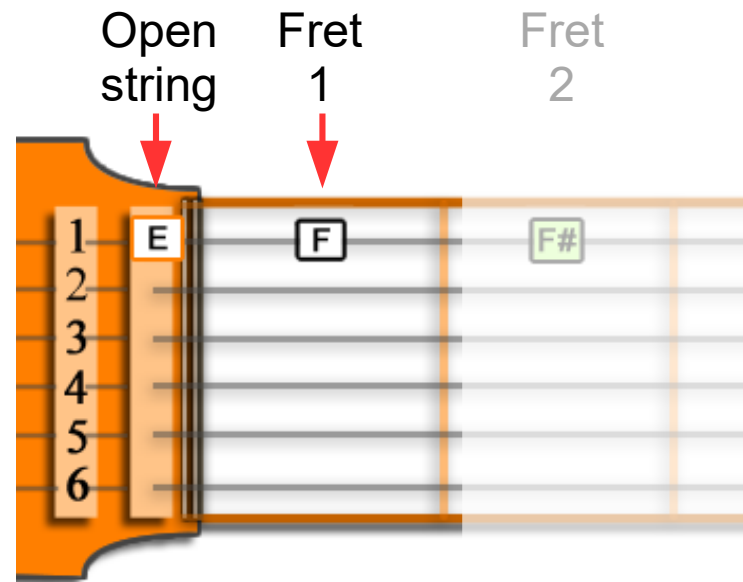
Each letter represents a **different sound**. The example below shows E – F, they are two different sounds. Each note is given a name from the alphabet to help find them on the guitar fretboard.



# Listen carefully

Play the E and F notes several times. Some students find it easy to hear the difference between the two sounds, some take a little longer. The note names are a great way of letting your brain know what it's supposed to be listening to.

Every time you play the guitar, whether a beginner or experienced guitar player, the names of the notes are always there to help you find the sound you intend to play.

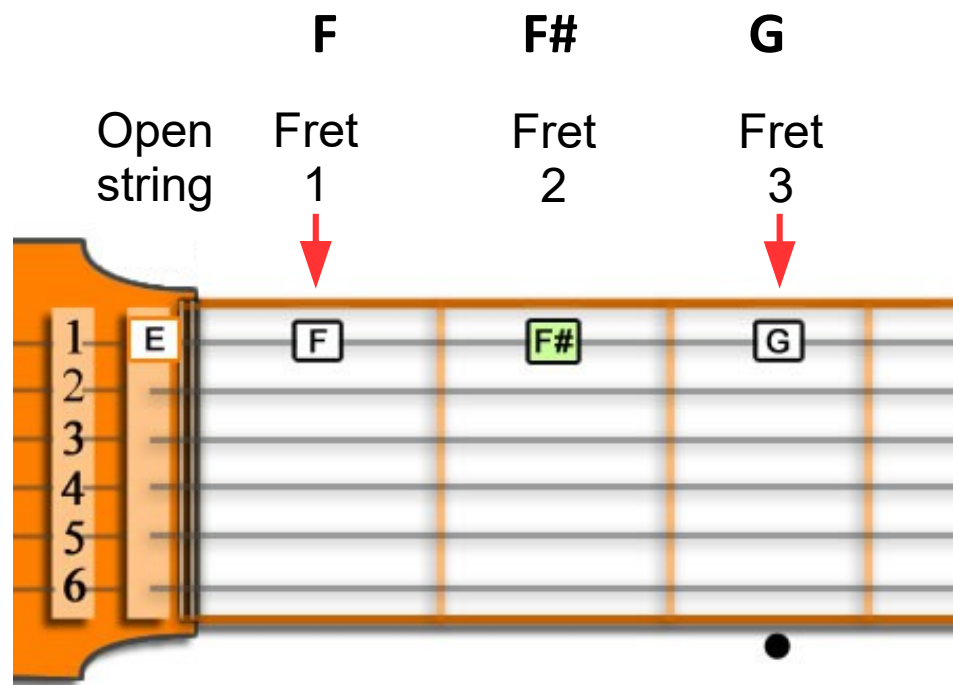


# Sharp sign # - What does it mean?

In the example below F – G are two different sounds, each represented by a different letter of the alphabet.

Unlike E – F, G – F has a stepping stone between the two sounds. The stepping stone is called a **semitone**. The sound is higher than F but not as high as G. We call it F#.

Video 1a



Listening to sharps etc.

# Two notes don't have sharps

E – F and B – C don't have sharps. As we play all the notes on the fretboard do your best to listen to the changing sounds.

If you can't hear the differences, don't worry, just remember the note names that don't have sharps, all the other's do.

**E - F** No sharp between the notes.

**B - C** No sharp between the notes.

# We begin...

We are going to play each note on the first string, listen to the sound and give each sound a name.

Remember, use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

Ears (to listen)

Please don't think this is too simple or too hard.

Learn the right way now and your future as a guitarist will be bright and full of exciting possibilities.

# The Fretboard: String 1 – E – Sharps

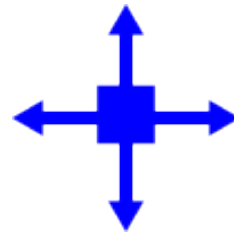
Introduction

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Summary

## The Music Readers Toolbox™



# The Fretboard: String 1 - E

The first string starts with an open E.

E will be followed by F – F# – G – G# etc. as it would on every string and on every instrument.

You might find the first string new and puzzling. The second string will be less puzzling. By the time you can play and name the notes on string 6 everything will seem easy.

Remember to use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

Ears (to listen)

Remember to listen out for the two notes that don't have sharps:

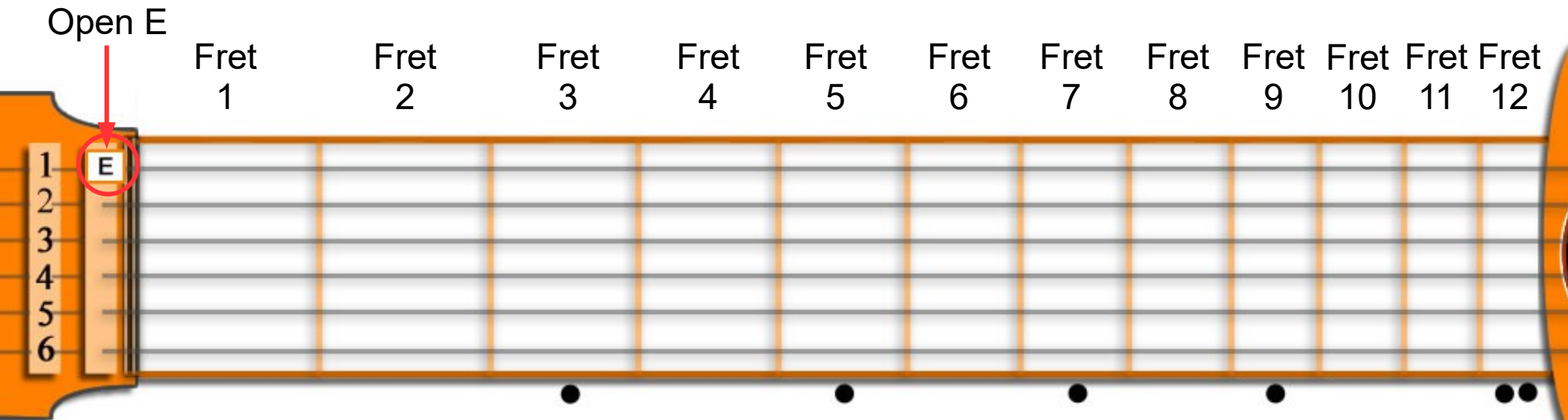
No sharp between **E - F**

No sharp between **B - C**

# E note: String 1 - Fret 0 - Finger 0

Play the first string open. Listen to the sound.

Call each name out loud after you play it on the fretboard.

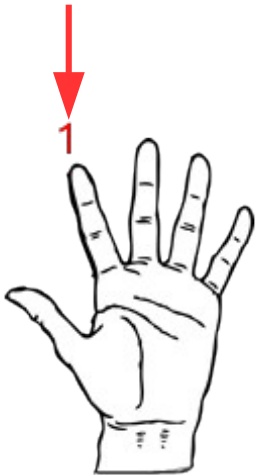
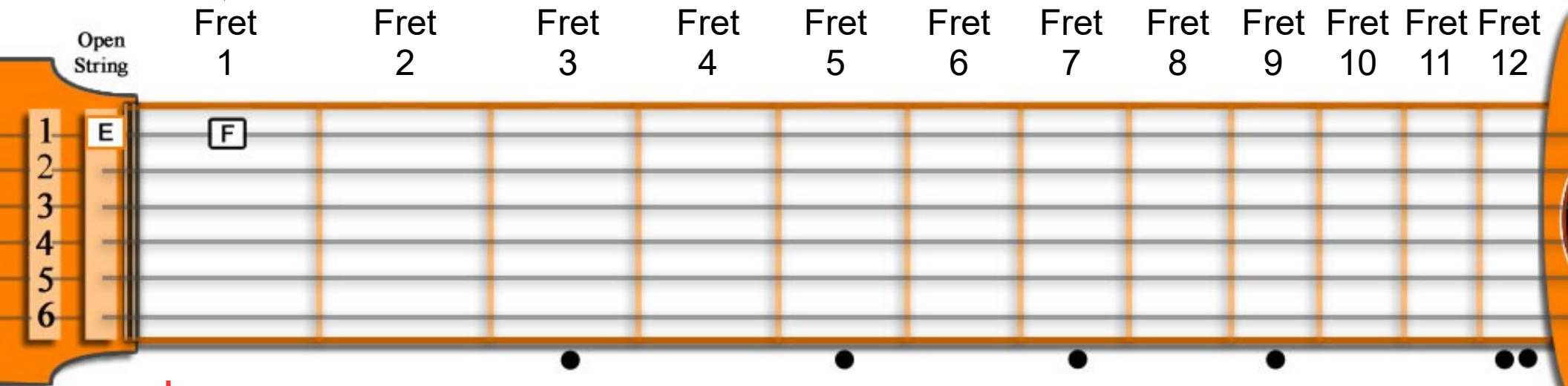


Strike the string cleanly with your plectrum

No fingers used when playing an open string

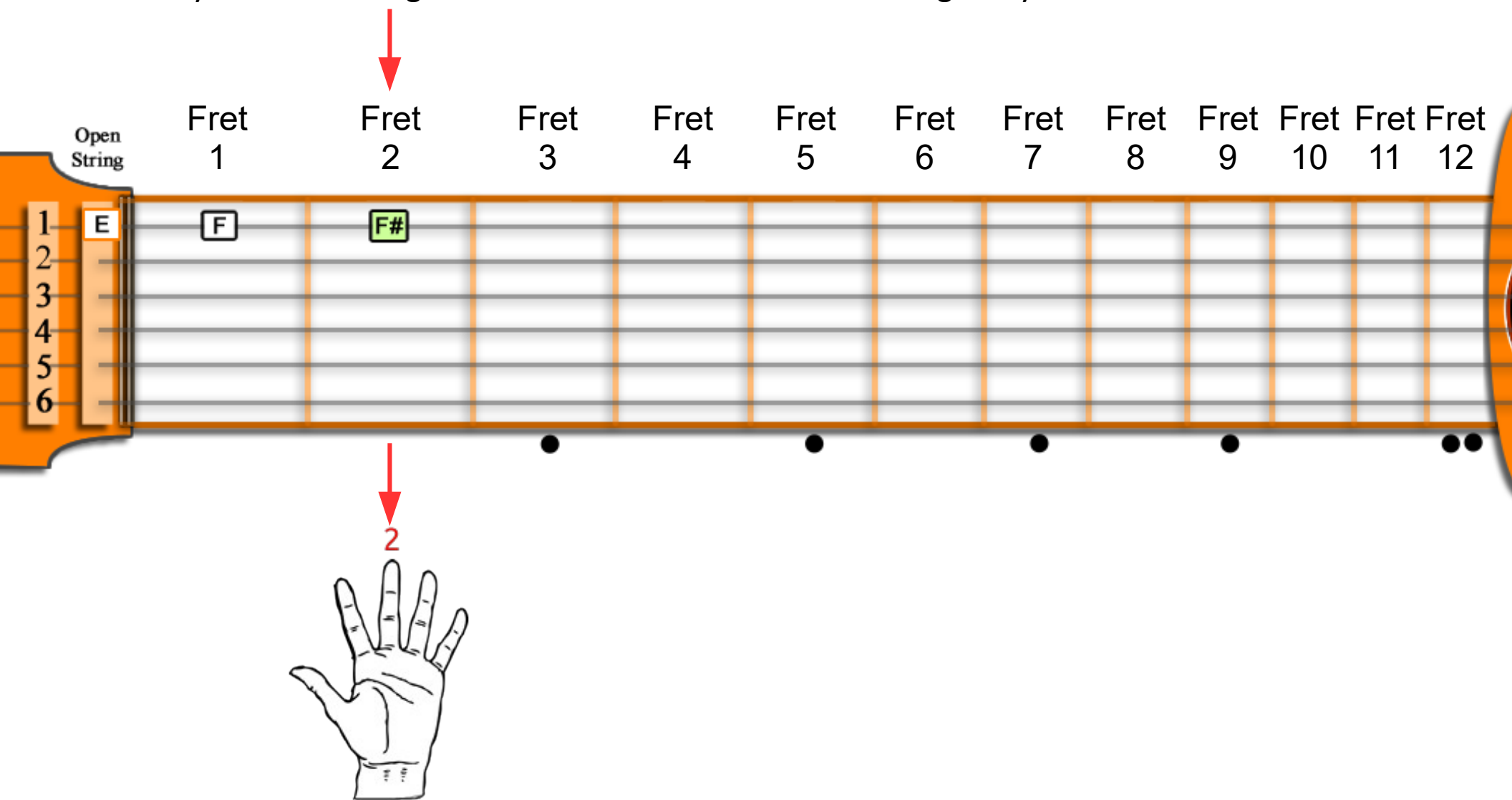
# F note: String 1 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

Place your first finger on the first fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



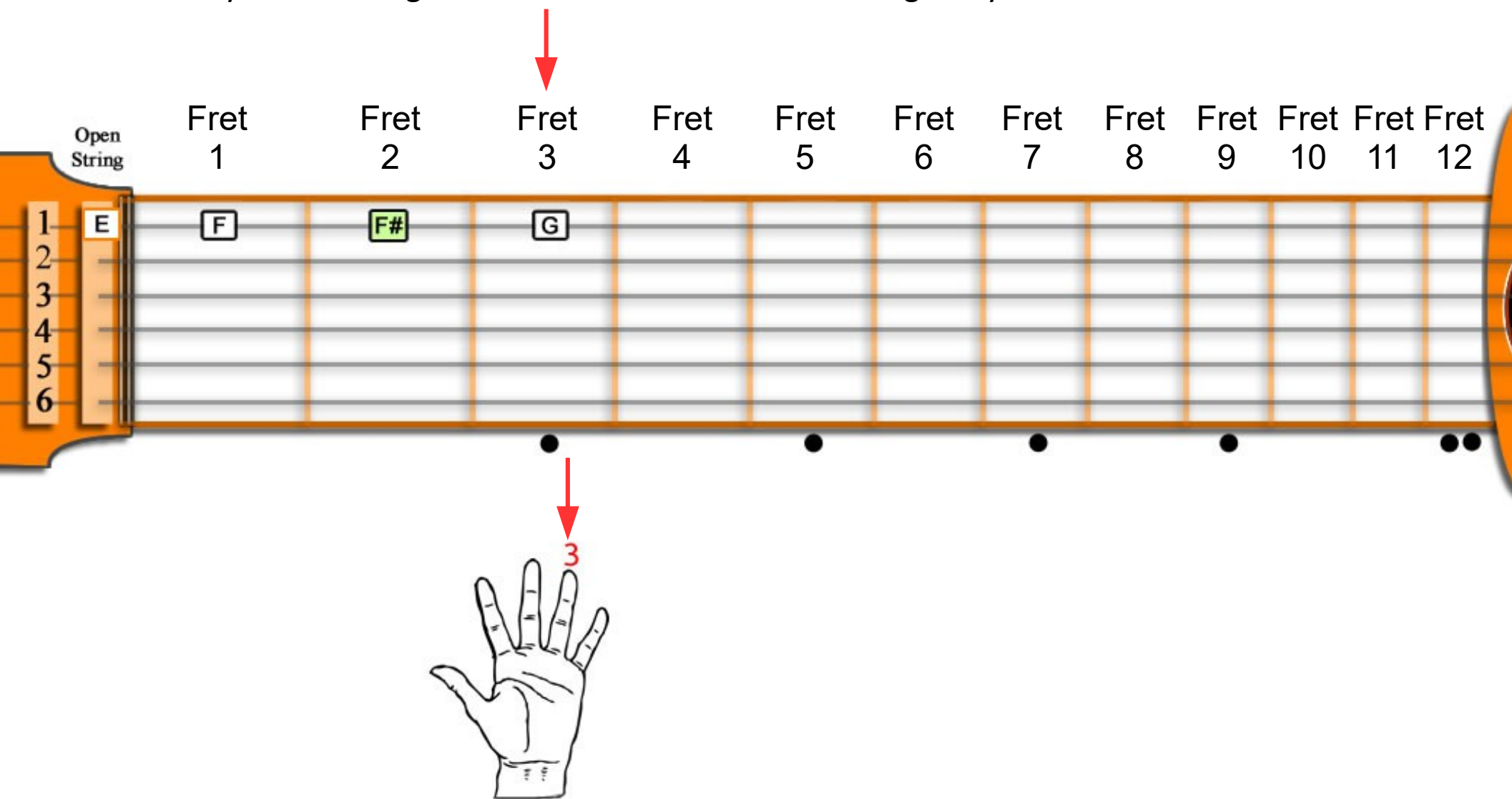
# F# note: String 1 - Fret 2 - Finger 2

Place your second finger on the second fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



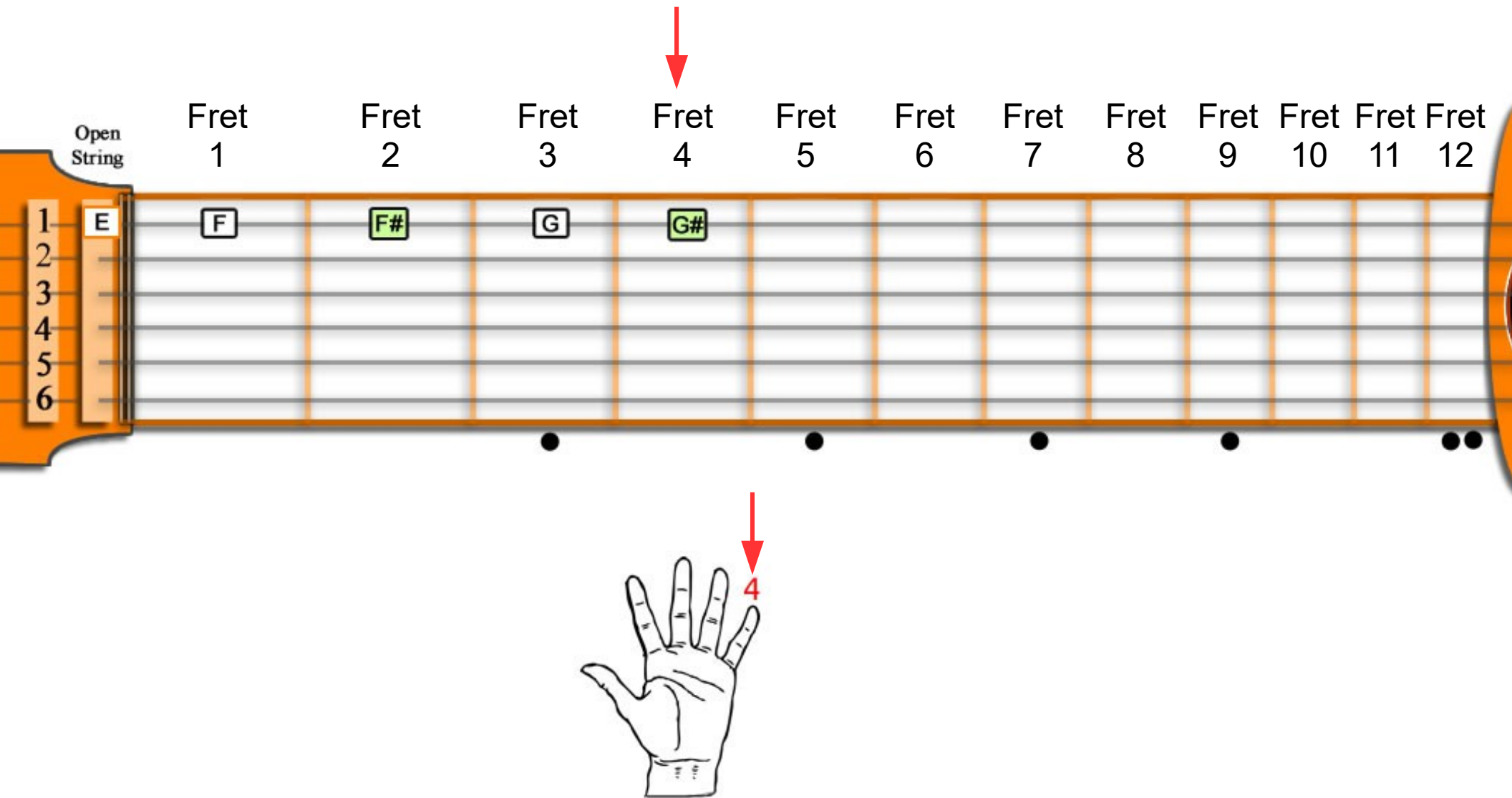
# G note: String 1 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

Place your third finger on the third fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



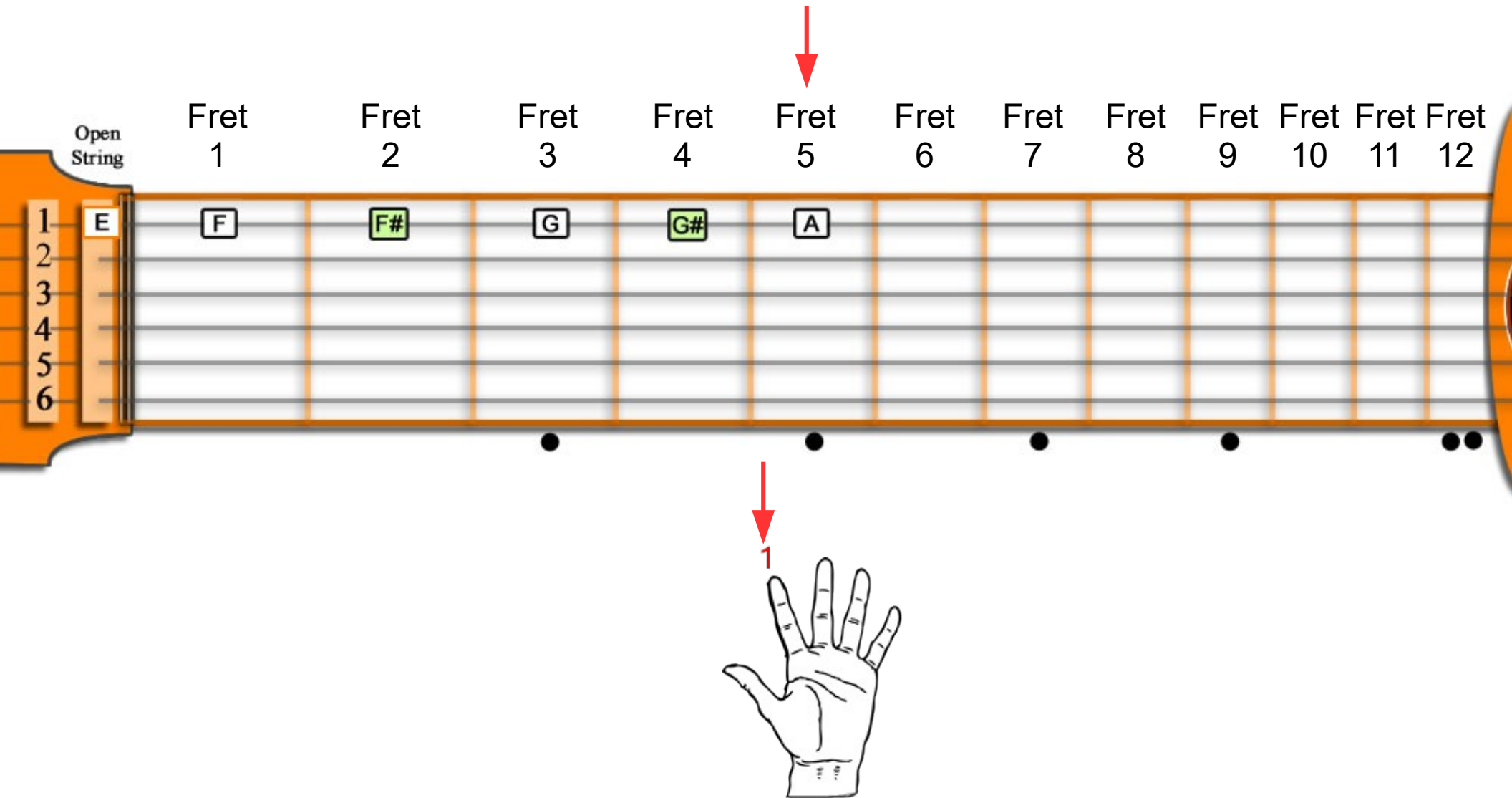
# G# note: String 1 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

Place your fourth finger on the fourth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



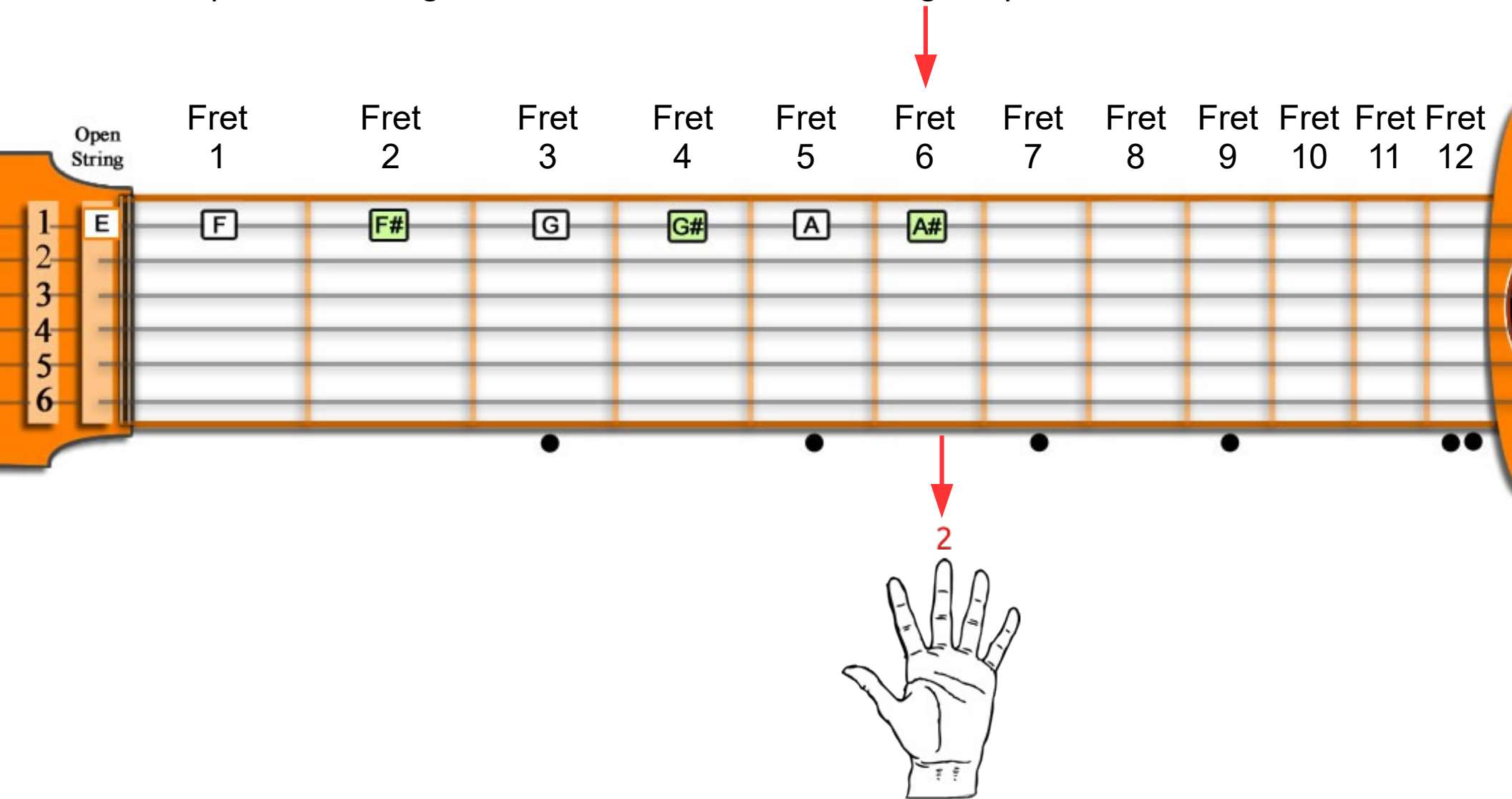
# A note: String 1 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

Place your first finger on the fifth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



# A# note: String 1 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

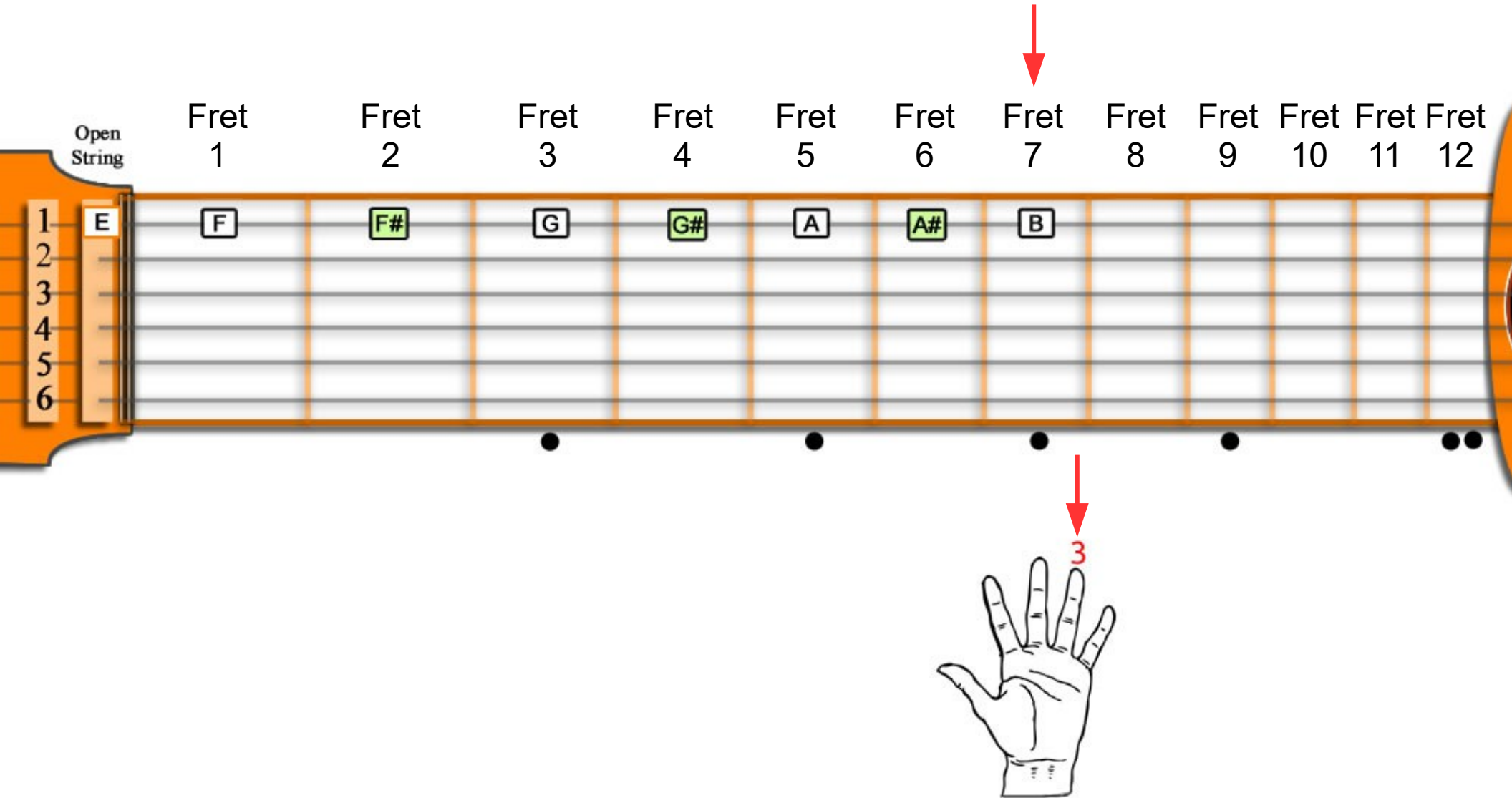
Place your second finger on the sixth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.





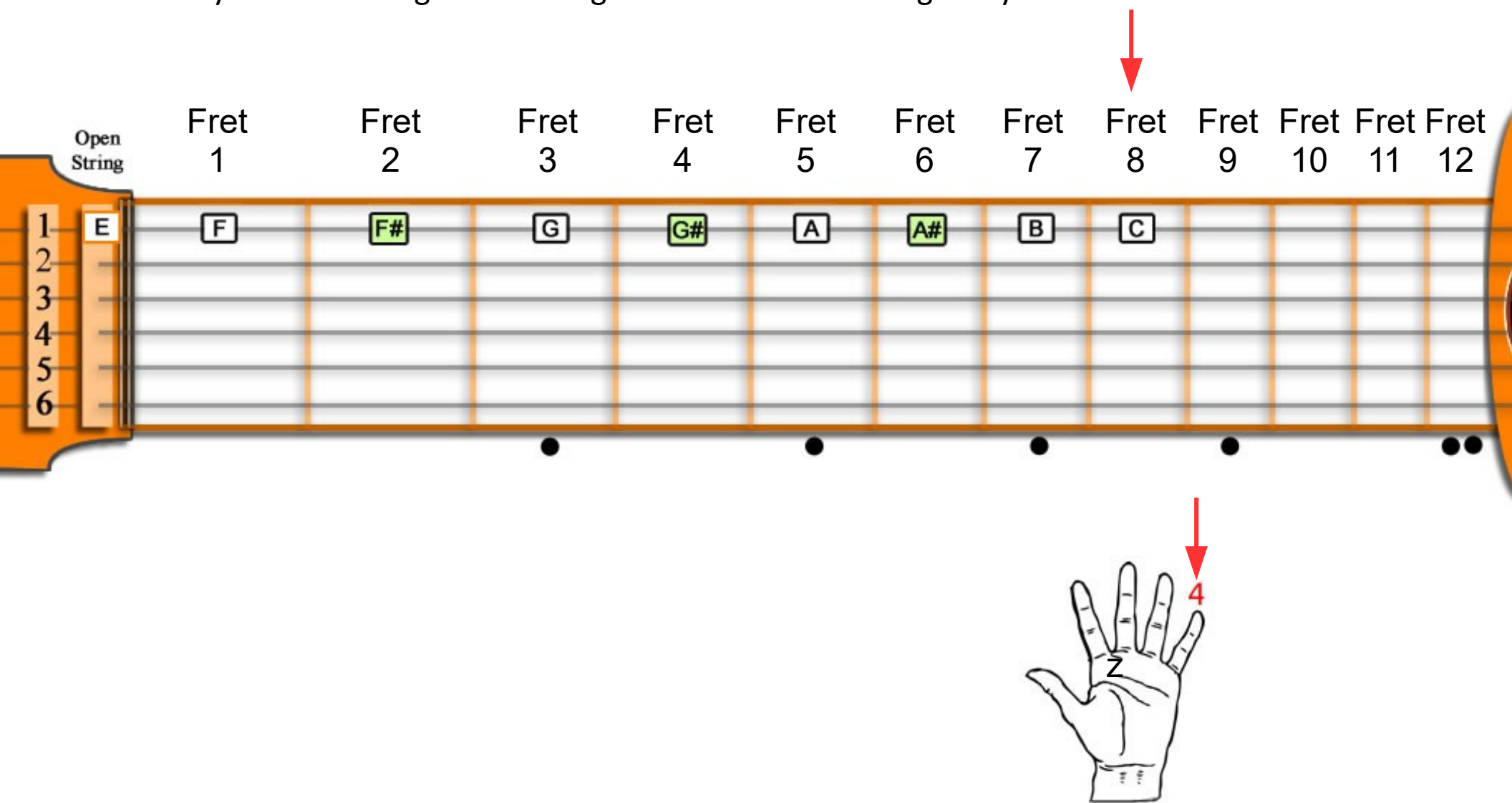
# B note: String 1 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

Place your third finger on the seventh fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



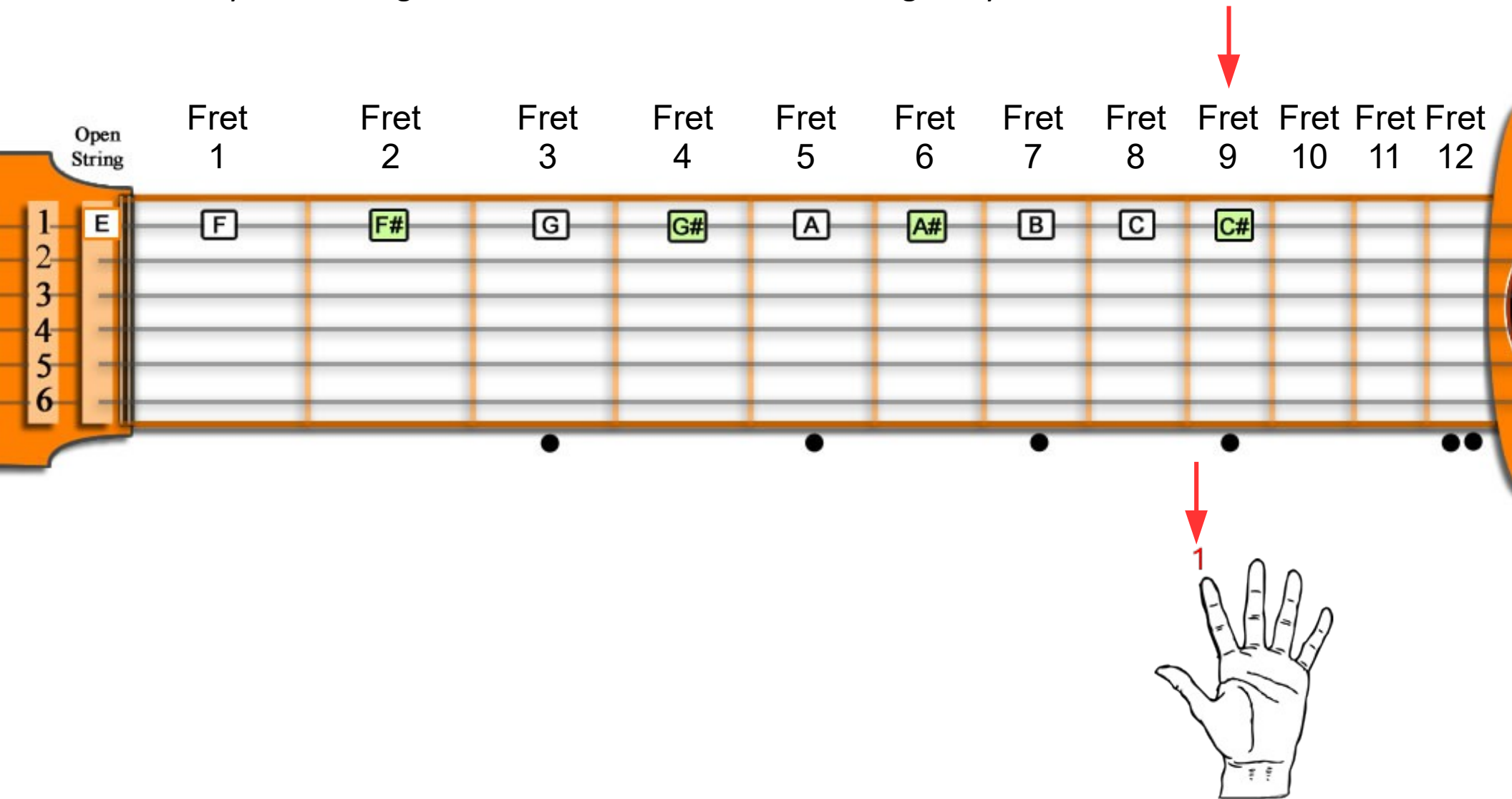
# C note: String 1 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

Place your fourth finger on the eight fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



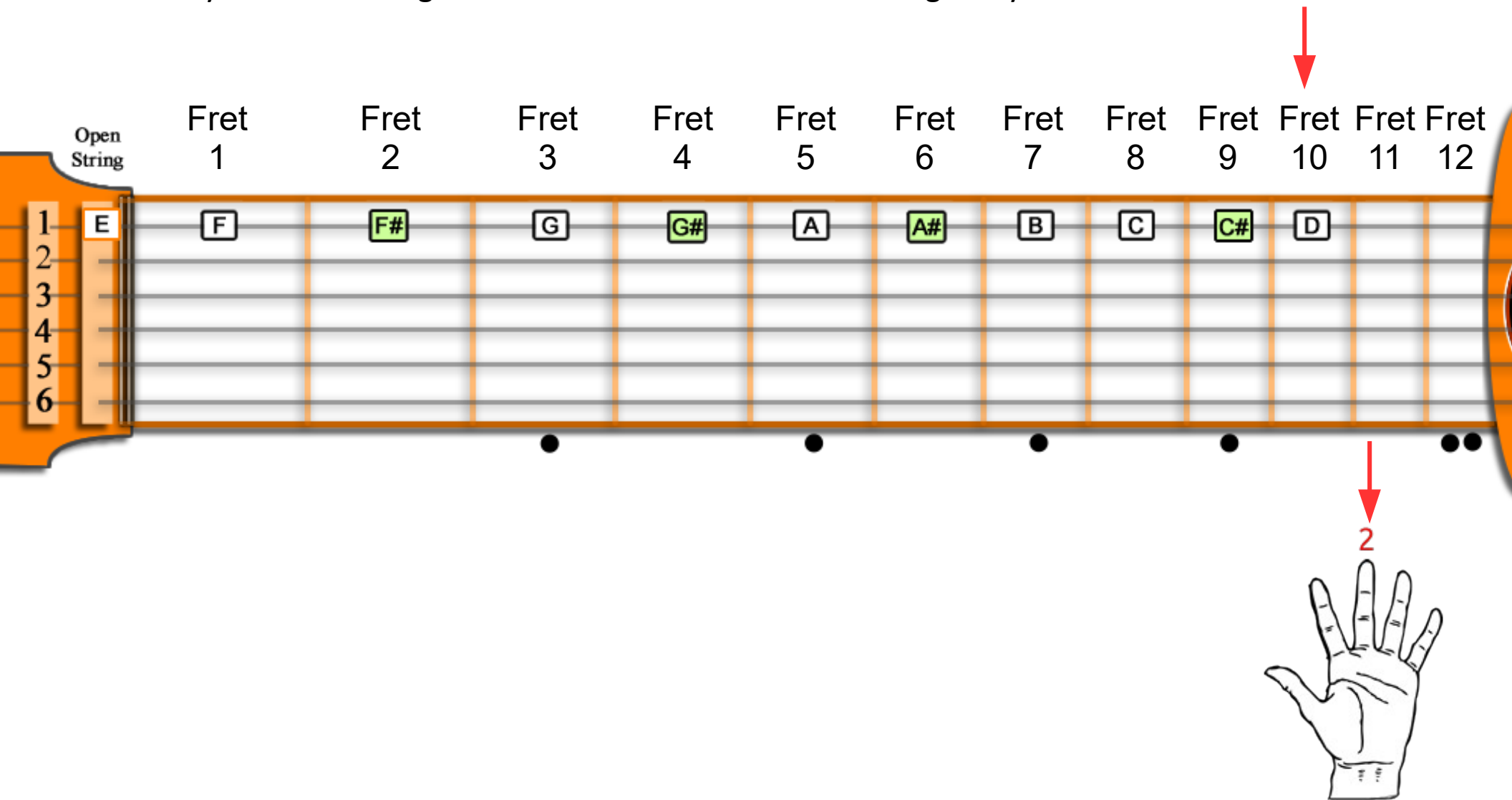
# C# note: String 1 - Fret 9 - Finger 1

Place your first finger on the ninth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



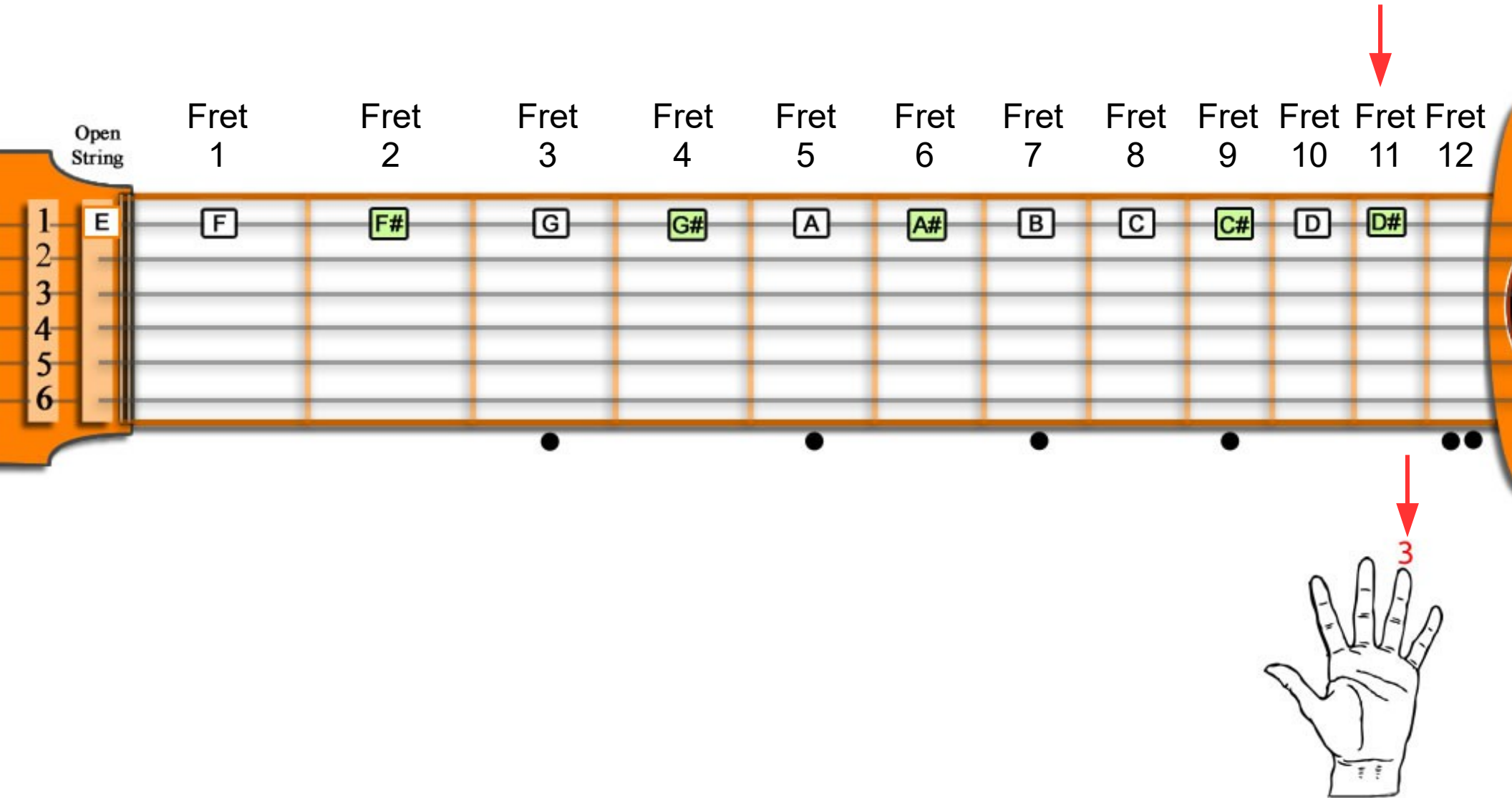
# D note: String 1 - Fret 10 - Finger 2

Place your second finger on the tenth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



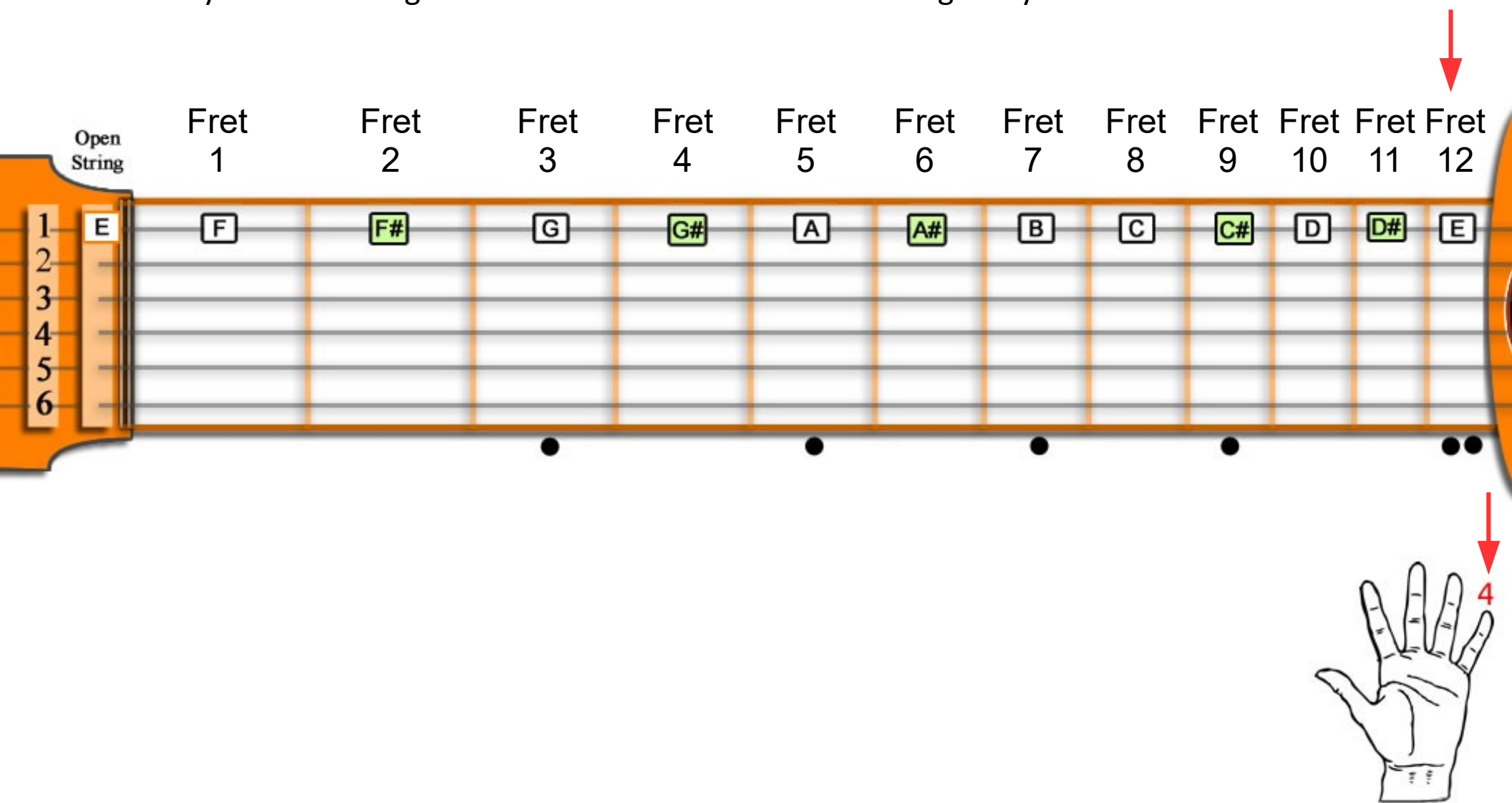
# D# note: String 1 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

Place your third finger on the eleventh fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



# E note: String 1 - Fret 12 - Finger 4

Place your fourth finger on the twelfth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



# Something to listen to. Something to think about.

When you press down on each fret after playing the open E, the sound of the notes go higher. This is because when you strike the string it vibrates faster with every passing fret from nut to body.

F sounds higher than E, F# sounds higher than F and so on all the way up to the 12<sup>th</sup> fret.

It might take time for your hearing to become accustomed to these sounds but it soon will.

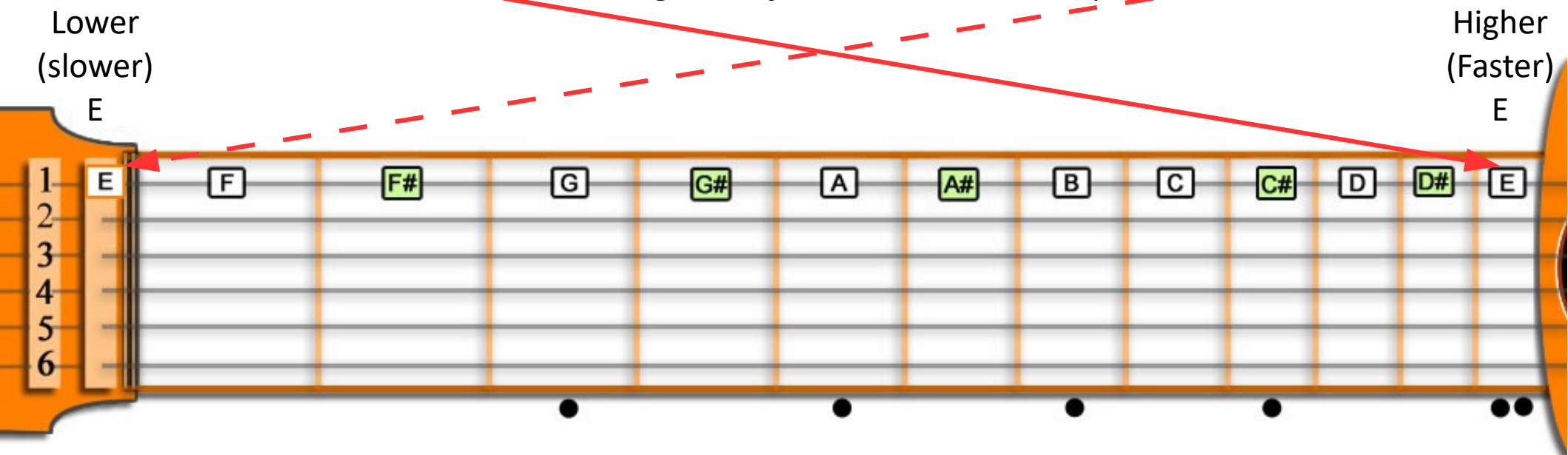
Each sound has a name, the name helps you find the sound on the fretboard.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> fret something unusual happened. There was another E note waiting for us at the end of the journey along the first string.

# An E note in two different places

It's to do with how fast a string is vibrating after being struck by a plectrum.

This E is vibrating exactly twice as fast as the open E.



Video 2a

That's why it has the same name.

Play the open E then play the E on the twelfth fret.  
It's a good thing for your brain to listen to.

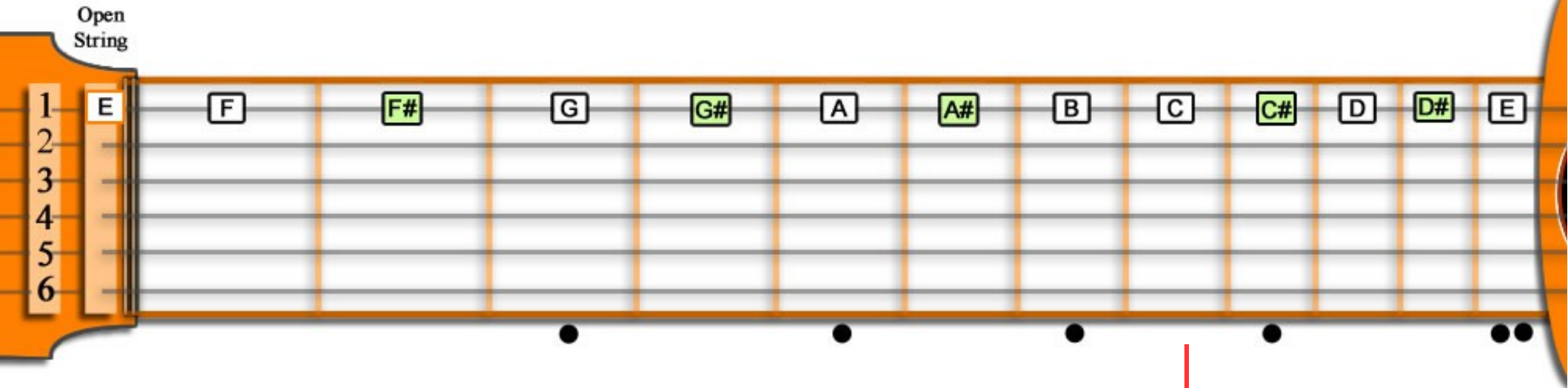
Listening to octaves



# There is a name for this

Between the two Es there are 8 steps, each with a different letter of the alphabet.  
In this case:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
E - F - G - A - B - C - D - E



Octagon – 8 sides



Octopus – 8 tentacles



**Octave – 8 steps from**  
**E (low) – E (high)**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
E - F - G - A - B - C - D - E

# The Fretboard: String 1 – E – Flats

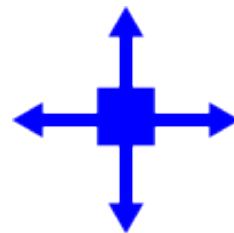
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Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# String 1: Semitones using flats

When we started playing the first string all the sounds were getting higher each time we moved closer to the body of the guitar.

The names reflected the sounds going up.

For example D – D# – E. The D# shows it is a **semitone higher** than D



What happens when we start on the 12th fret and work our way back towards the nut? The sounds get lower.

We must rename the sharp notes to show the sounds are going down.

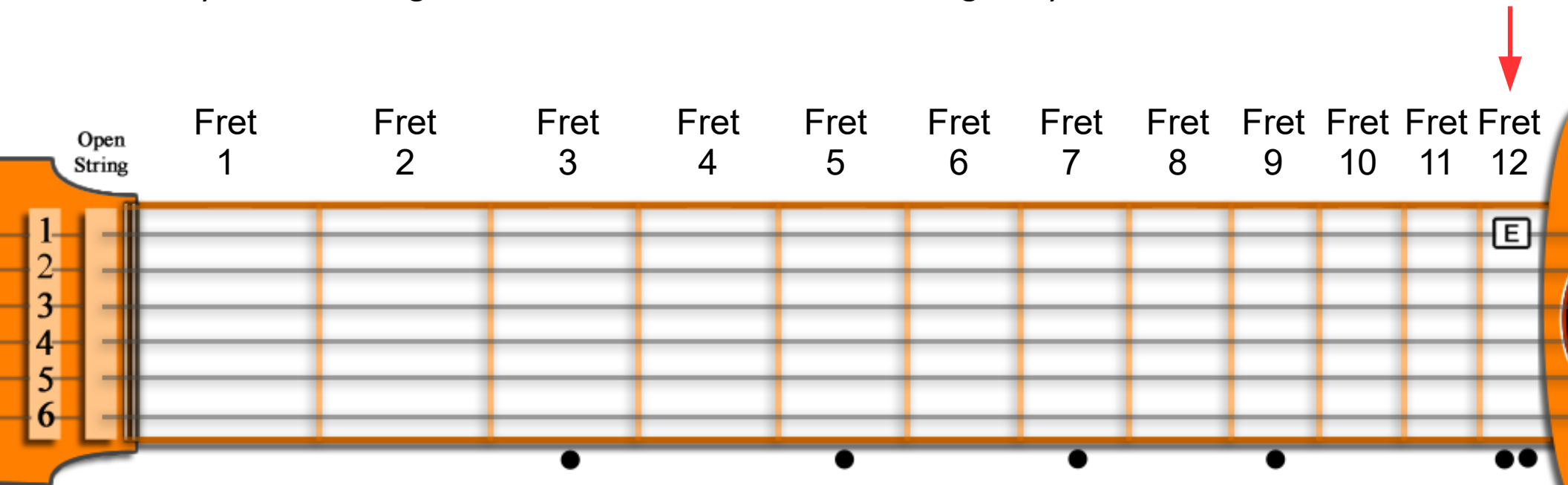
For example D – D# – E becomes E – E♭ – D

The E♭ shows it is a **semitone lower** than E

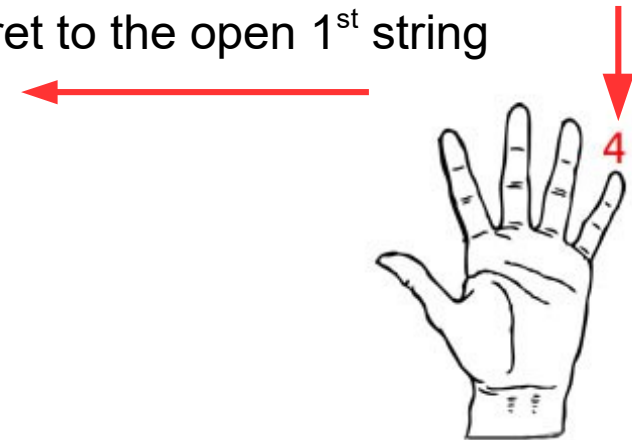


# E note: String 1 - Fret 12 - Finger 4

Place your fourth finger on the twelfth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.

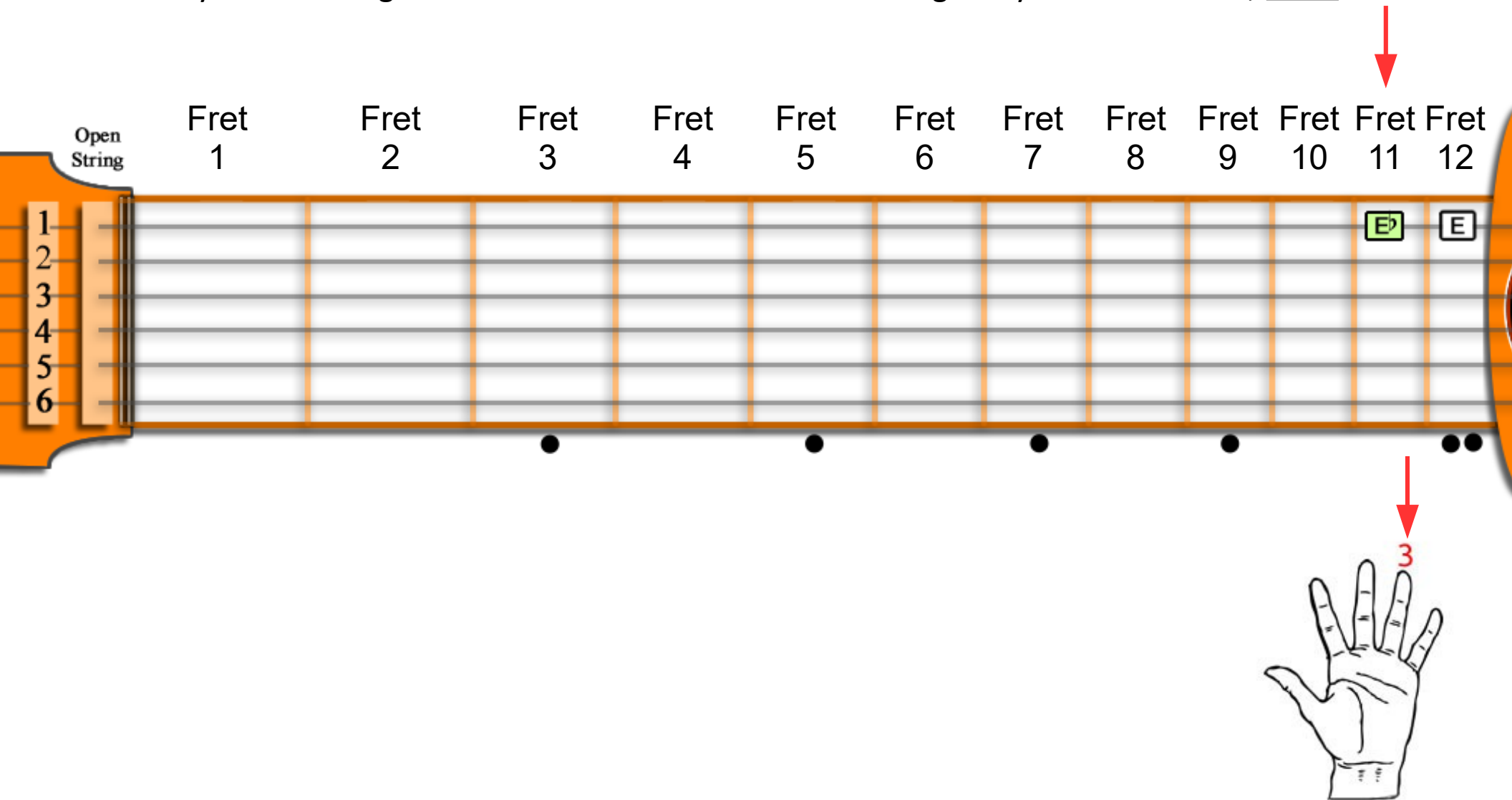


Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard from the 12<sup>th</sup> fret to the open 1<sup>st</sup> string



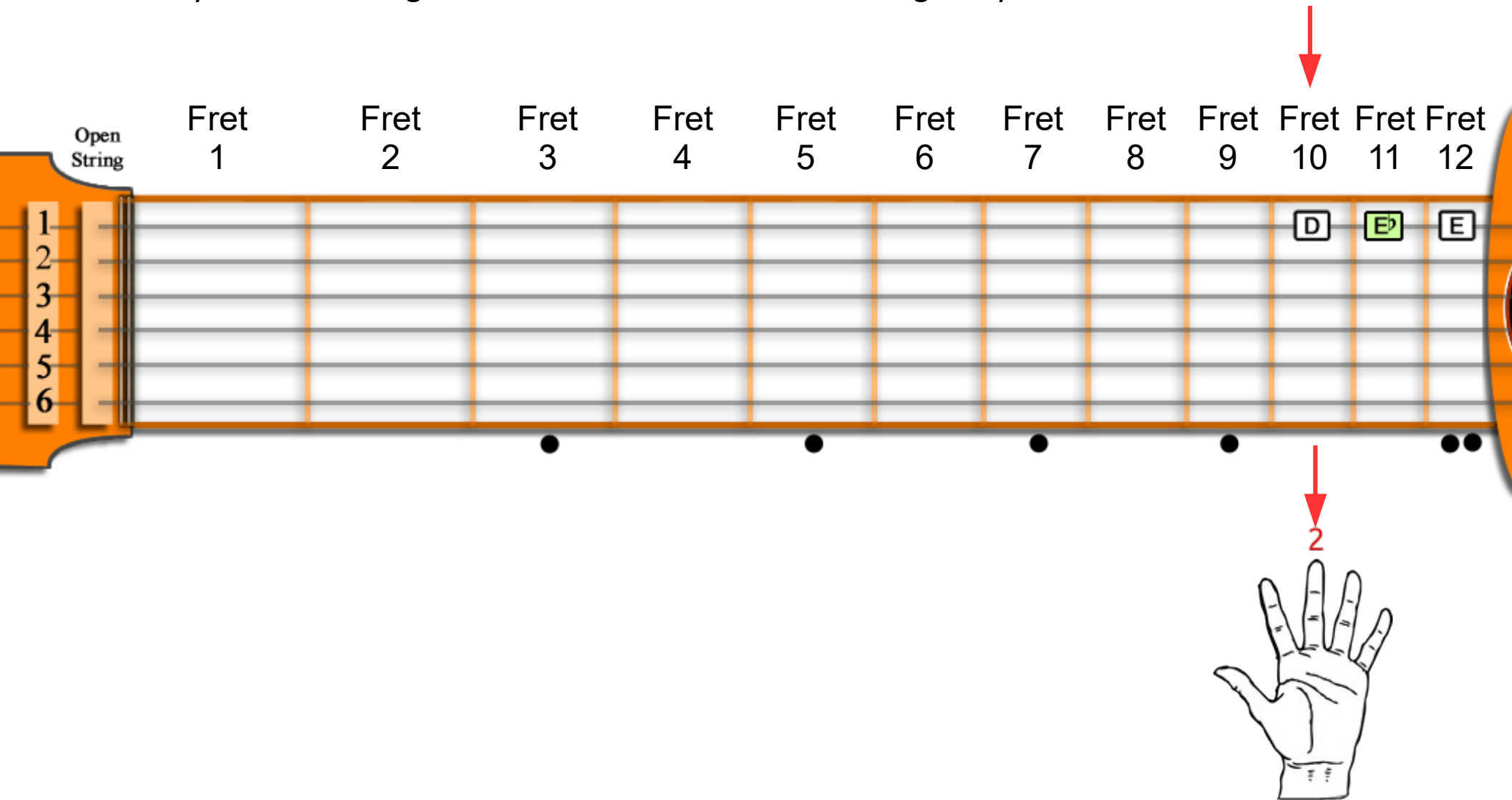
# E<sup>b</sup> note: String 1 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

Place your third finger on the eleventh fret of the first string. Play it. Call out loud, E flat.



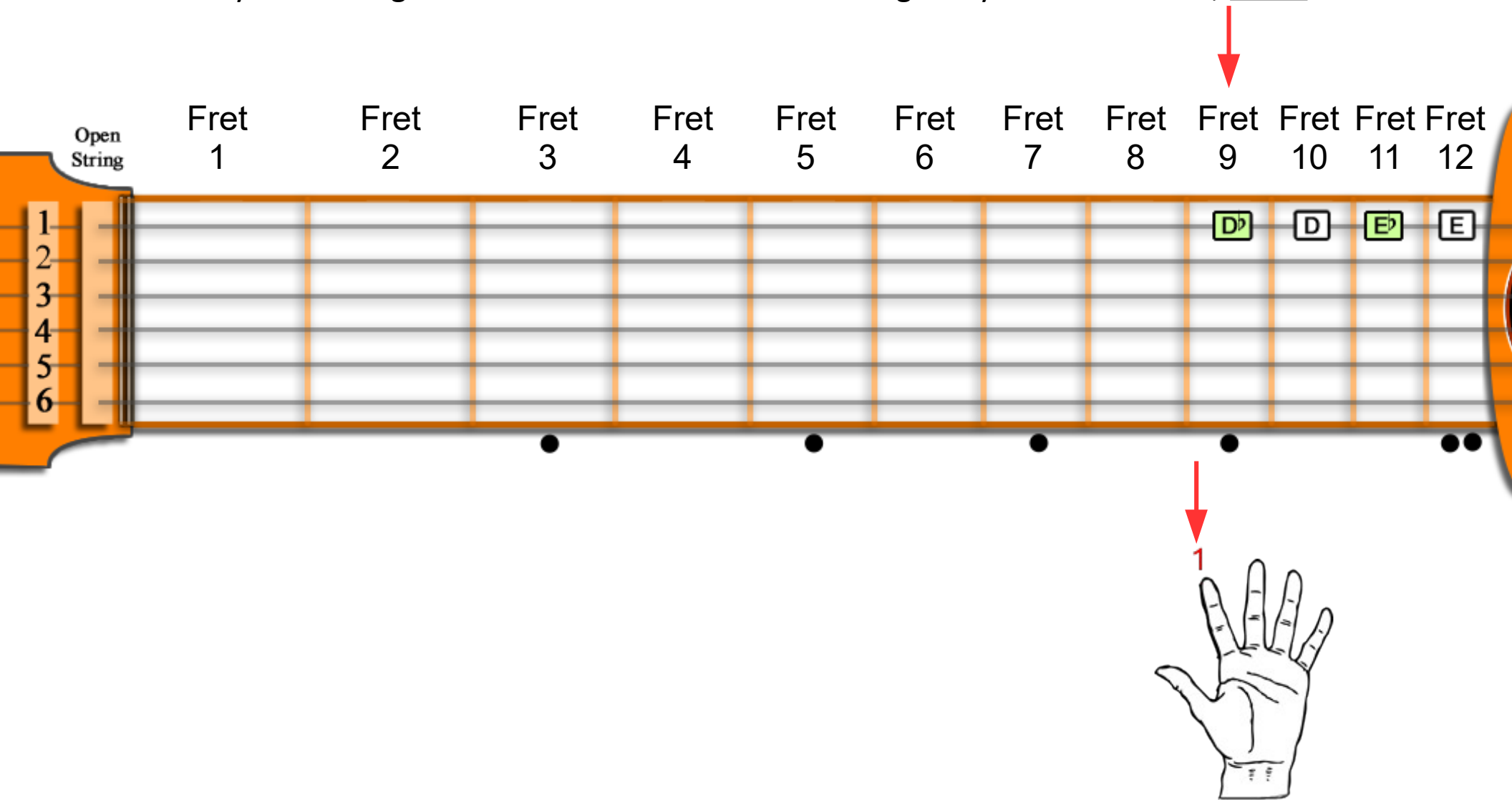
# D note: String 1 - Fret 10 - Finger 2

Place your second finger on the tenth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



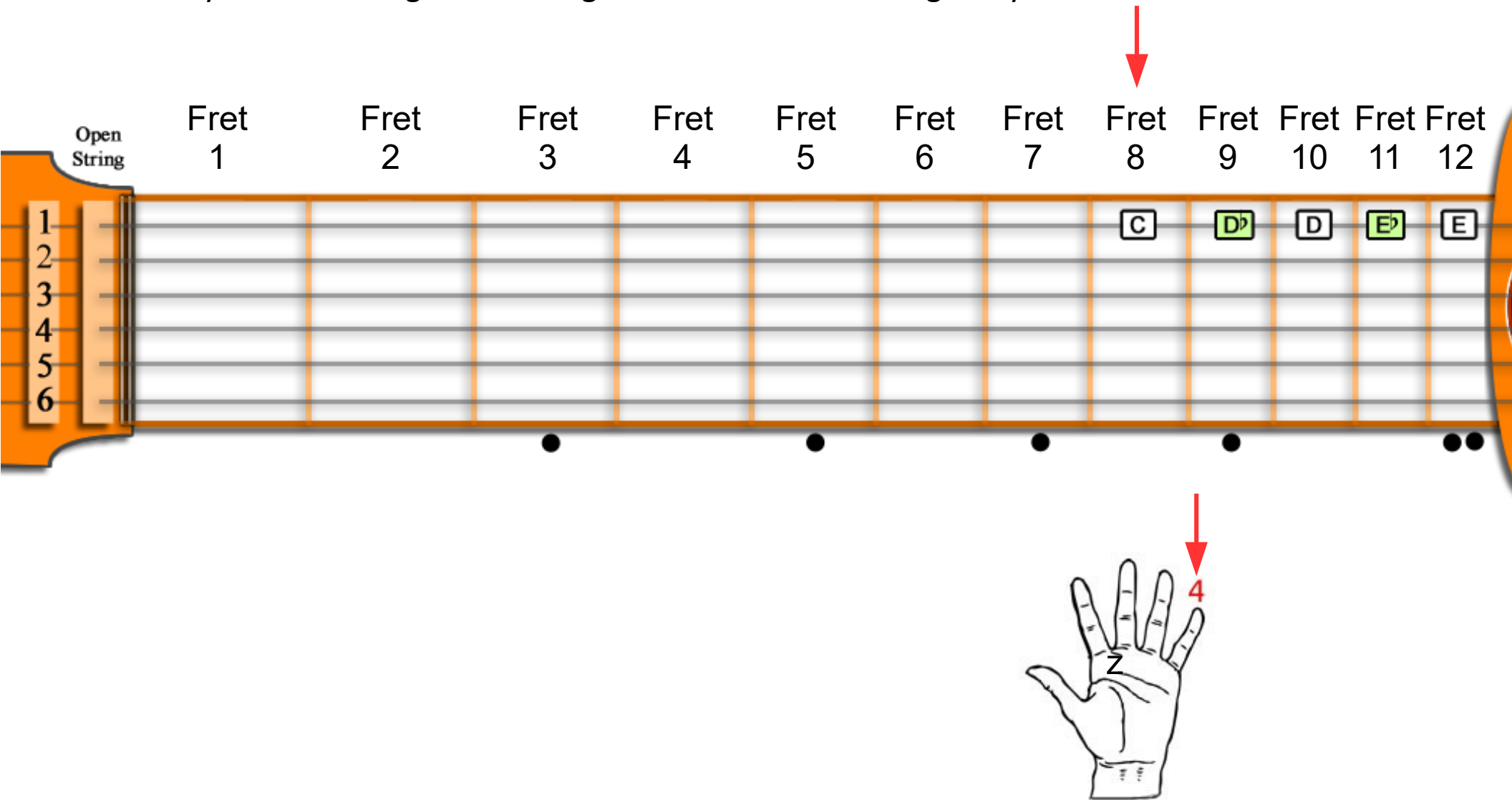
# D<sup>b</sup> note: String 1 - Fret 9 - Finger 1

Place your first finger on the ninth fret of the first string. Play it. Call out loud, **D flat**.



# C note: String 1 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

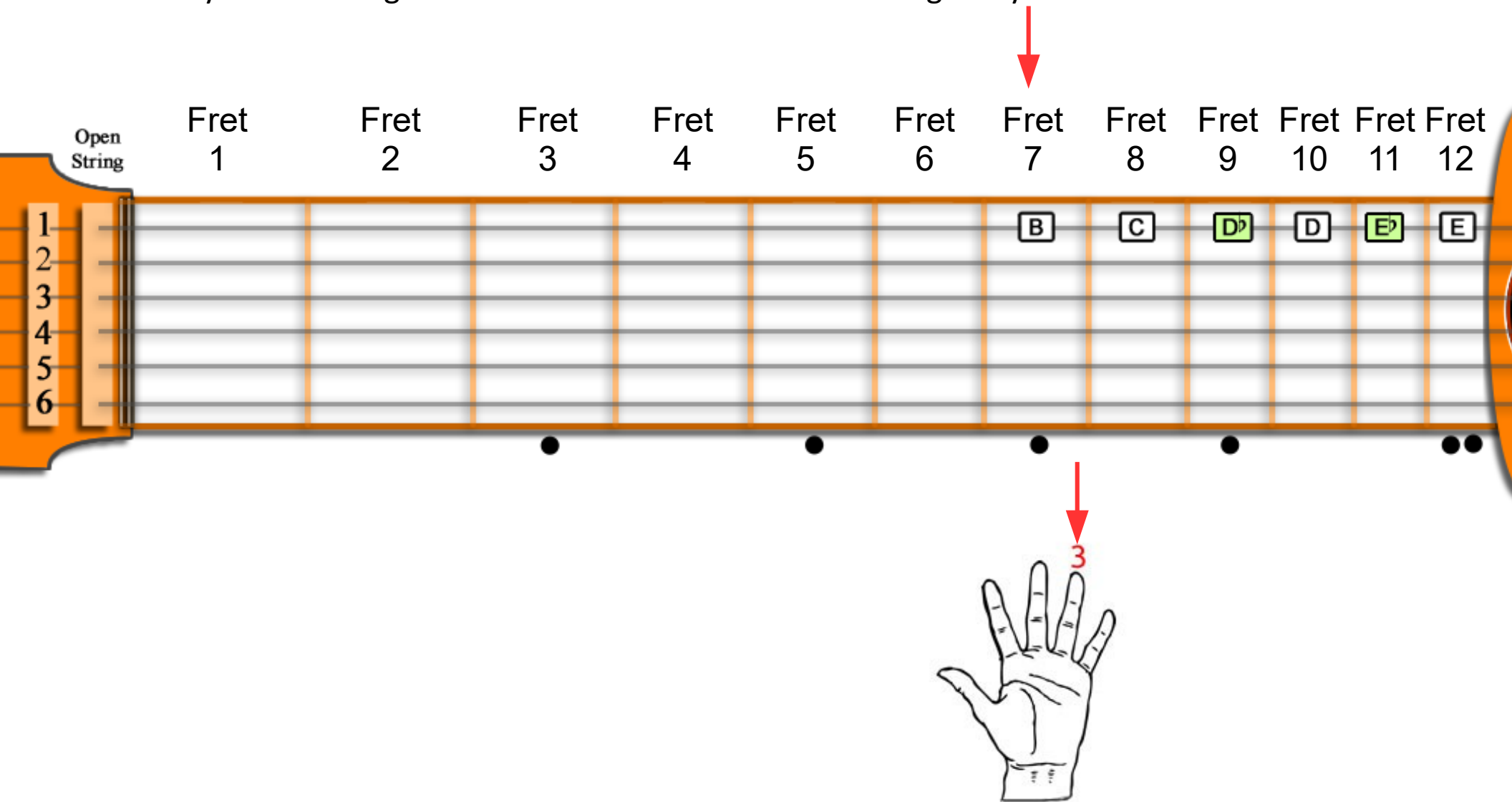
Place your fourth finger on the eighth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.





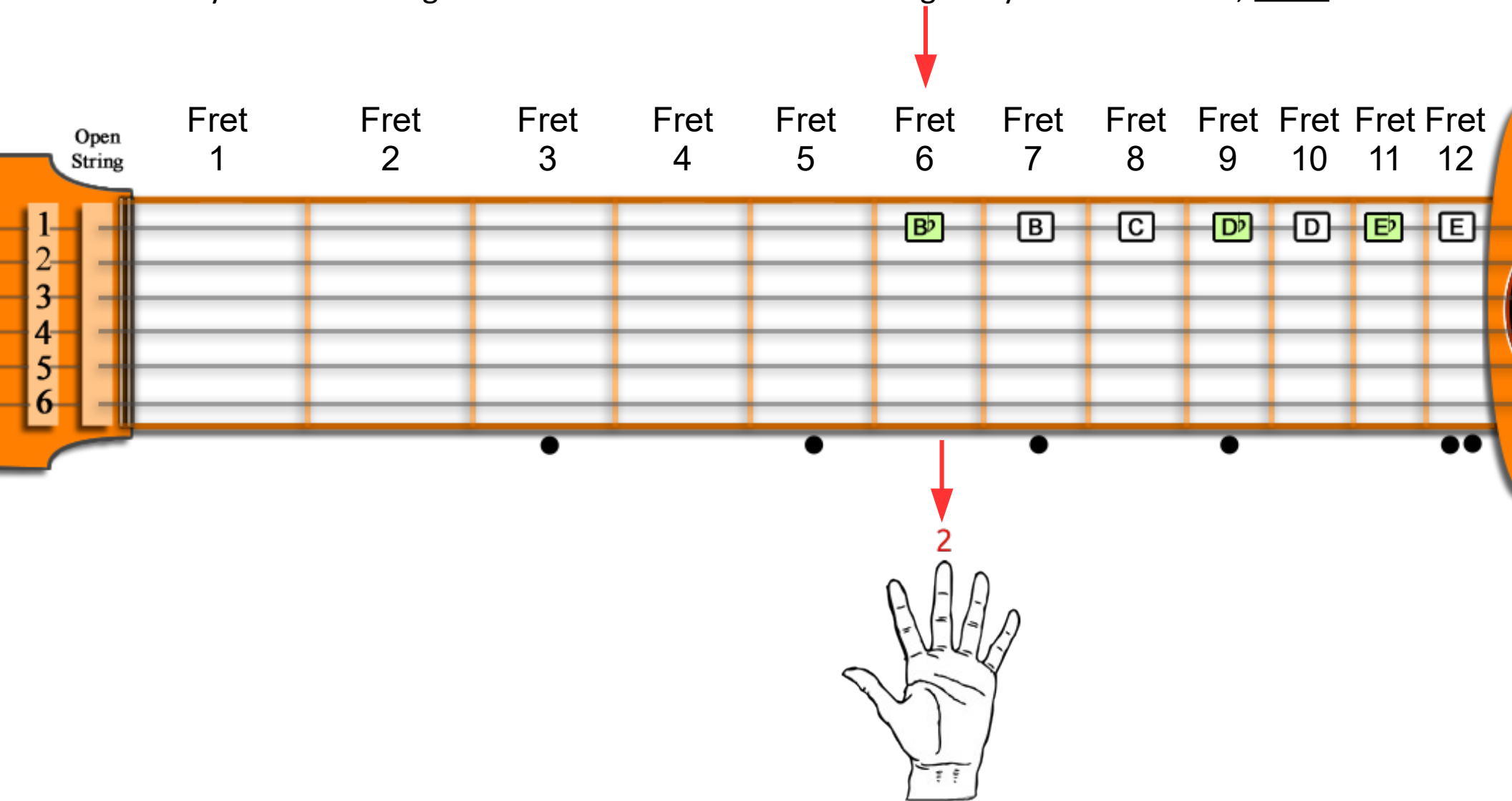
# B note: String 1 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

Place your third finger on the seventh fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



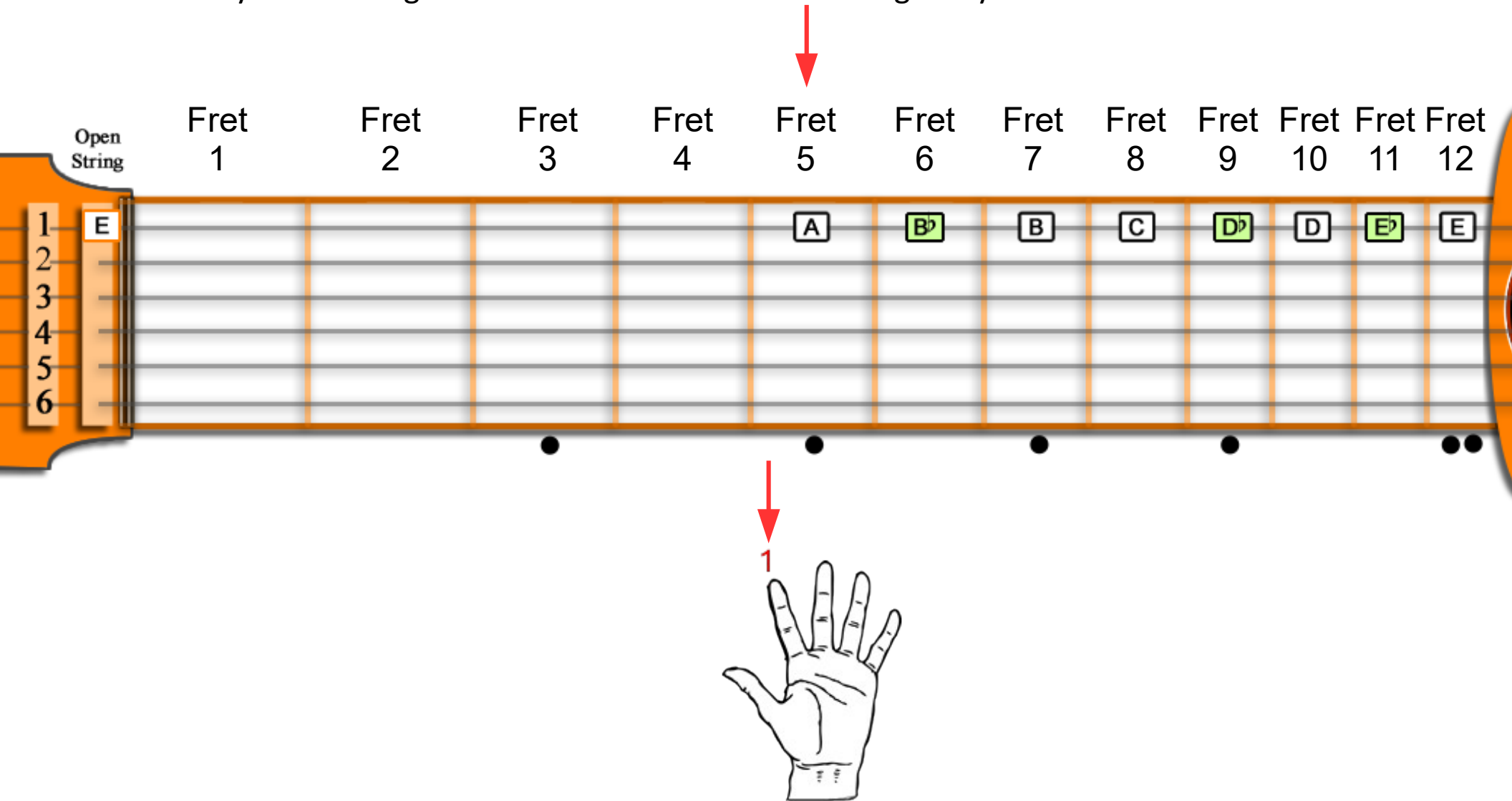
# B<sup>b</sup> note: String 1 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

Place your second finger on the sixth fret of the first string. Play it. Call out loud, **B flat**.



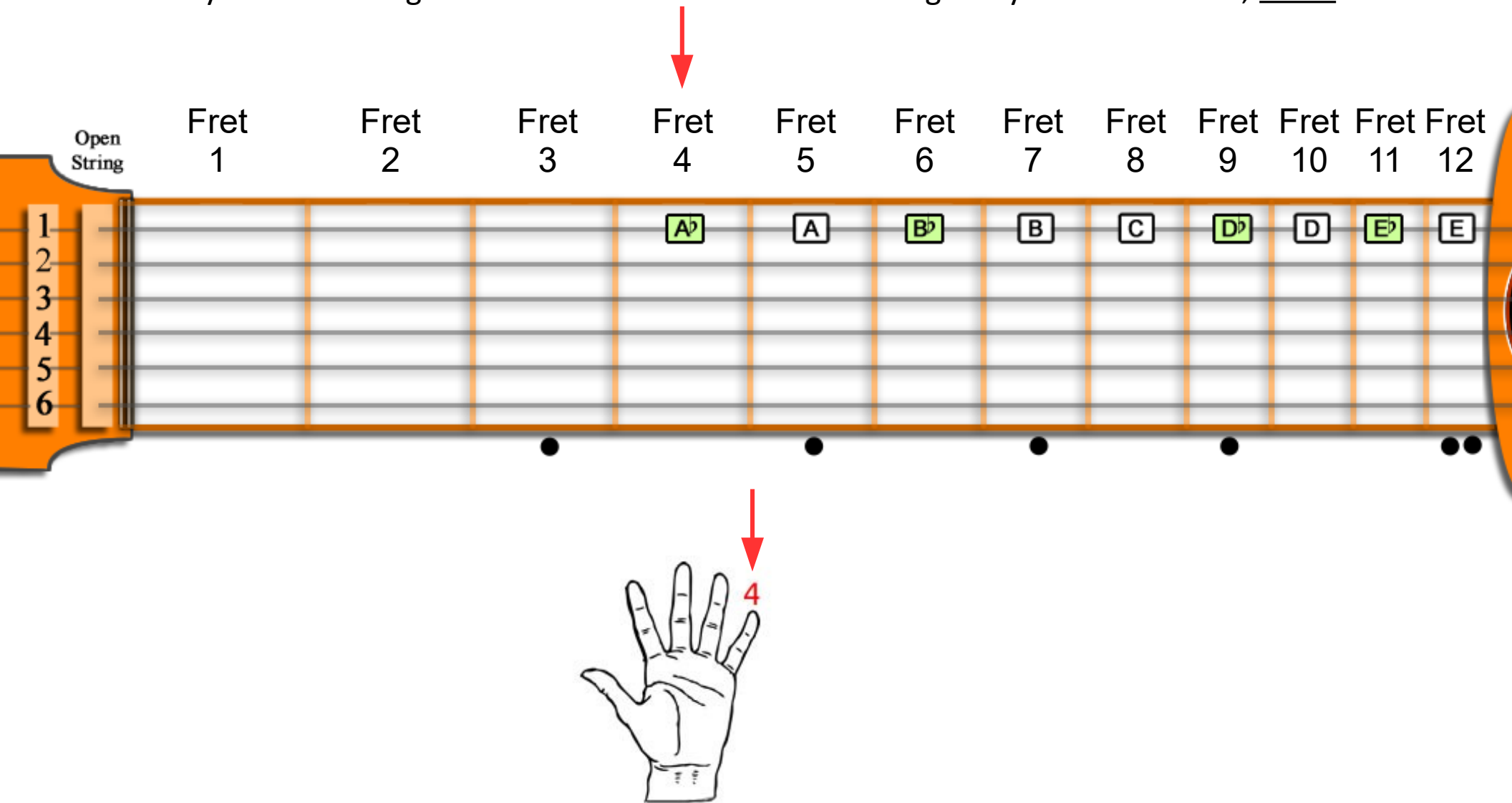
# A note: String 1 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

Place your first finger on the fifth fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



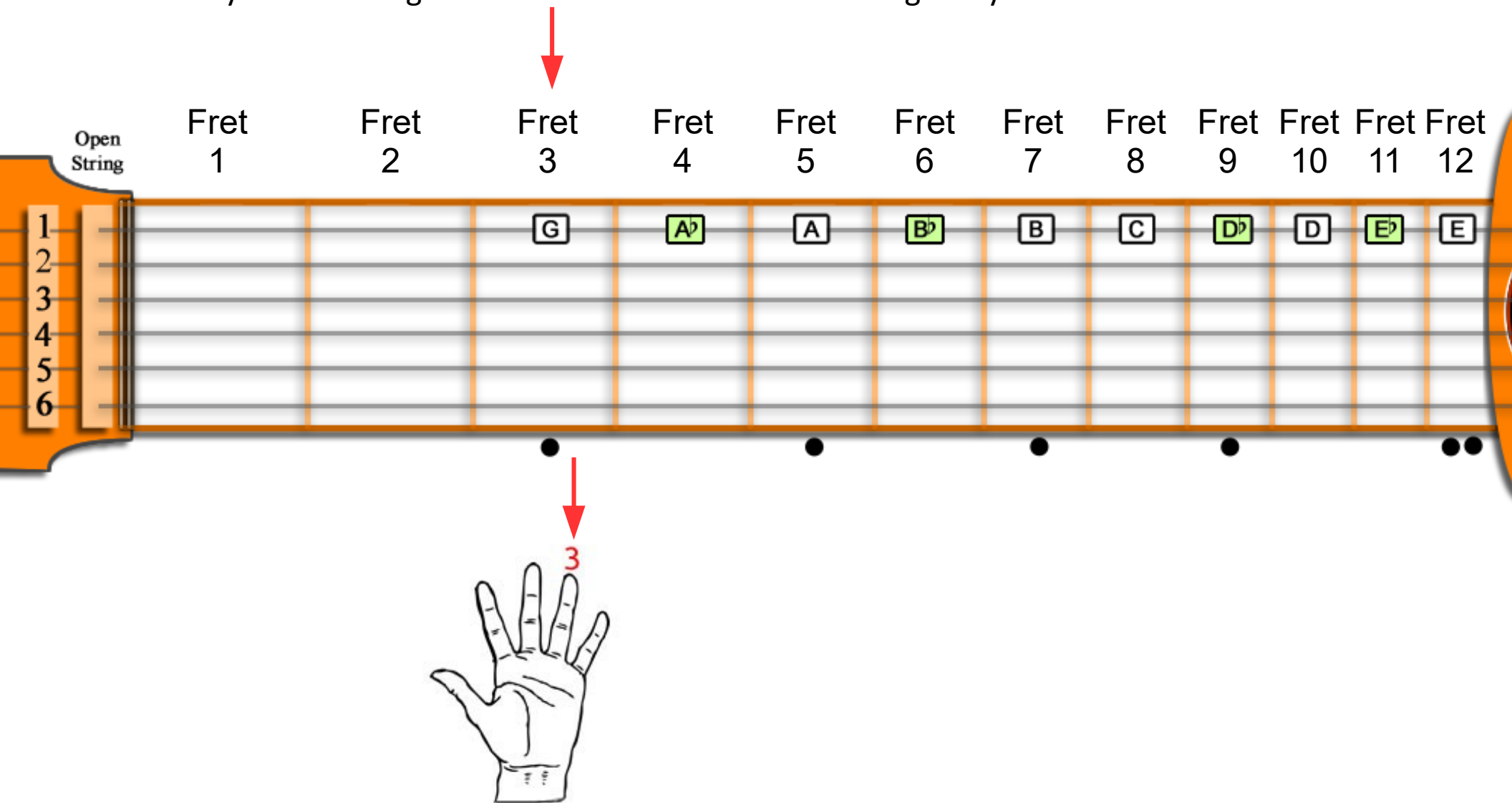
# A<sup>b</sup> note: String 1 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

Place your fourth finger on the fourth fret of the first string. Play it. Call out loud, A flat.



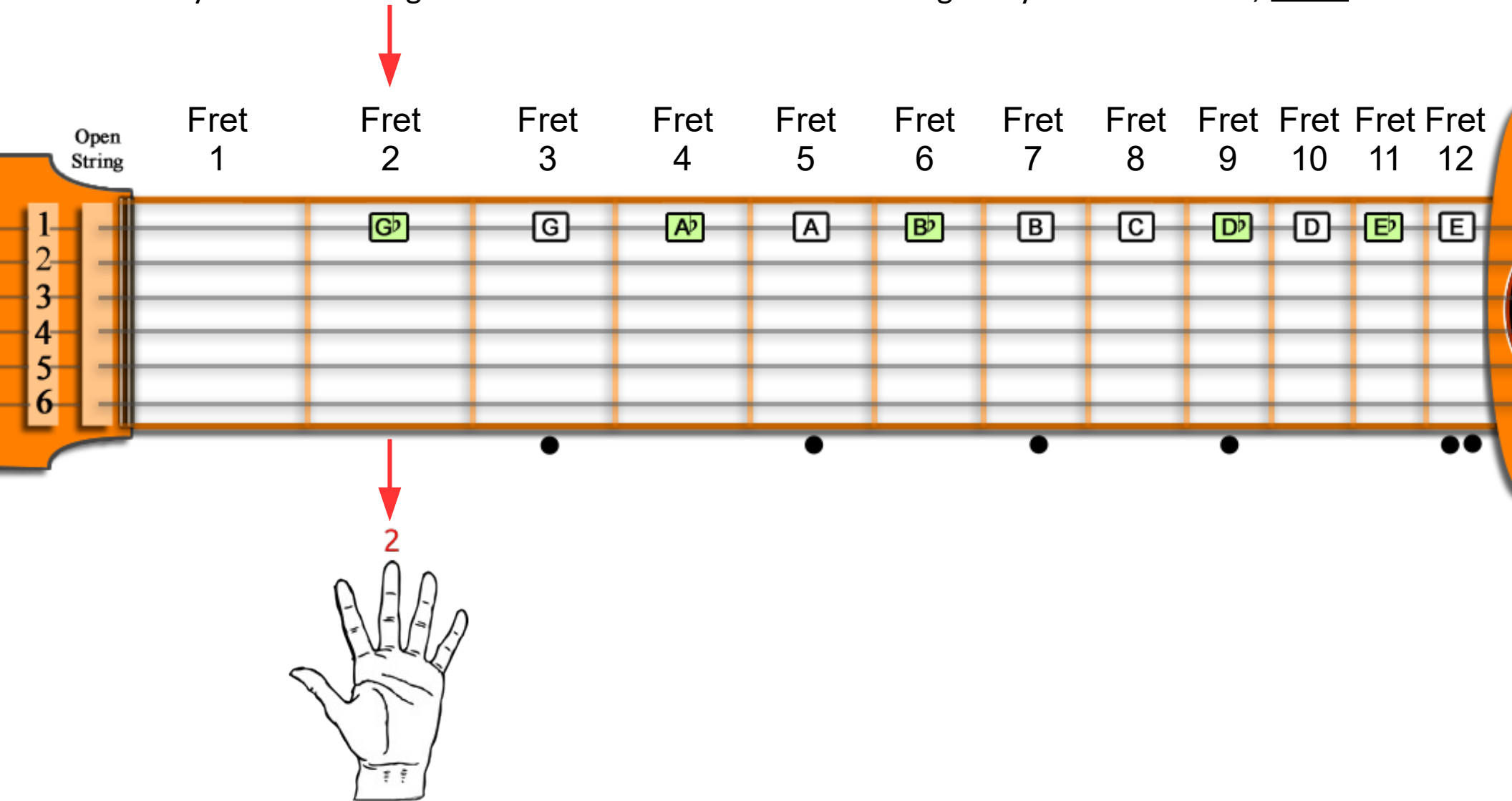
# G note: String 1 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

Place your third finger on the third fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



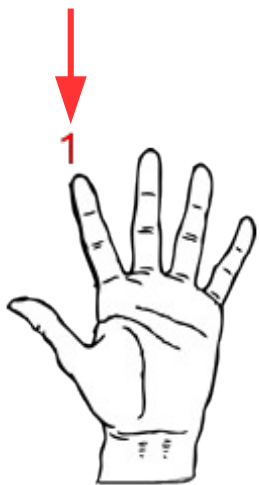
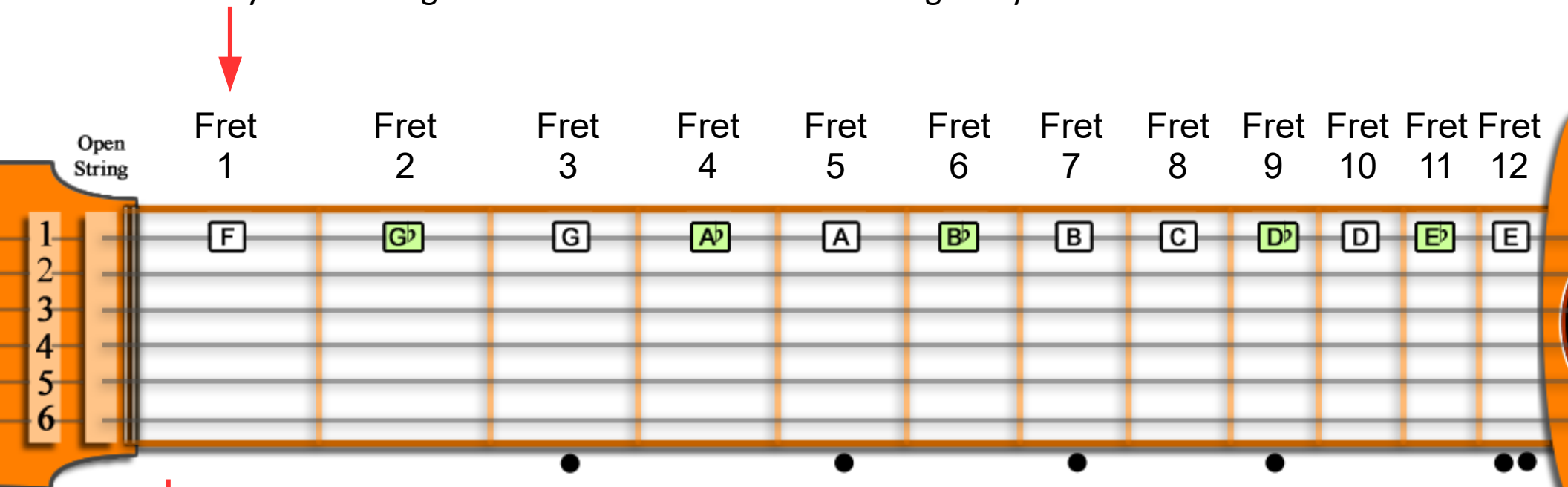
# G<sup>b</sup> note: String 1 - Fret 2 - Finger 2

Place your second finger on the second fret of the first string. Play it. Call out loud, G flat.



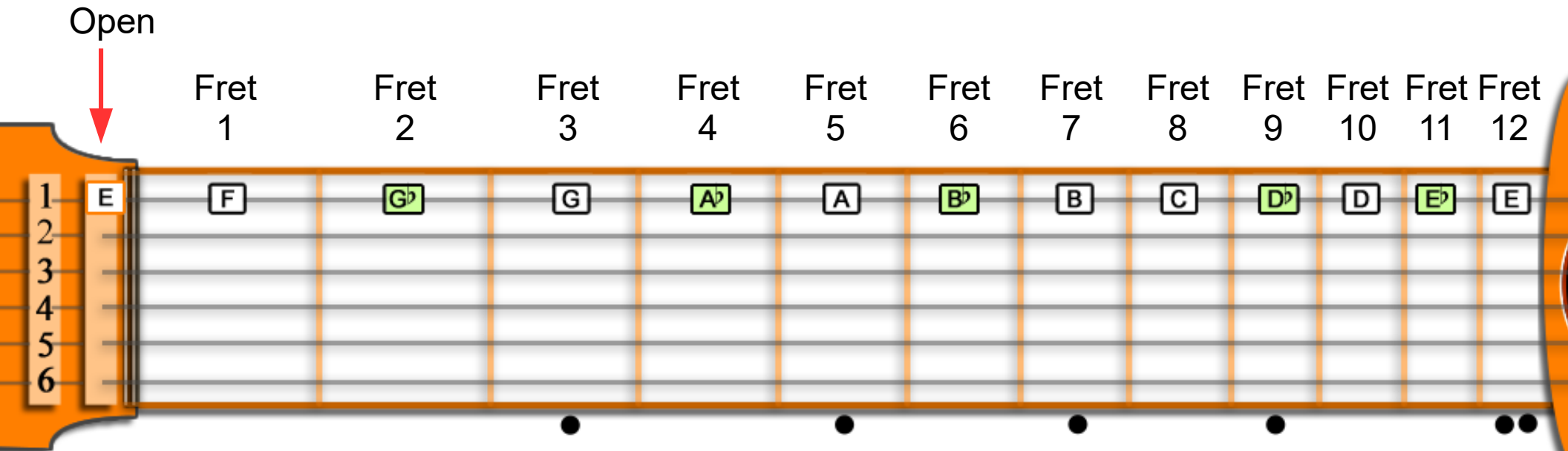
# F note: String 1 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

Place your first finger on the first fret of the first string. Play it. Call the name out loud.



# E note: String 1 - Fret 0 - Finger 0

Play the first string open. Call the name out loud.



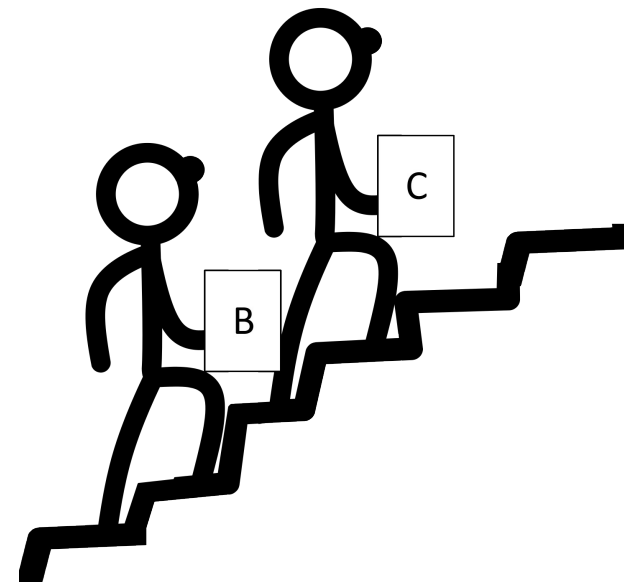
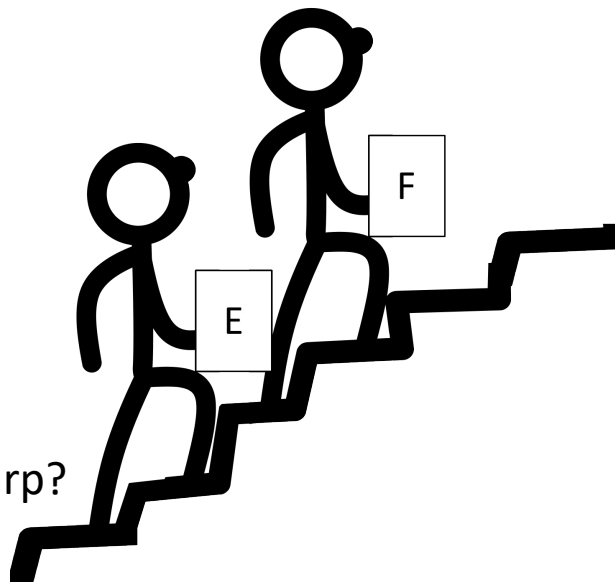
No fingers used when playing an open string



# Why no E or B sharp?

The answer to this is found in listening to the notes as you play them. Play an F note on the first string. Now play an G note on the first string. You will hear two different sounds. Now play F – F# – G. Between F – G there is a note higher than F but not as high as G. We call it F#.

Play an E note then F, which is always next to E one fret higher. E goes straight to F – no sharp. B – C does the same.



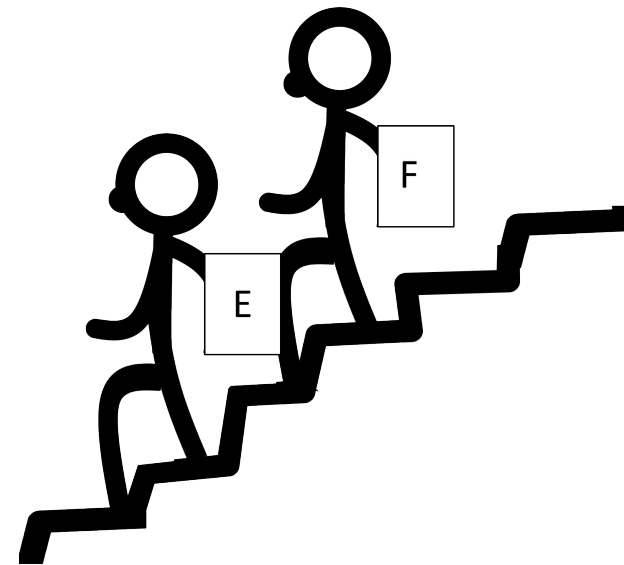
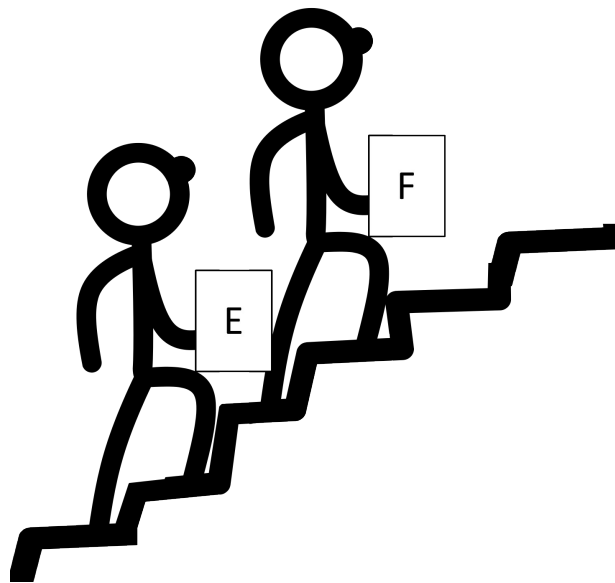
Why no E or B sharp?

# Why no C or F Flat?

If there isn't a semitone between E – F when the sounds are going higher there isn't going to be a semitone when the sounds are going lower.

E – F no sharp. F – E no flat.

B – C no sharp. C – B no flat.



# Repeat string one, lots of times

Please don't play each string once. Play them lots of times. Hundreds of times.

Call out the names of the notes until you feel comfortable with the order of the note names.

Listen to yourself and the sounds you are making.

Practice will bring strength and speed to your fingers. The notes will start to sound better with every passing day.

Play your guitar to anyone in the house. Don't hide your music away.

People who hear your first attempts at playing guitar will be able to congratulate you when progress is made.

Practice makes music.

# Beginners and the next two pages

If you have only just started playing you might find the next two pages a little too hard to understand.

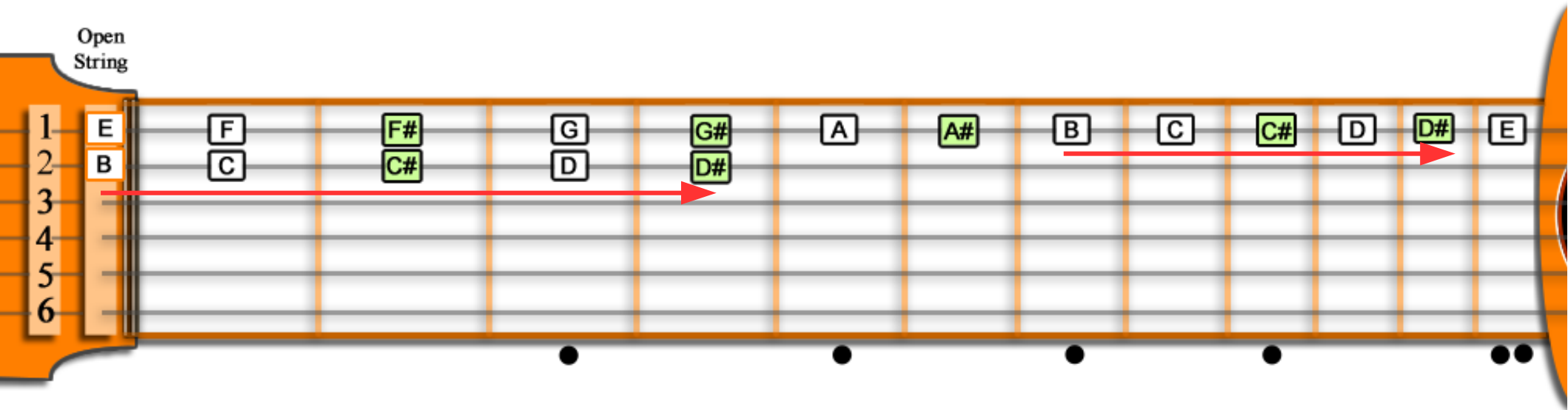
I promise you, what doesn't make sense now will make a lot of sense later when your fingers become more nimble and your brain has more time to listen to the sounds coming from your guitar.

When you return to the trickier pages and understand them, progress will be being made.

# The Fretboard: String 2: B string

The **name** of the notes on the second string follow the same sequence as the notes on the first string. **The second string starts with open B.**

On every string B is always followed by C then C# – D – D# – E etc.



# Octaves

This B is vibrating exactly twice as fast as the open B.

Lower (slower)  
B (2<sup>nd</sup> string)

Higher (Faster)  
B

1. Play the open B on the 2<sup>nd</sup> string

2. Play the B on the 1<sup>st</sup> string 7<sup>th</sup> fret.

1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#								

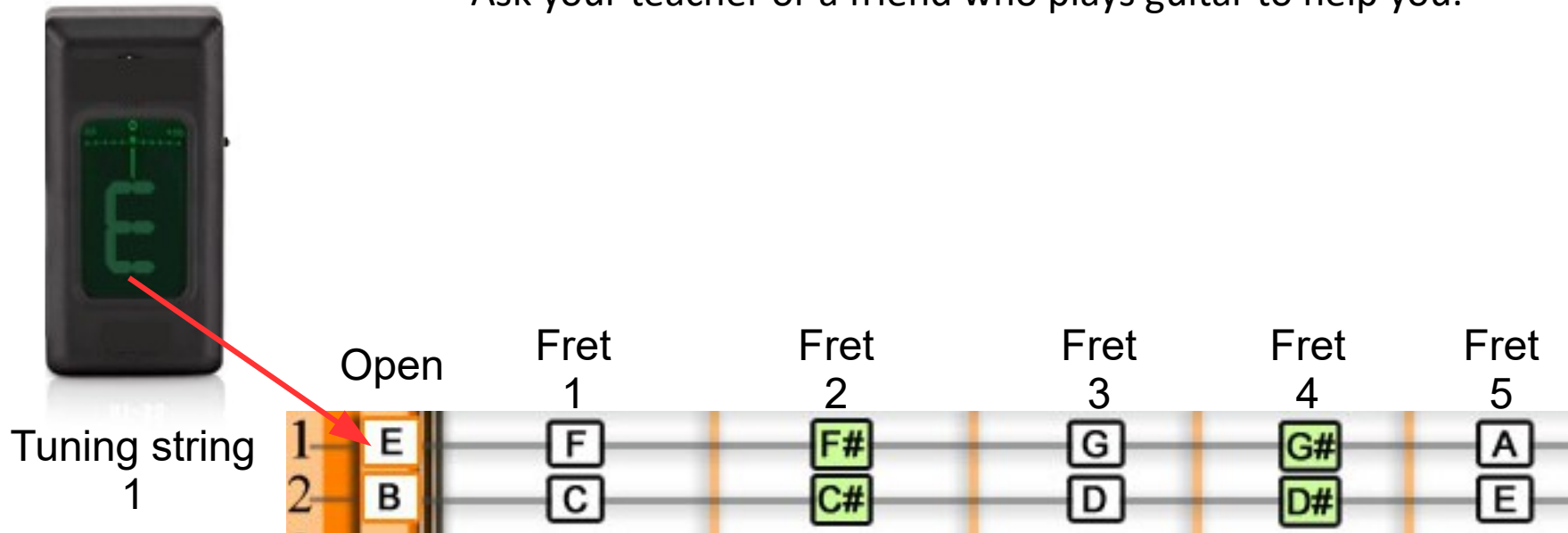
**Octave – 8 steps from**  
**B (low) – B (high)**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
B – C – D – E – F – G – A – B

# Tuning the guitar

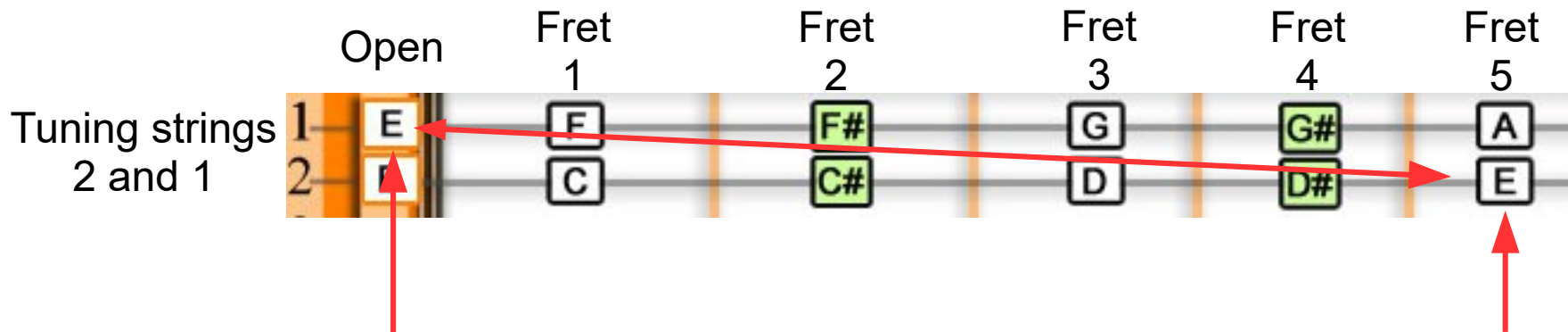
Buy an electronic guitar tuner. Carefully tune the first string until the tuner shows E. The tuner will have a dial or lights to show when the note is right.

Ask your teacher or a friend who plays guitar to help you.



# Tuning the guitar by ear

Use your electronic guitar tuner make sure the first string is perfectly in tune. Play the **first string open** then play the **5<sup>th</sup> fret on the second string**. The two sounds should be exactly the same. If you don't think they are and don't have the confidence yet to tune your guitar by ear use your tuner to put the open B right.



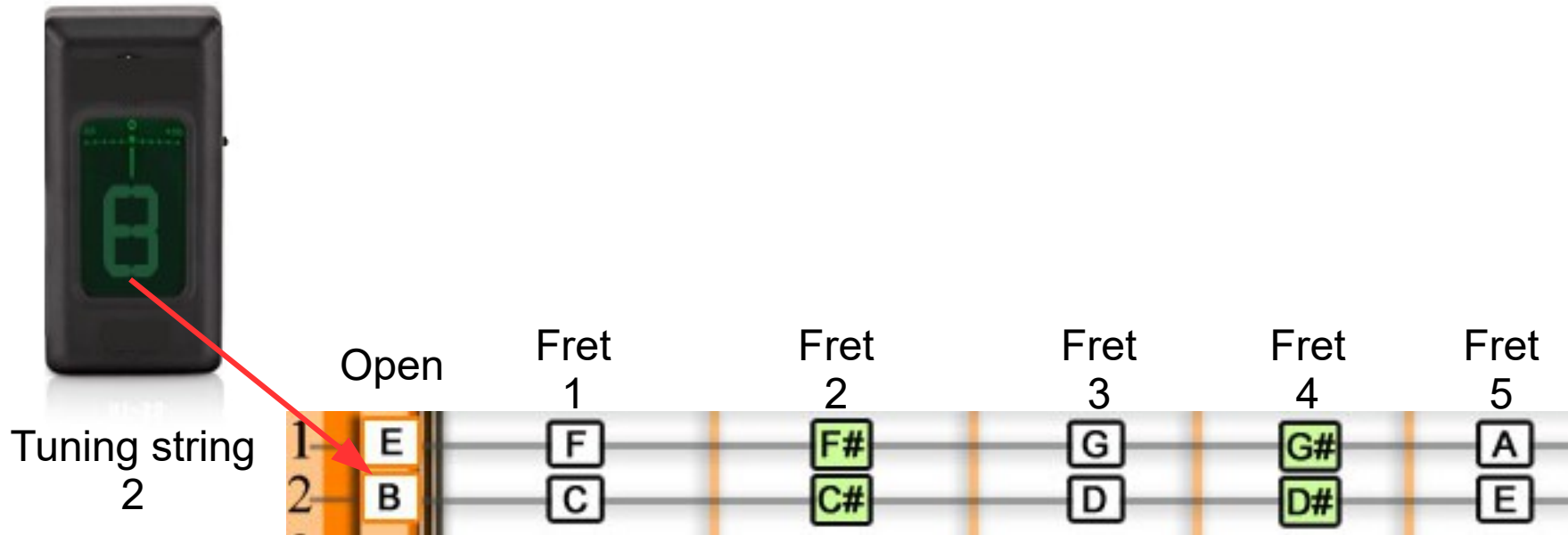
When these two E notes are identical the guitar is in tune



# Tuning the guitar: 2<sup>nd</sup> string - B

Use your electronic guitar tuner to make sure the second string is perfectly in tune. Always ask for help.

It's important your brain listens to the correct sound for each open string.



# The Fretboard: String 2 – B – Sharps

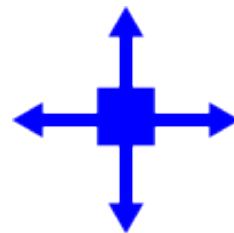
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



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Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox™

# The Fretboard: String 2 - B

The second string starts with an open B.

B will be followed by C – C# – D – D# etc. as it would on every string and on every instrument.

You might have found the first string new and puzzling. The second string will be less puzzling.

Remember to use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

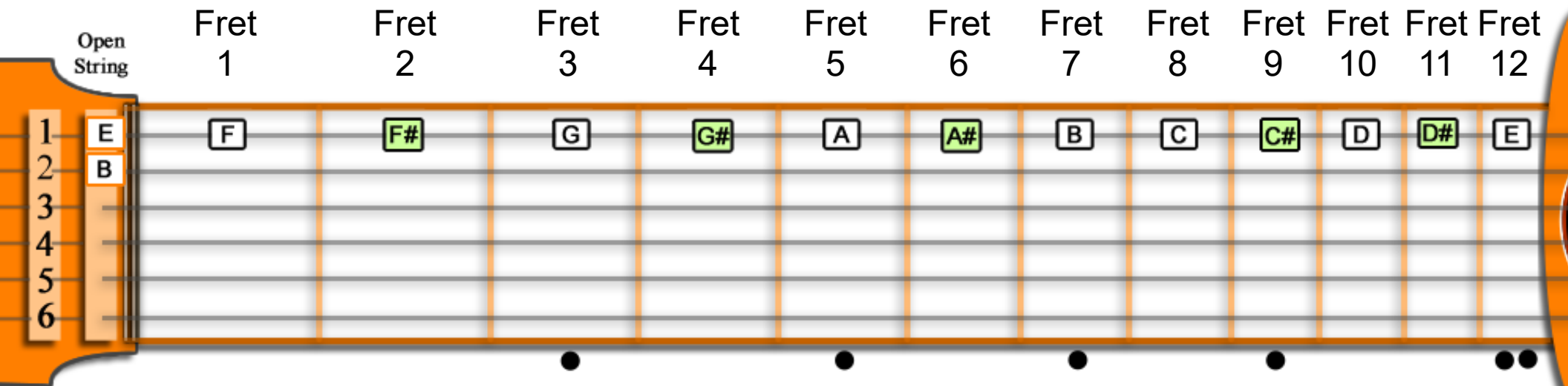
Ears (to listen)

Remember:

No sharp between **E - F**

No sharp between **B - C**

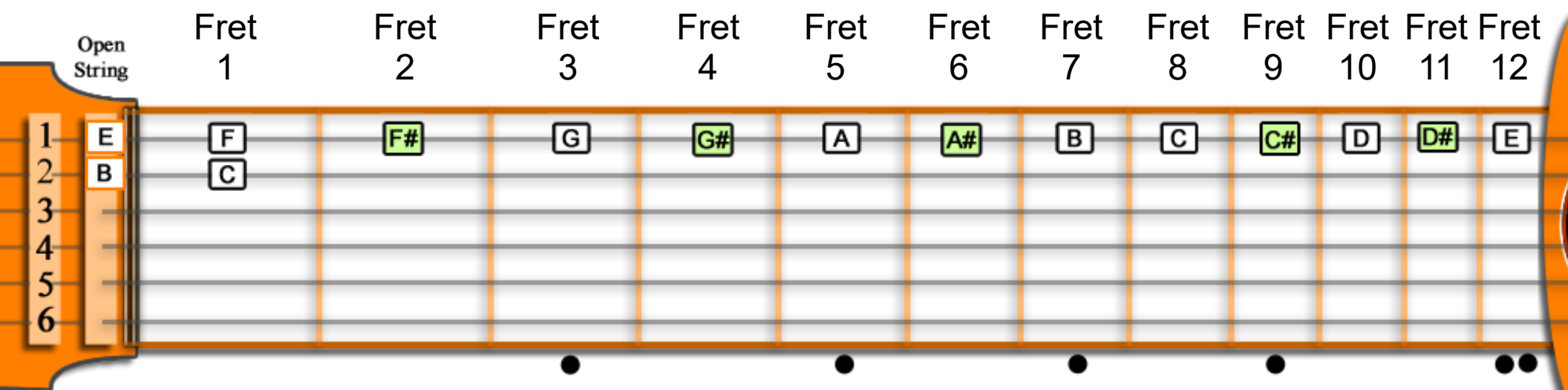
# B note: String 2 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



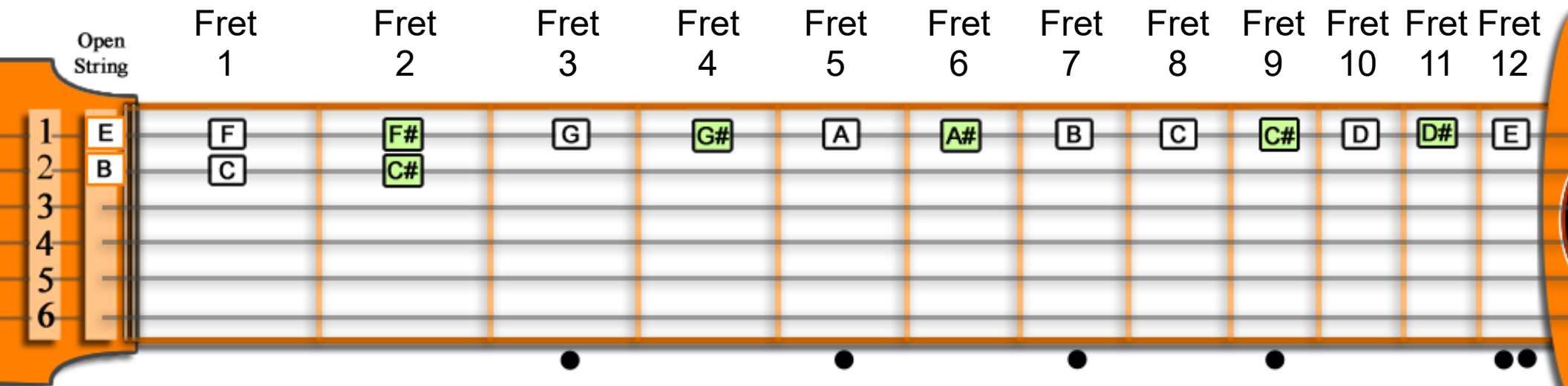
Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard

No fingers used when playing an open string

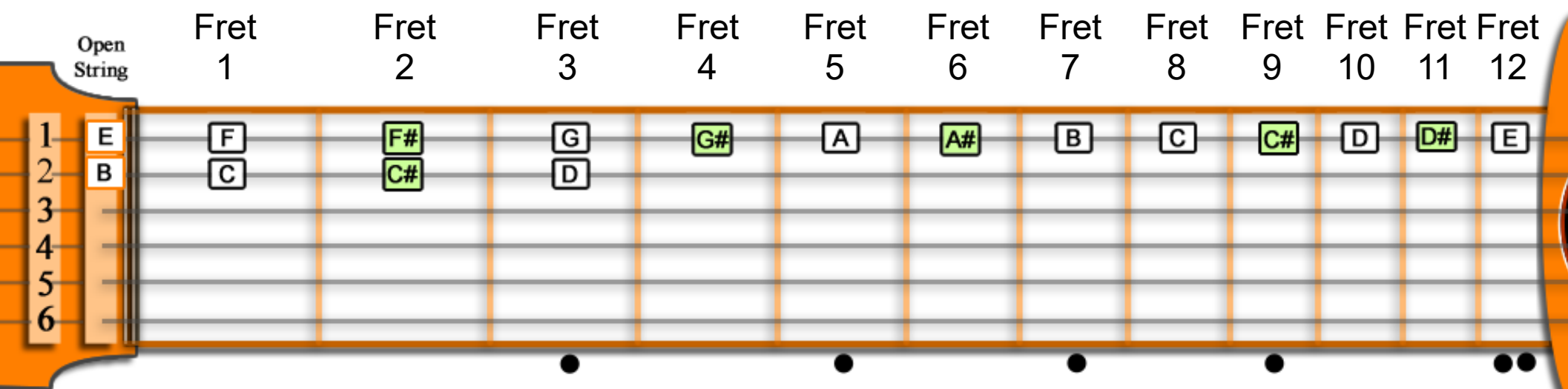
# C note: String 2 - Fret 1 - Finger 1



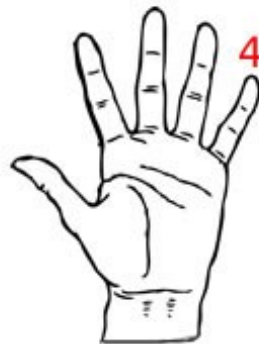
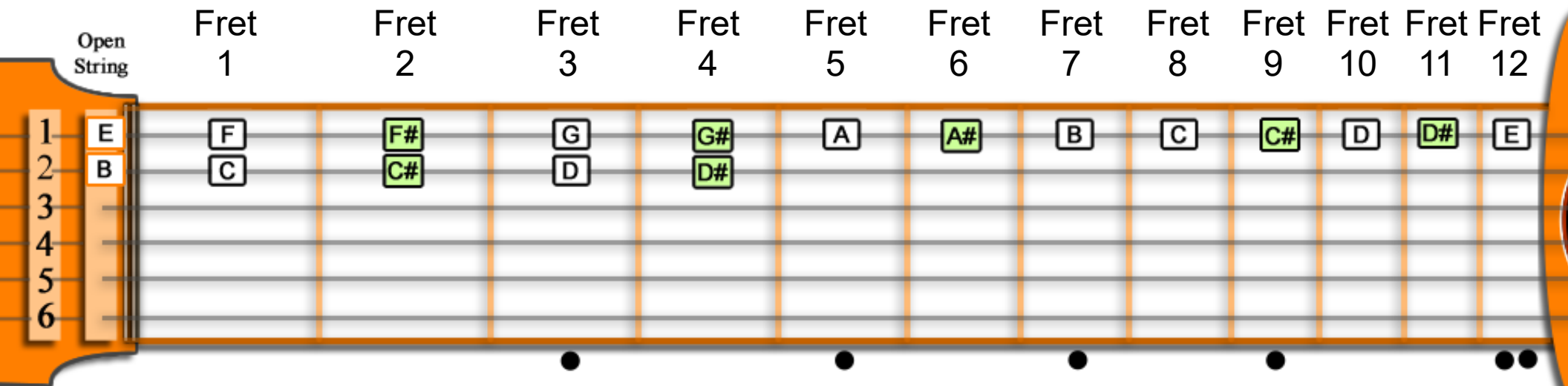
# C# note: String 2 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



# D note: String 2 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

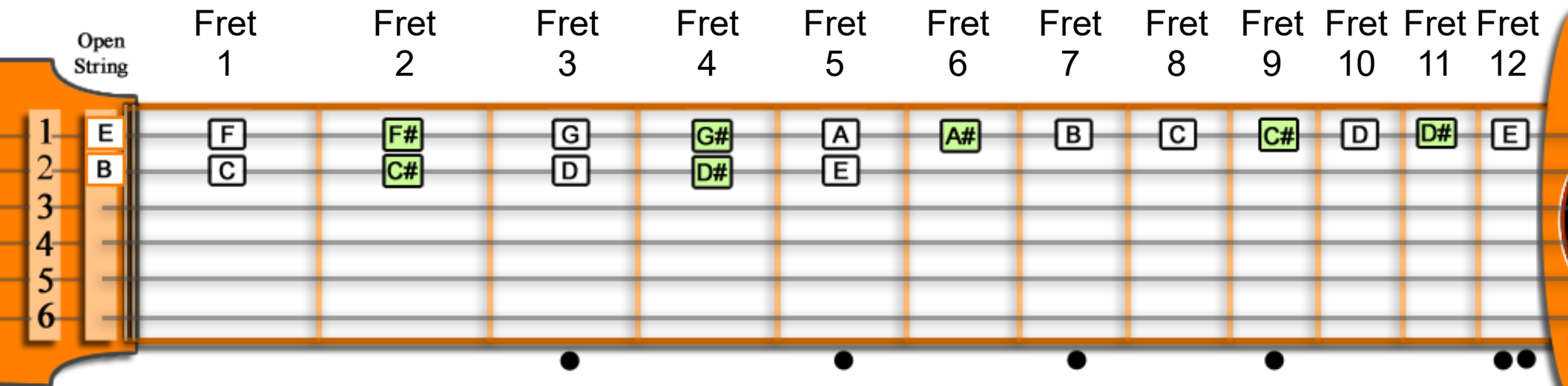


# D# note: String 2 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

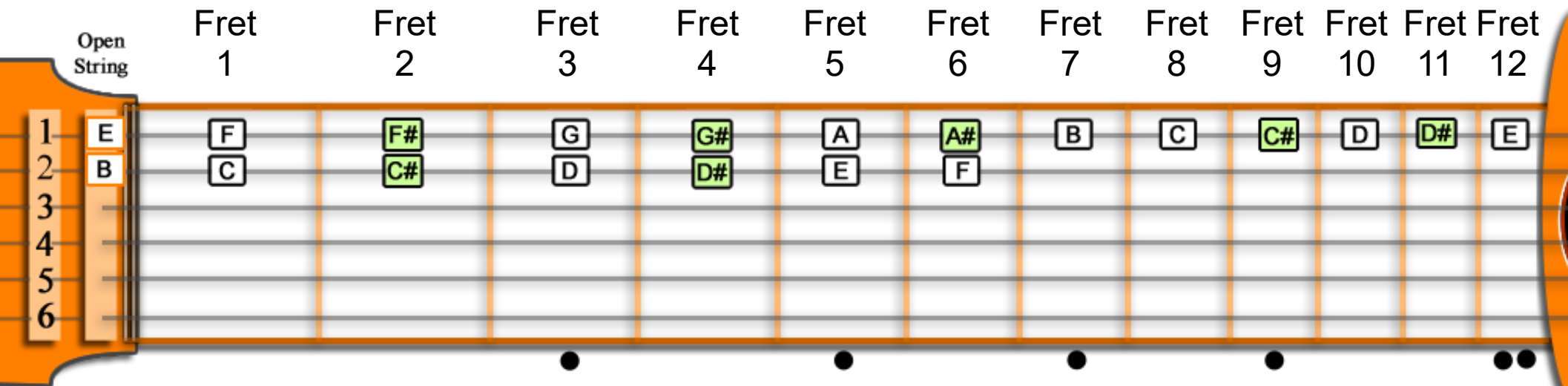




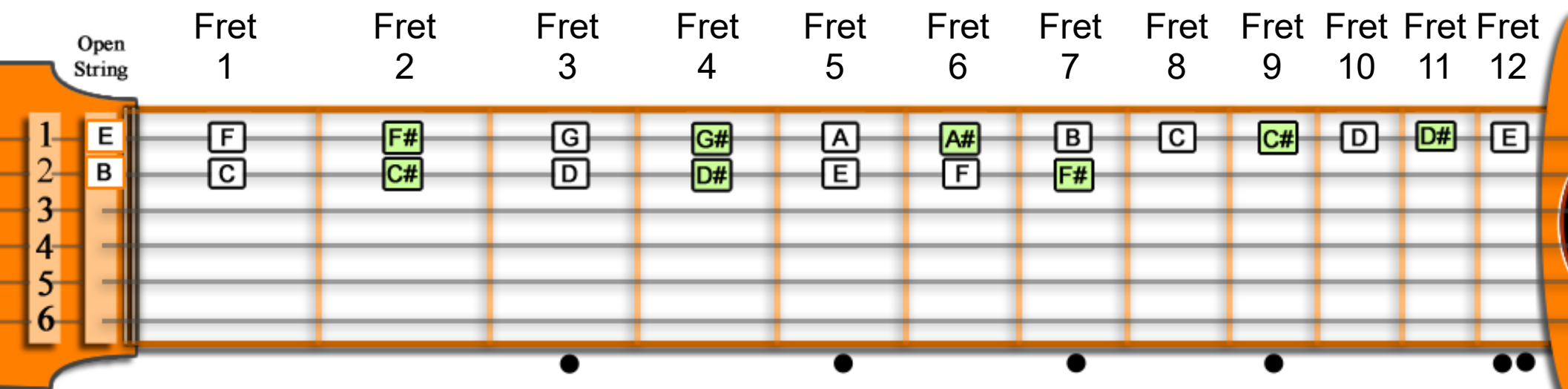
# E note: String 2 - Fret 5 - Finger 1



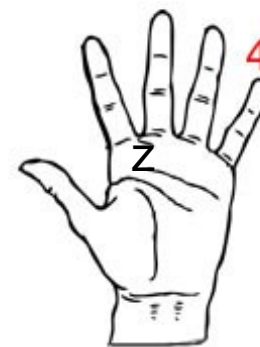
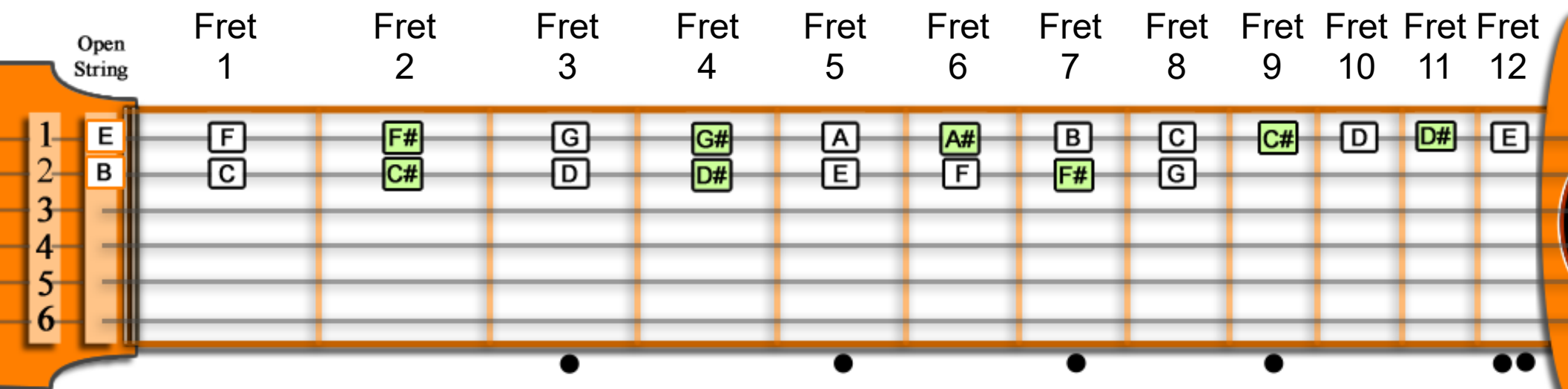
# F note: String 2 - Fret 6 - Finger 2



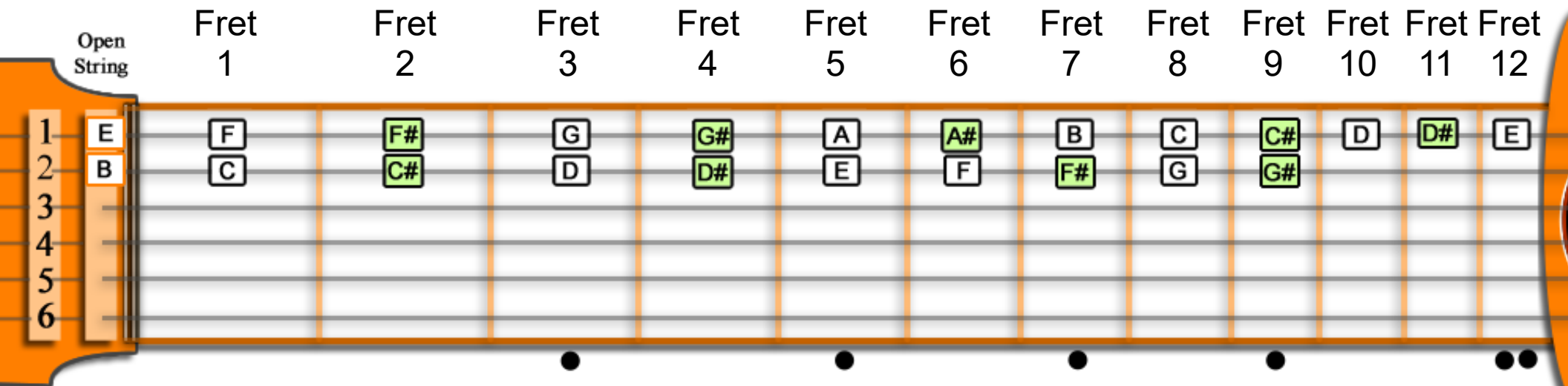
# F# note: String 2 - Fret 7 - Finger 3



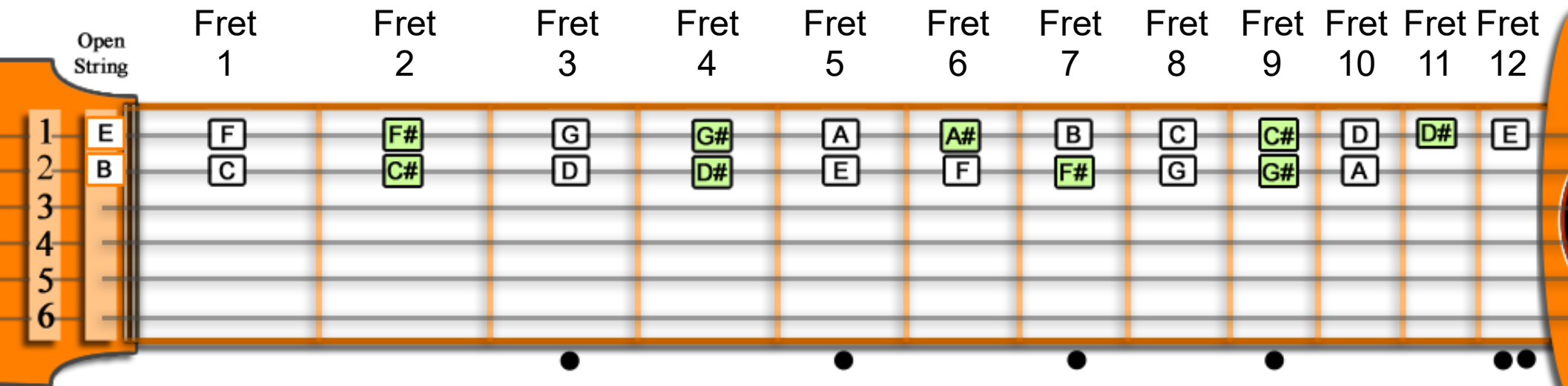
# G note: String 2 - Fret 8 - Finger 4



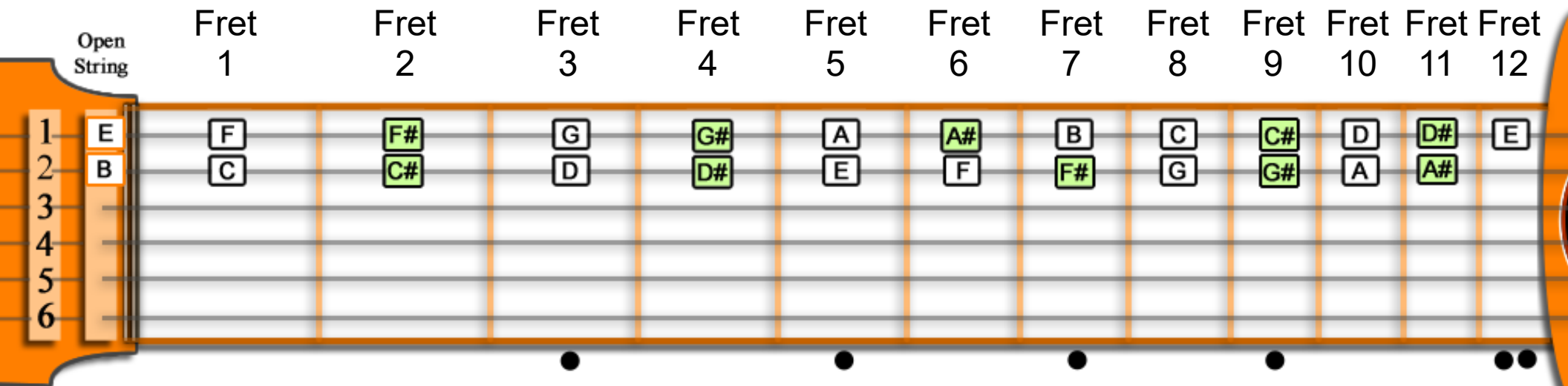
# G# note: String 2 - Fret 9 - Finger 1



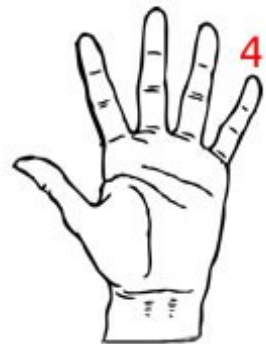
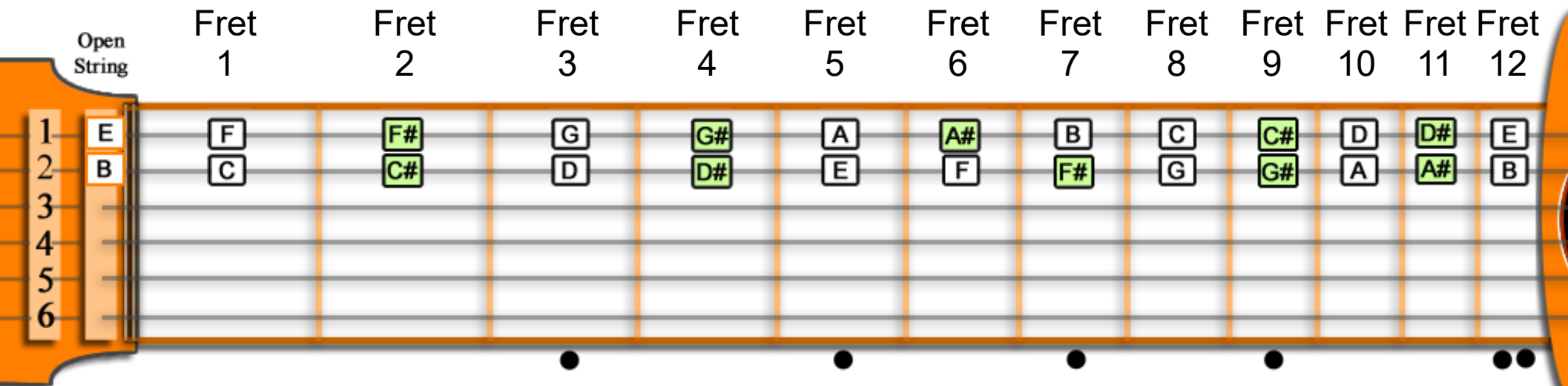
# A note: String 2 - Fret 10 - Finger 2



# A# note: String 2 - Fret 11 - Finger 3



# B note: String 2 - Fret 12 - Finger 4





# The Fretboard: String 2 – B – Flats

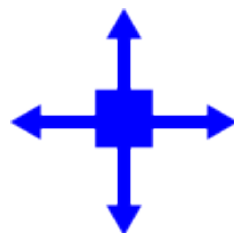
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
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- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



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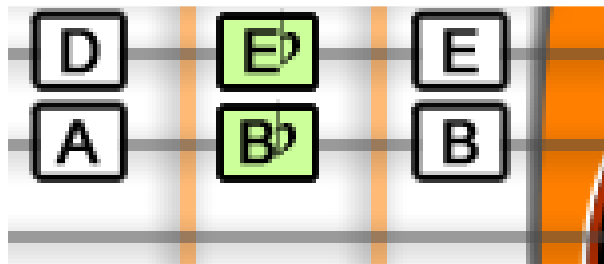
Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# 2<sup>nd</sup> string using flats

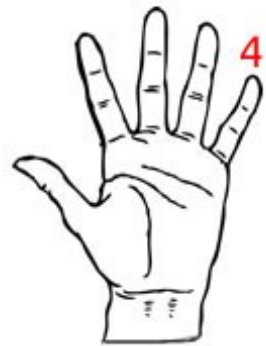
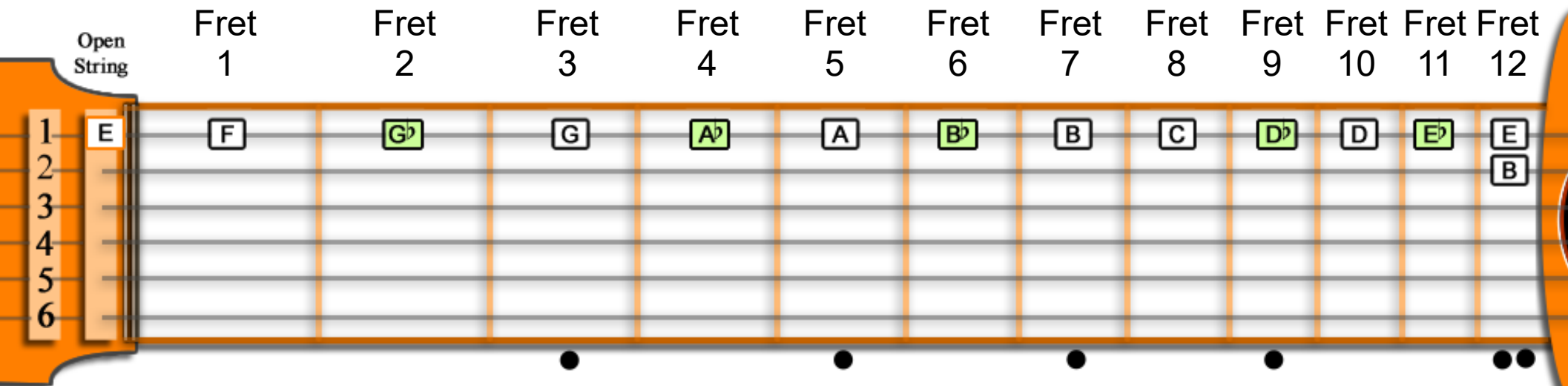
We have reached the 12<sup>th</sup> fret of the second string. Now we play the notes going back down towards the nut.

Flats will again be used to show the sounds are going lower.

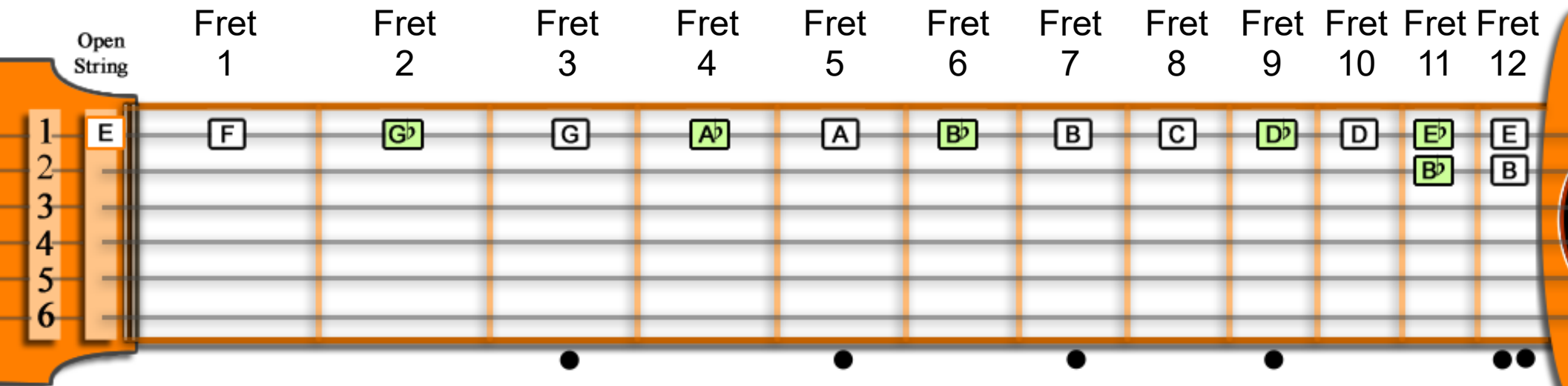


**Remember C and F don't have flats**

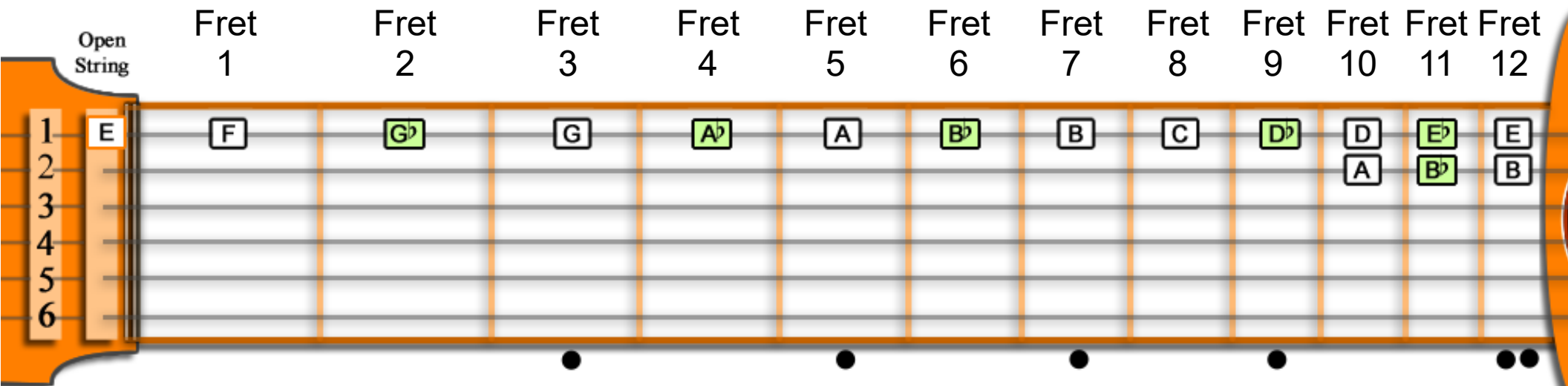
# B note: String 2 - Fret 12 - Finger 4



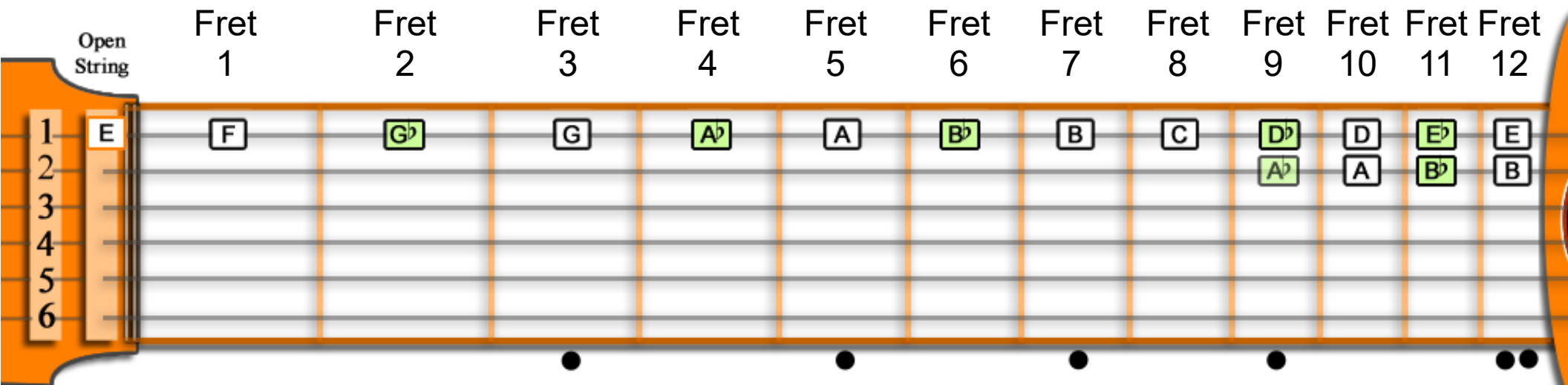
# B<sup>b</sup> note: String 2 - Fret 11 - Finger 3



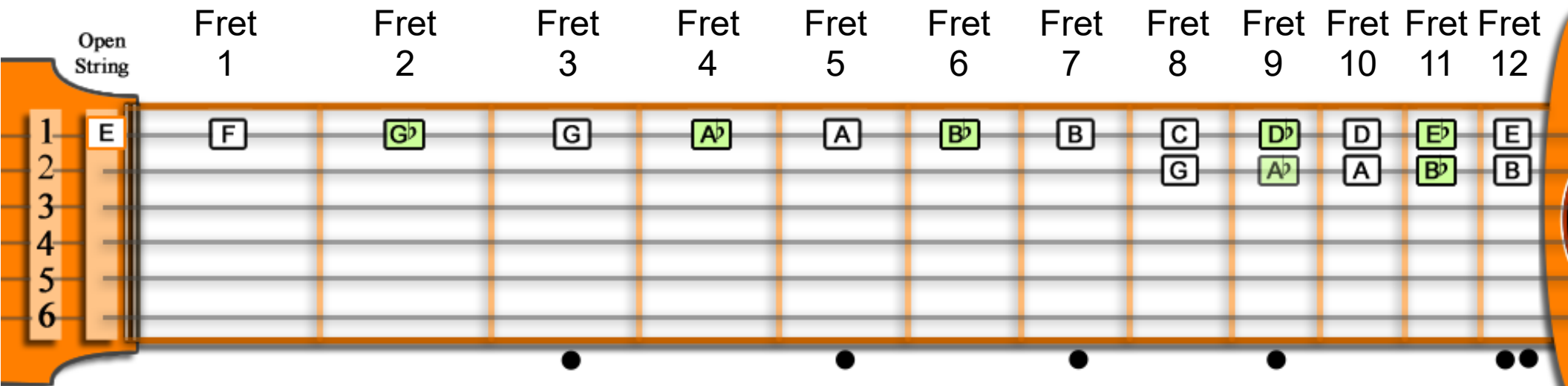
# A note: String 2 - Fret 10 - Finger 2



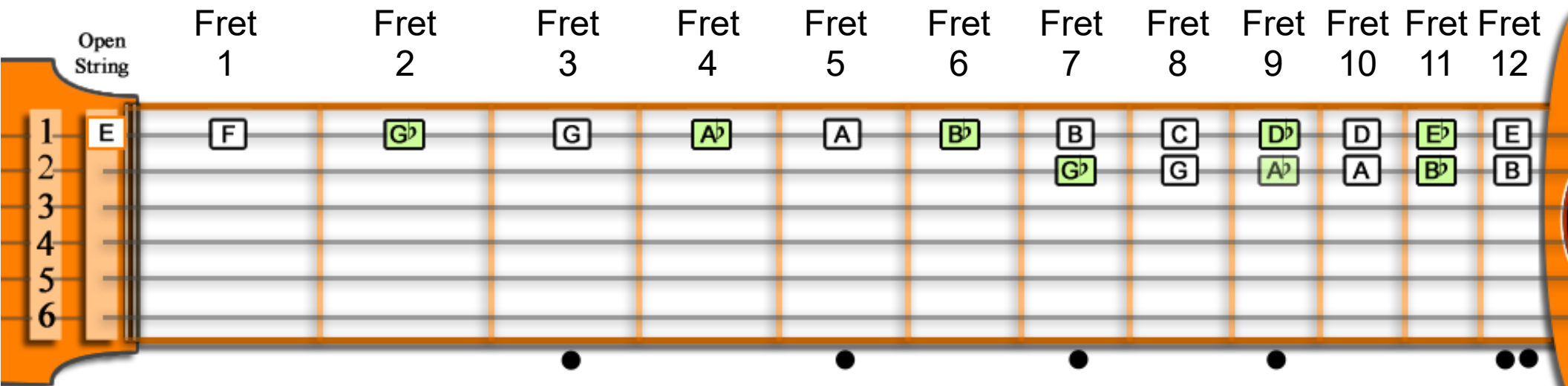
# A<sup>b</sup> note: String 2 - Fret 9 - Finger 1



# G note: String 2 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

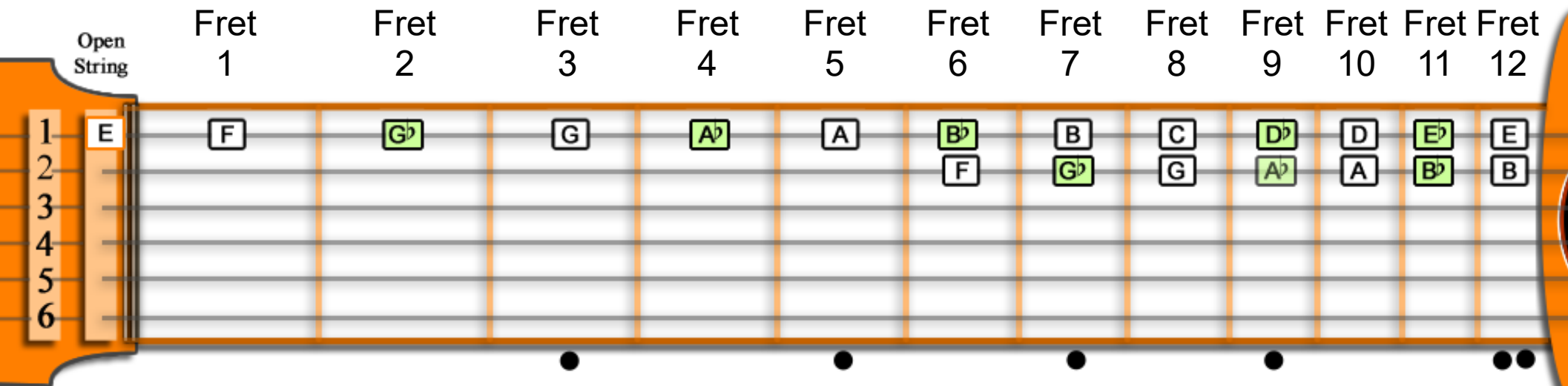


# G<sup>b</sup> note: String 2 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

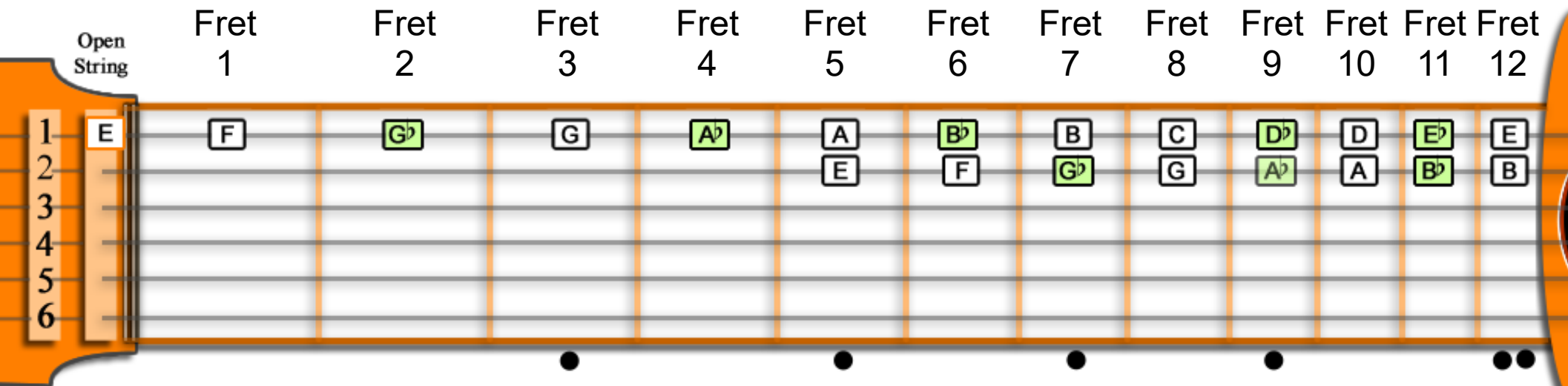




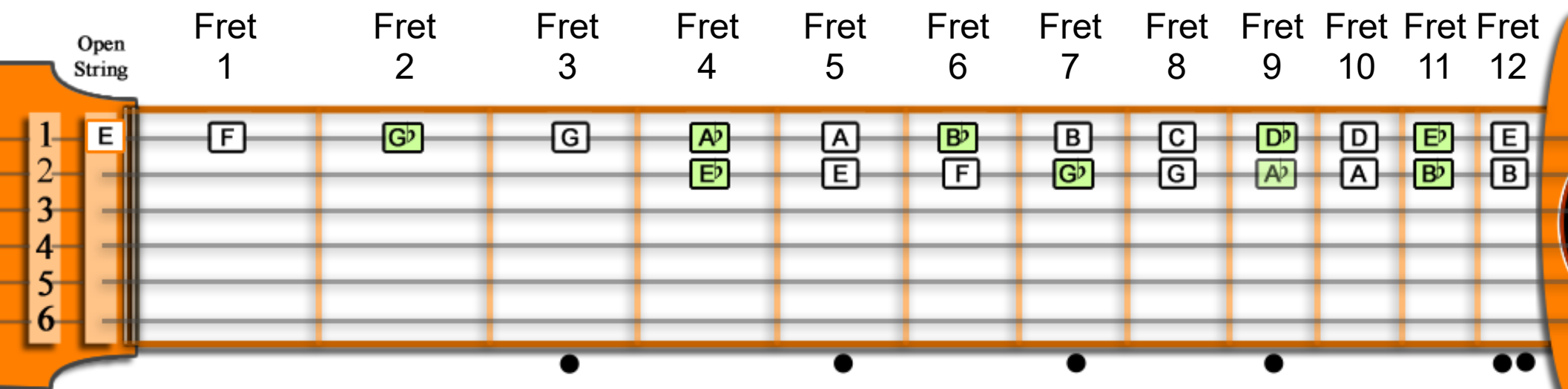
# F note: String 2 - Fret 6 - Finger 2



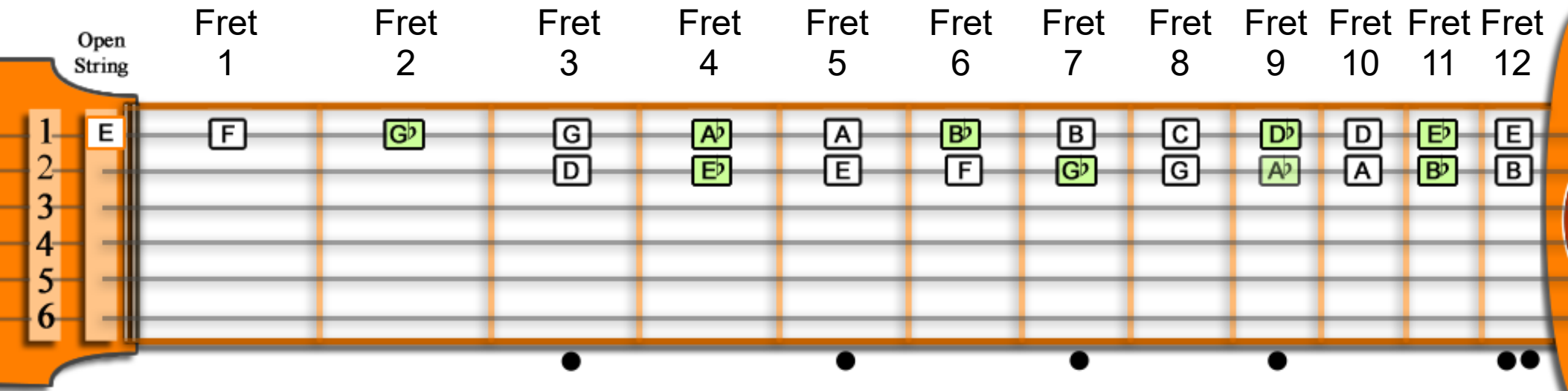
# E note: String 2 - Fret 5 - Finger 1



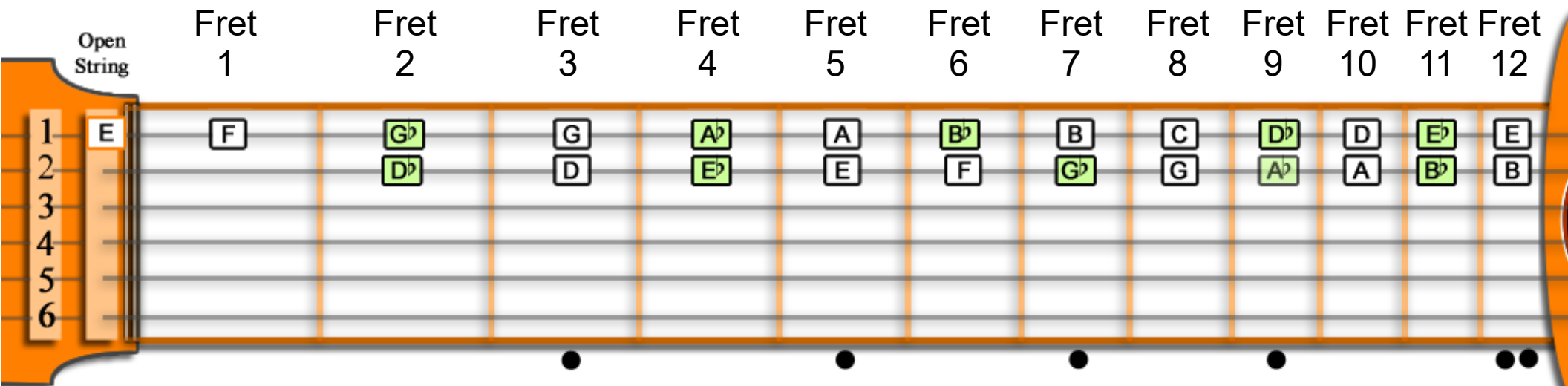
# E<sup>b</sup> note: String 2 - Fret 4 - Finger 4



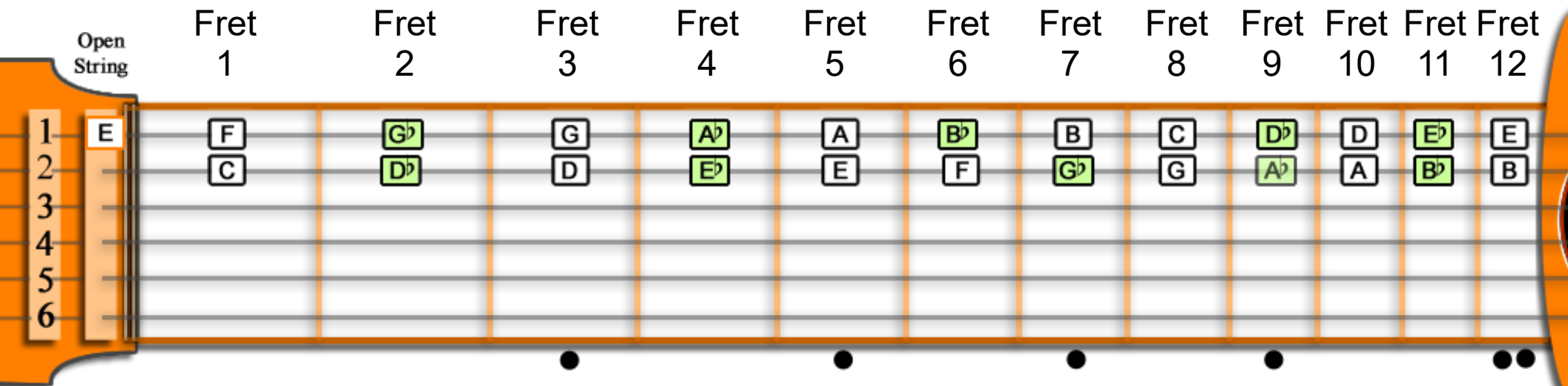
# D note: String 2 - Fret 3 - Finger 3



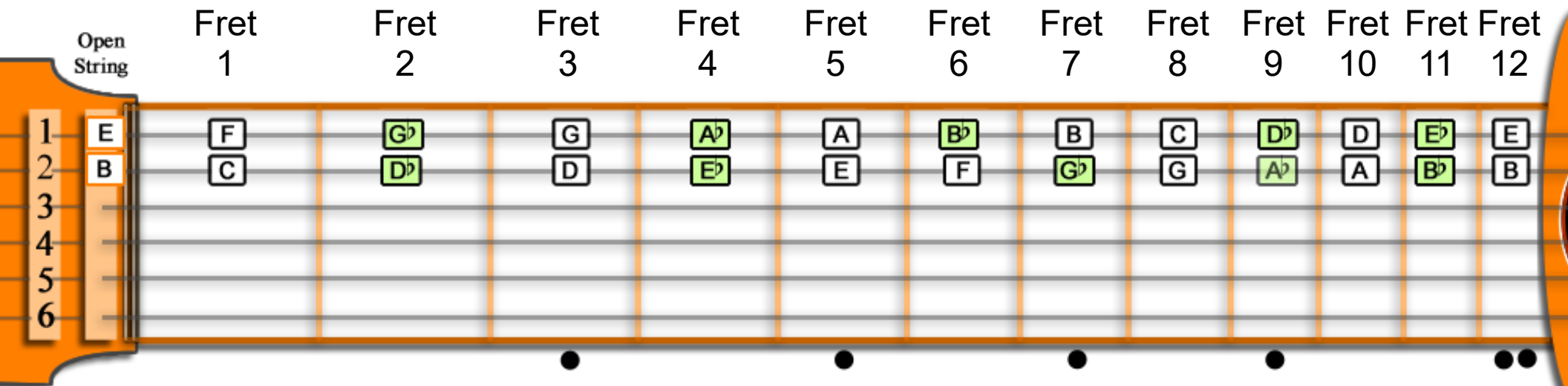
# D<sup>b</sup> note: String 2 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



# C note: String 2 - Fret 1 - Finger 1



# B note: String 2 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



No fingers used when playing an open string

# The Fretboard: String 3 – G – Sharps

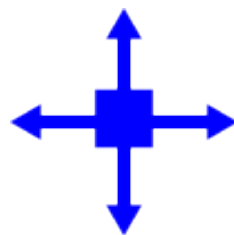
Introduction

Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



Navigate Pages

Summary

## The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>



# The Fretboard: String 3 - G

The third string starts with an open G.

G will be followed by G# - A – A# - B etc. as it would on every string and on every instrument.

You might have found the first string new and puzzling. The second string less puzzling. The third string will be easy.

Remember to use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

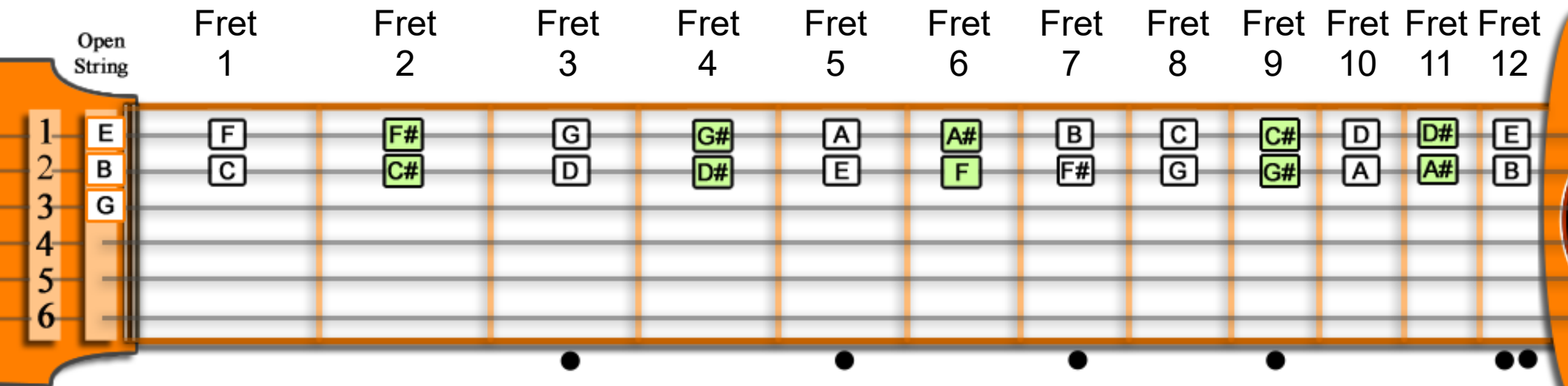
Ears (to listen)

Remember:

No sharp between **E - F**

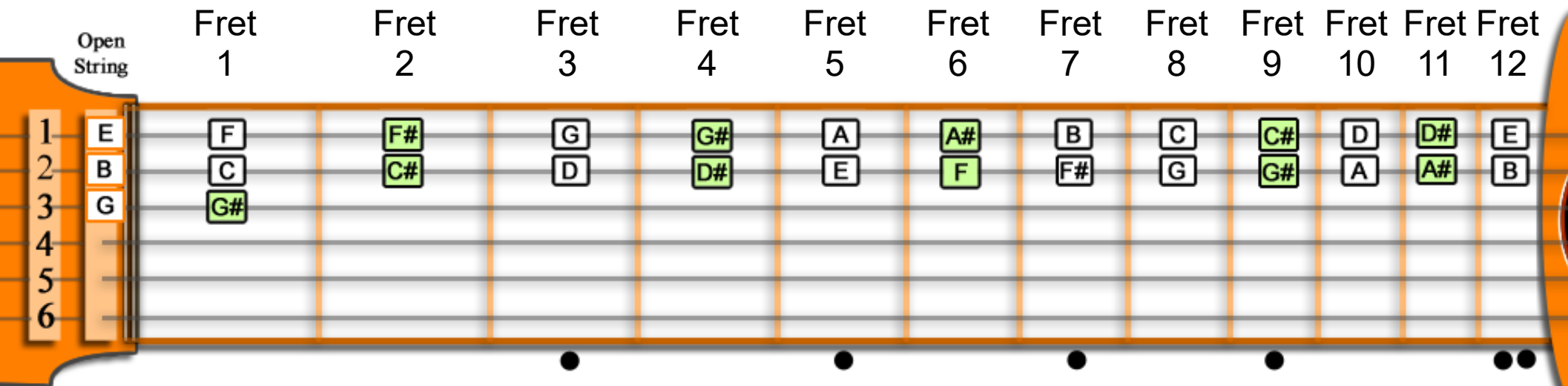
No sharp between **B - C**

# G note: String 3 - Fret 0 - Finger 0

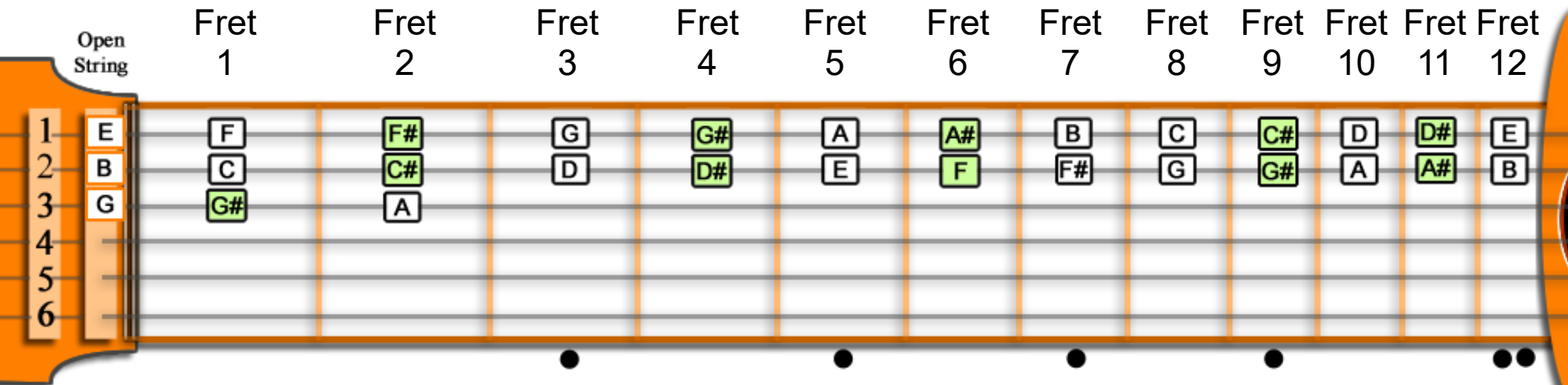


No fingers used when playing an open string

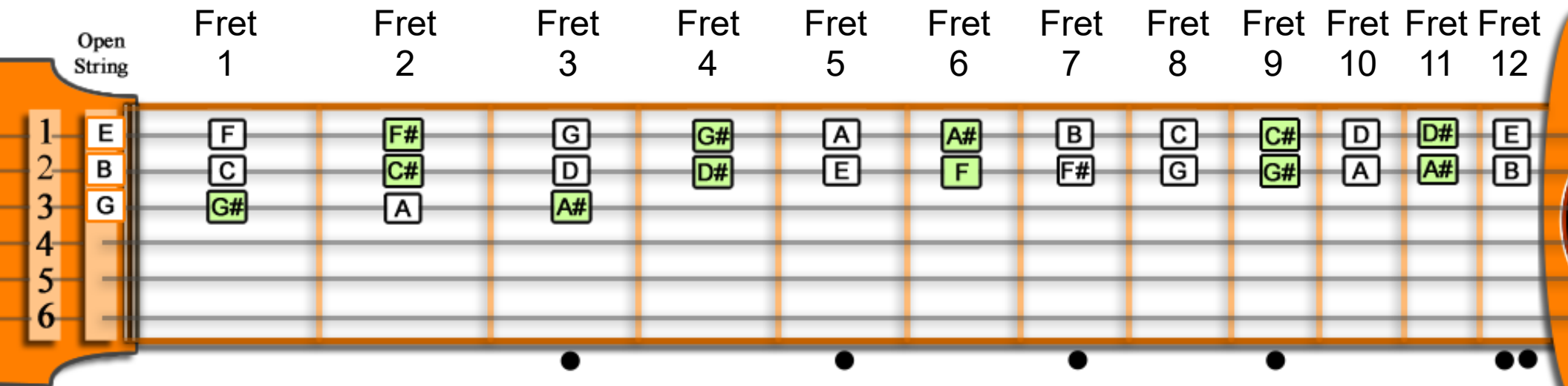
# G# note: String 1- Fret 1 - Finger 1



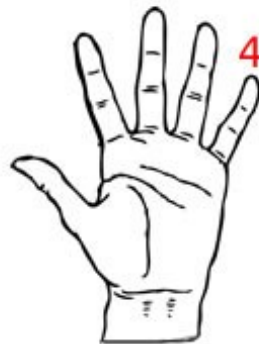
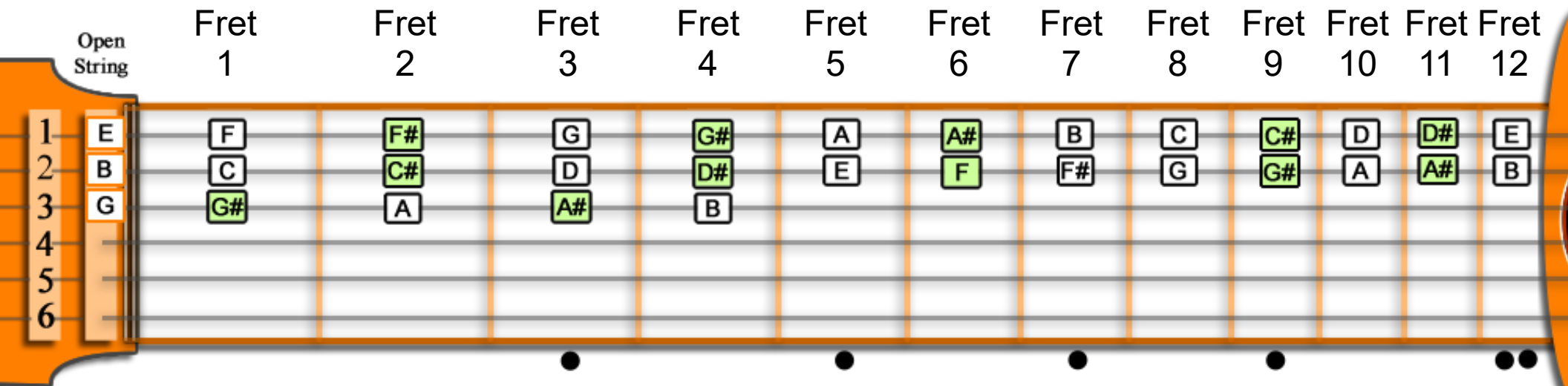
# A note: String 3 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



# A# note: String 3 - Fret 3 - Finger 3



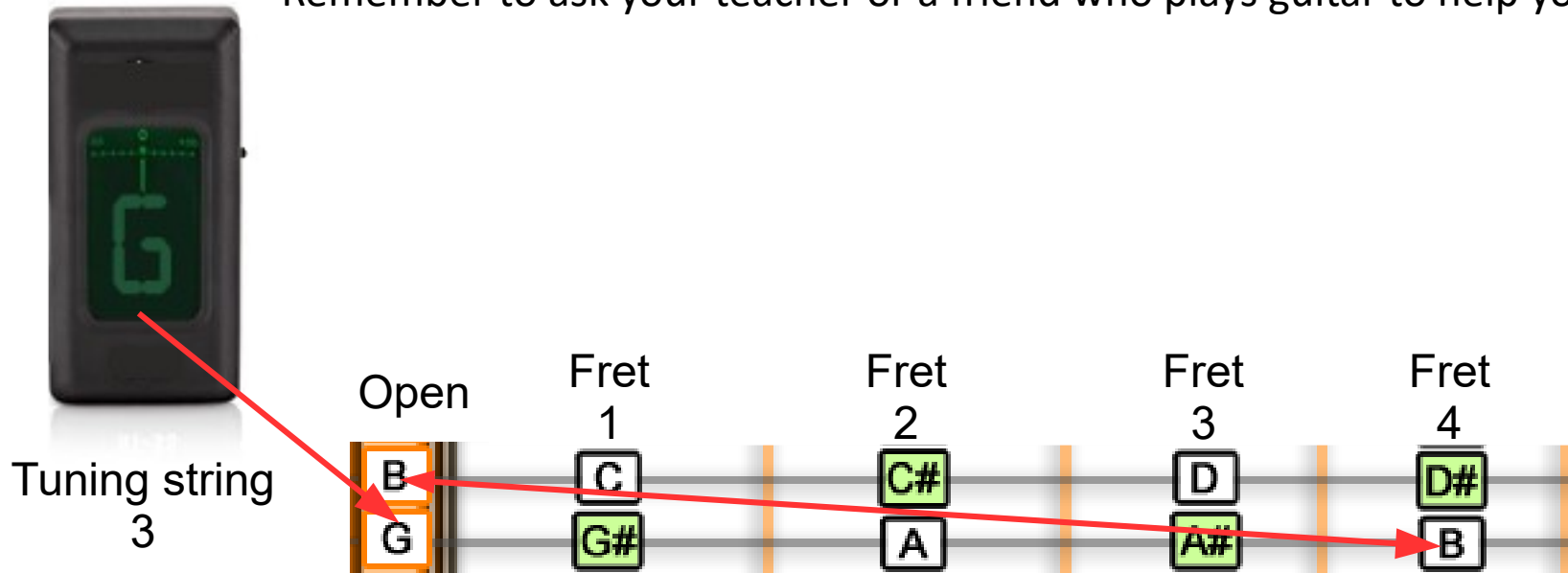
# B note: String 3 - Fret 4 - Finger 4



# Tuning the guitar 3<sup>rd</sup> string

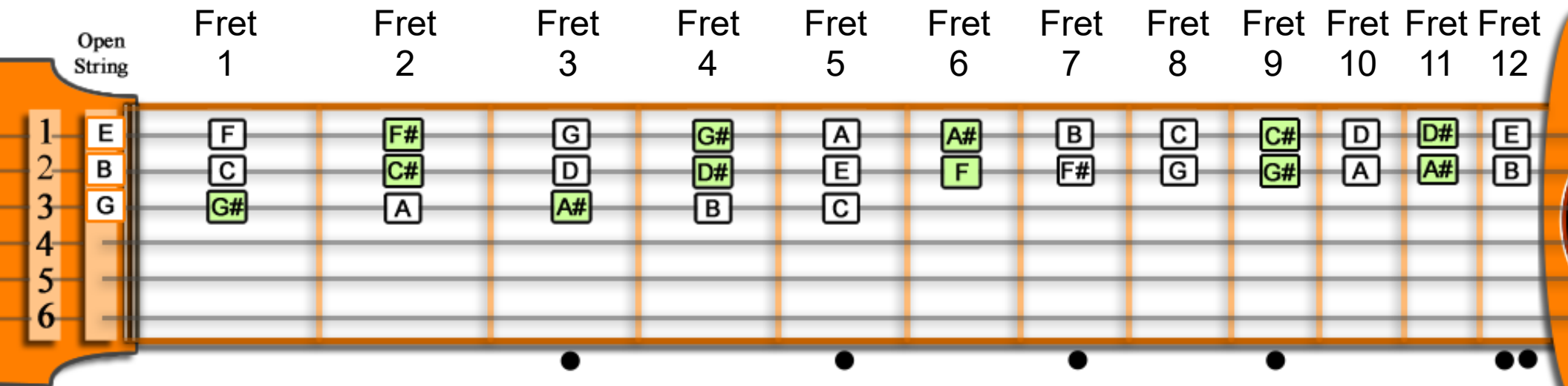
You can use your electronic guitar tuner to tune the open G string or tune the B on the 3<sup>rd</sup> string to the open B.

Remember to ask your teacher or a friend who plays guitar to help you.



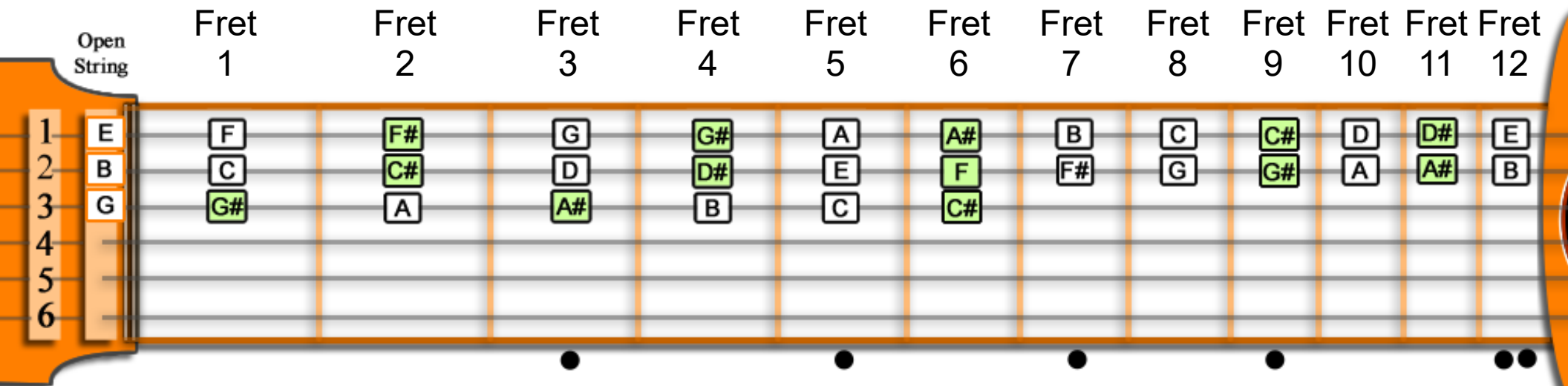
The two B notes are identical, when they are the guitar is in tune.

# C note: String 3 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

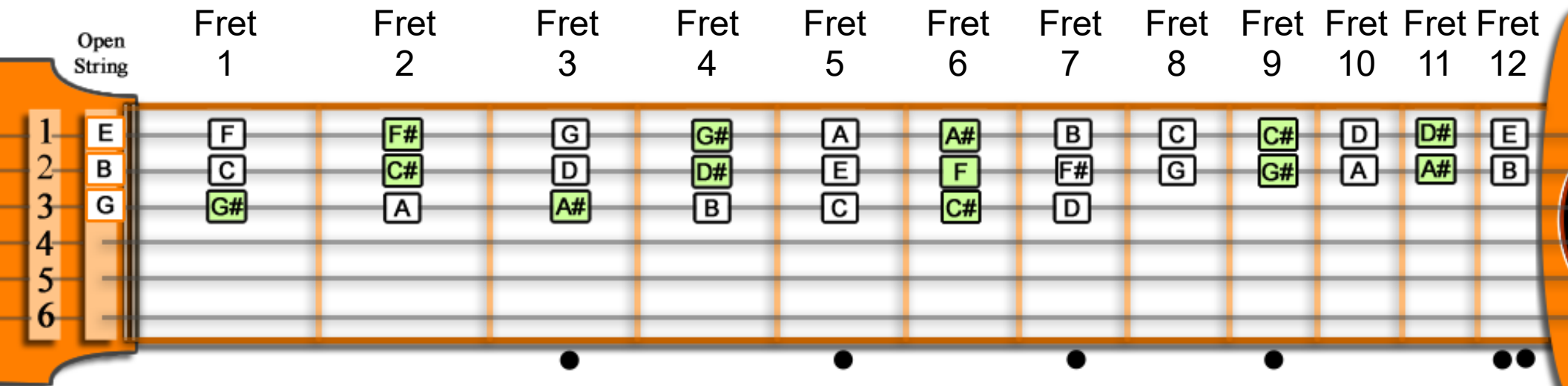




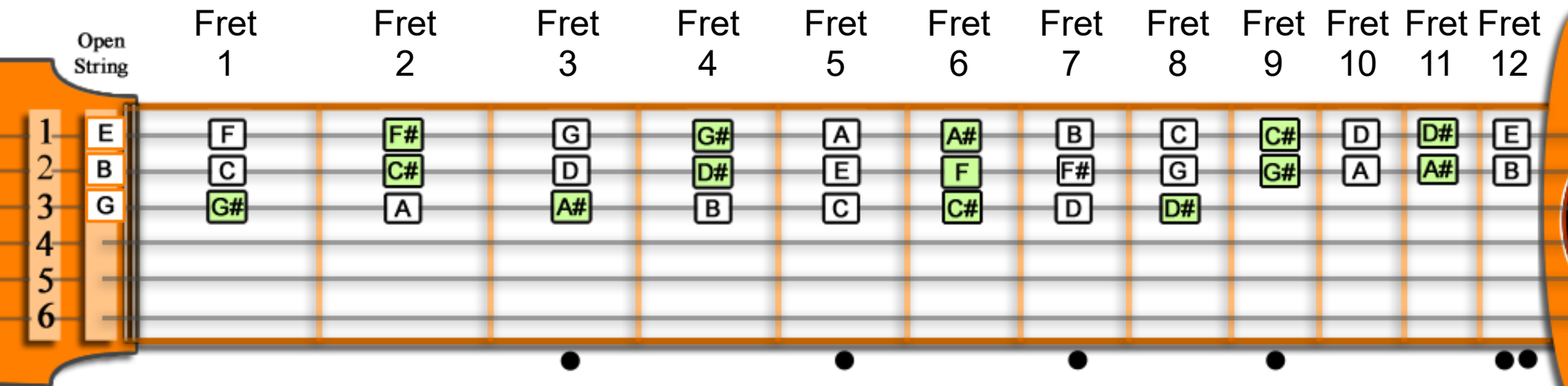
# C# note: String 3 - Fret 6 - Finger 2



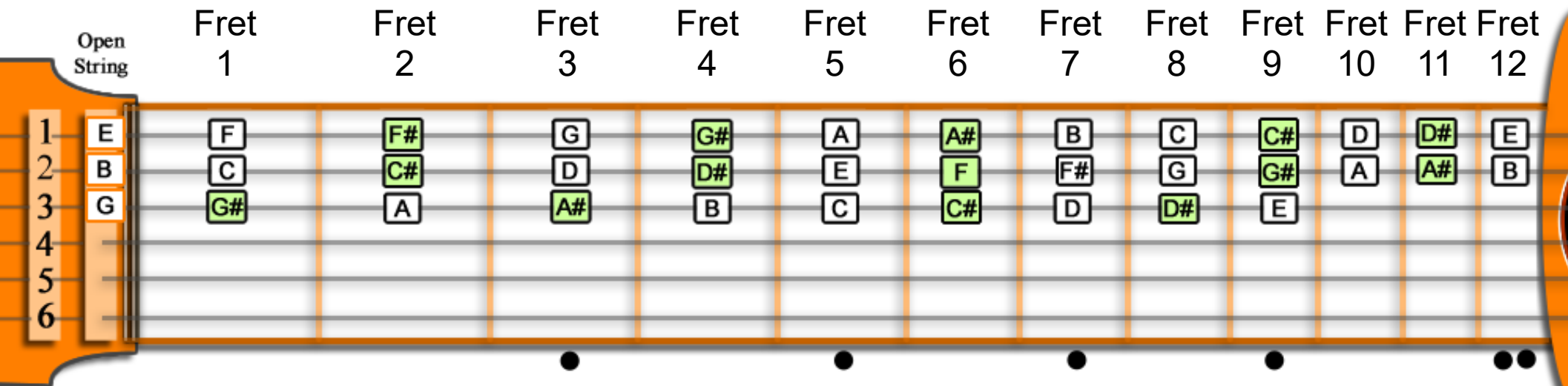
# D note: String 3 - Fret 7 - Finger 3



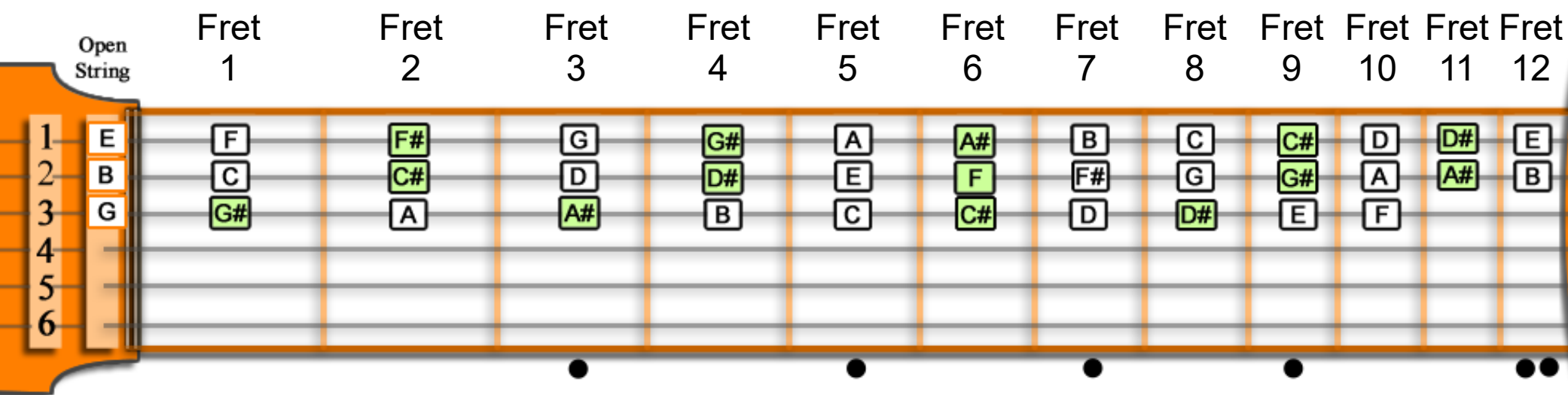
# D# note: String 3 - Fret 8 - Finger 4



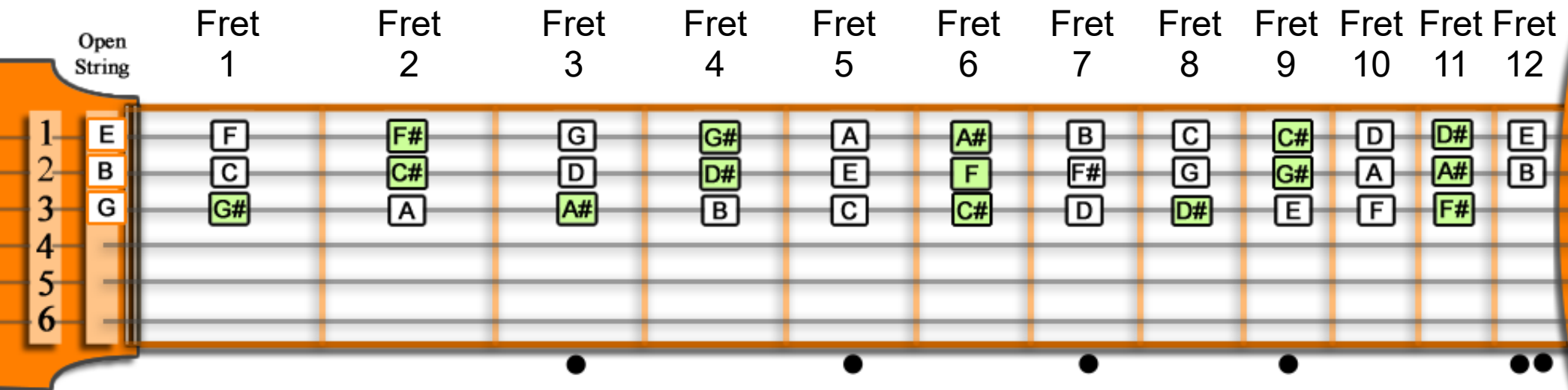
# E note: String 3 - Fret 9 - Finger 1



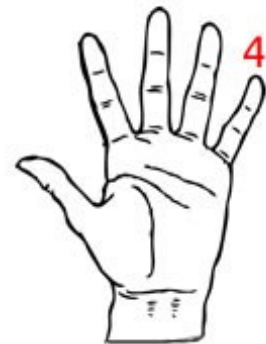
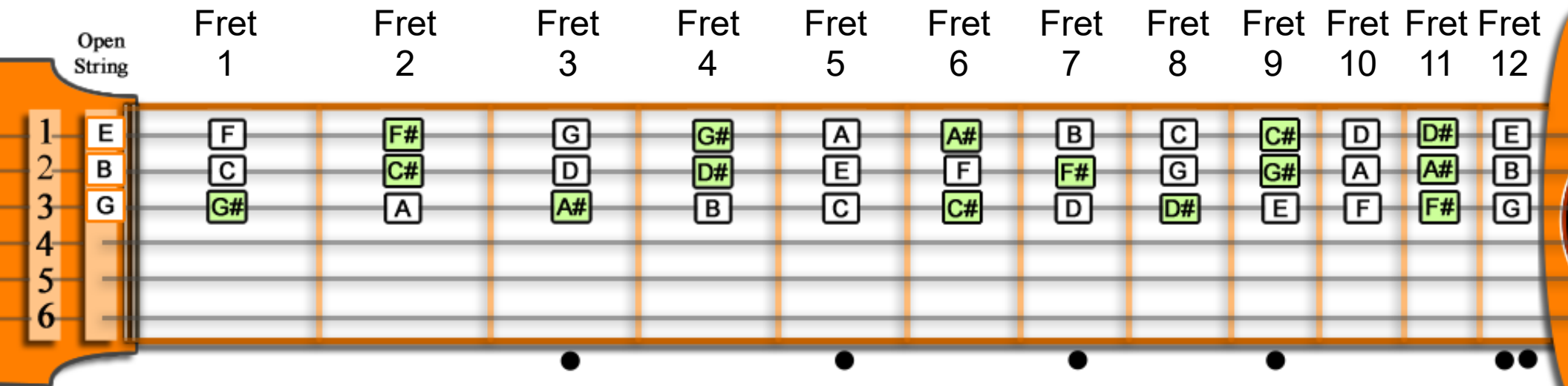
# F note: String 3 - Fret 10 - Finger 2



# F# note: String 3 - Fret 11 - Finger 3



# G note: String 3 - Fret 12 - Finger 4



# The Fretboard: String 3 – G – Flats

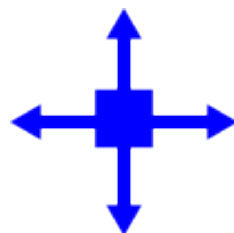
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



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Summary

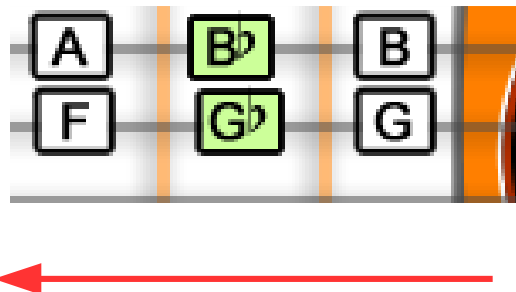
# The Music Readers Toolbox™



# 3<sup>rd</sup> string using flats

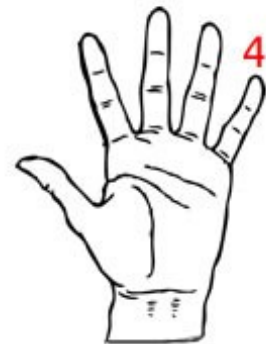
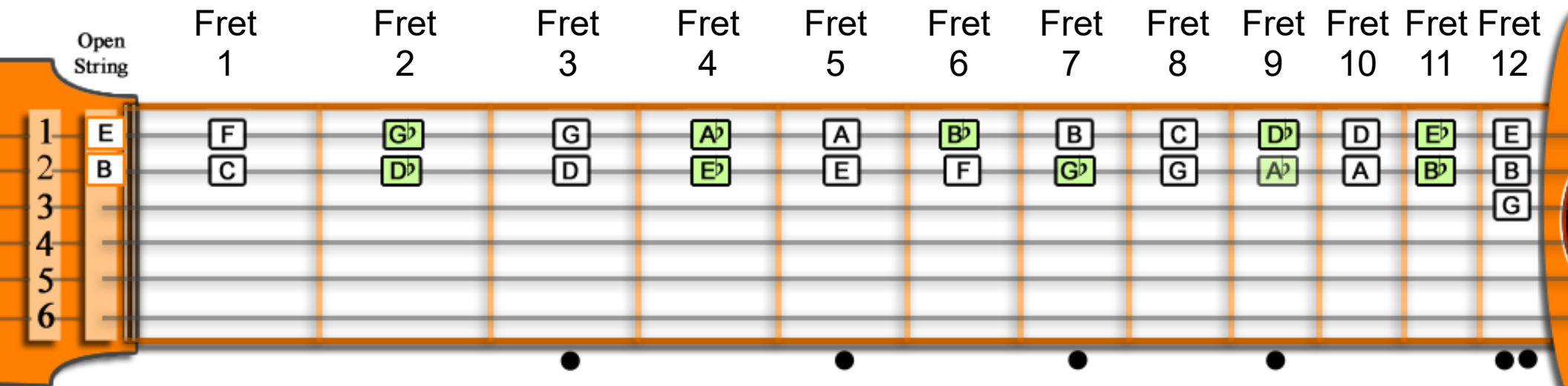
We have reached the 12<sup>th</sup> fret of the third string. Now we play the notes going back down towards the nut.

Flats will again be used to show the sounds are going lower.

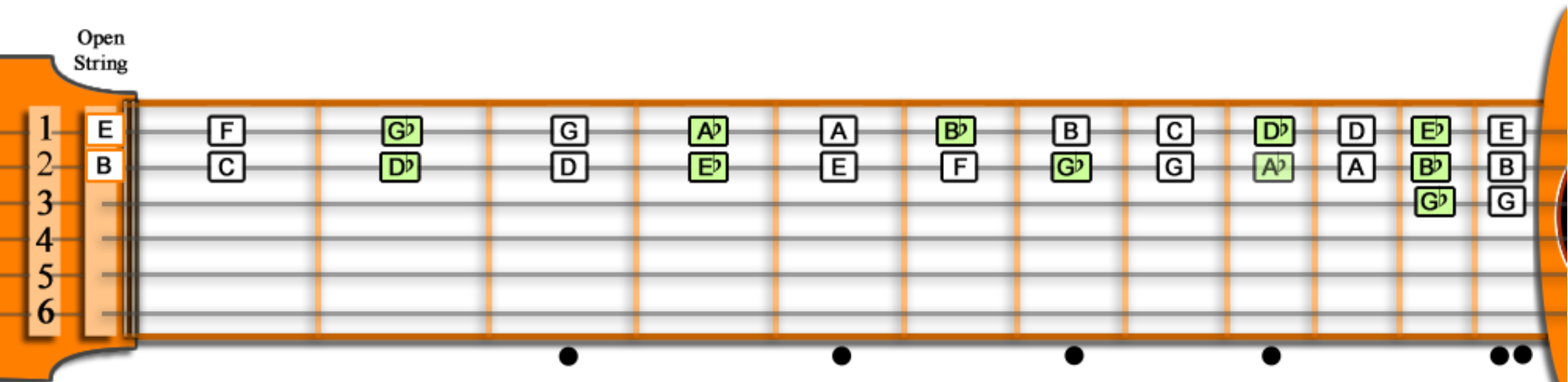


**Remember C and F don't have flats**

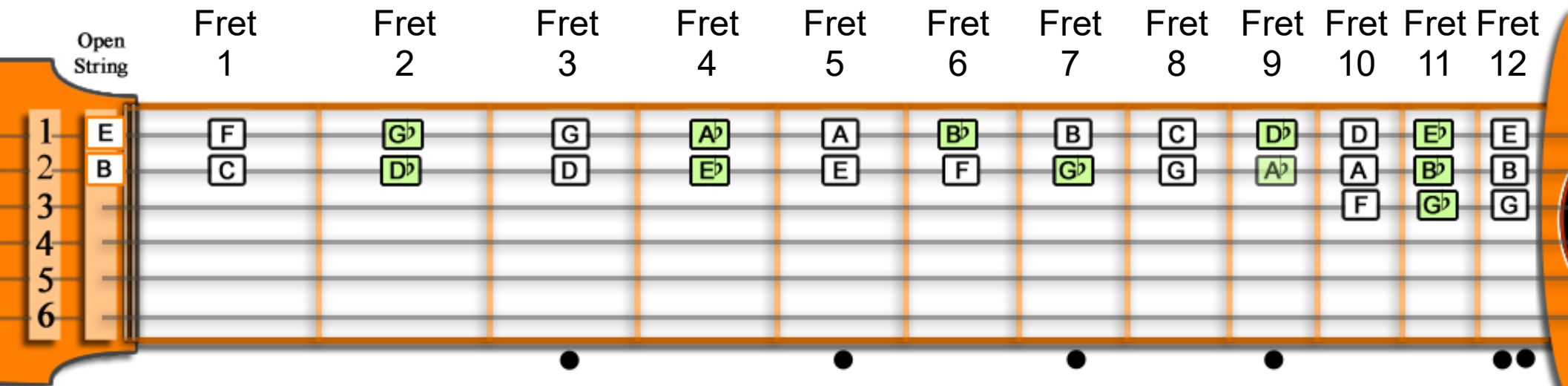
# G note: String 3 - Fret 12 - Finger 4



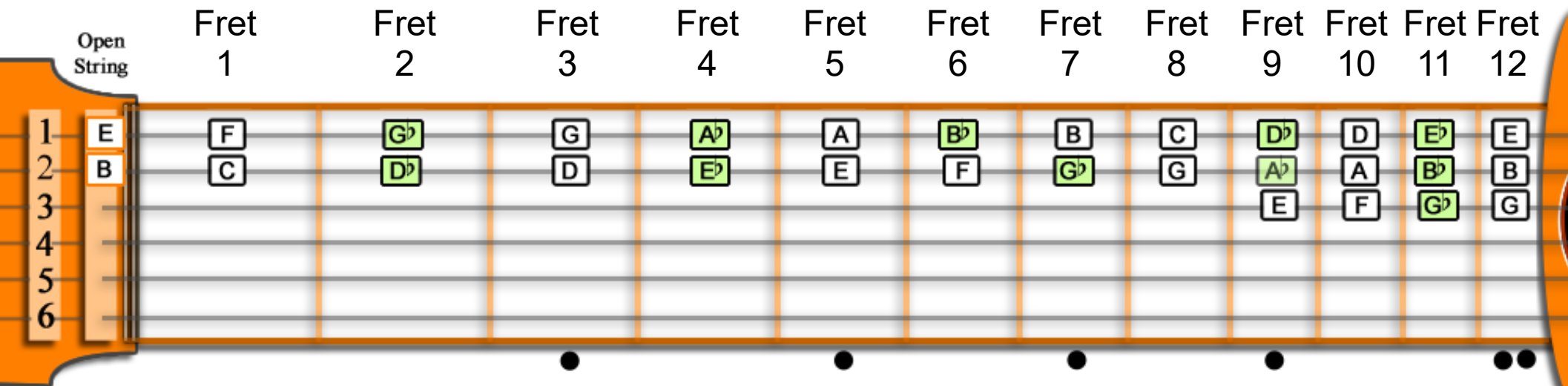
# G<sup>b</sup> note: String 3 - Fret 11 - Finger 3



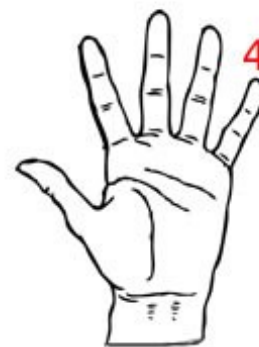
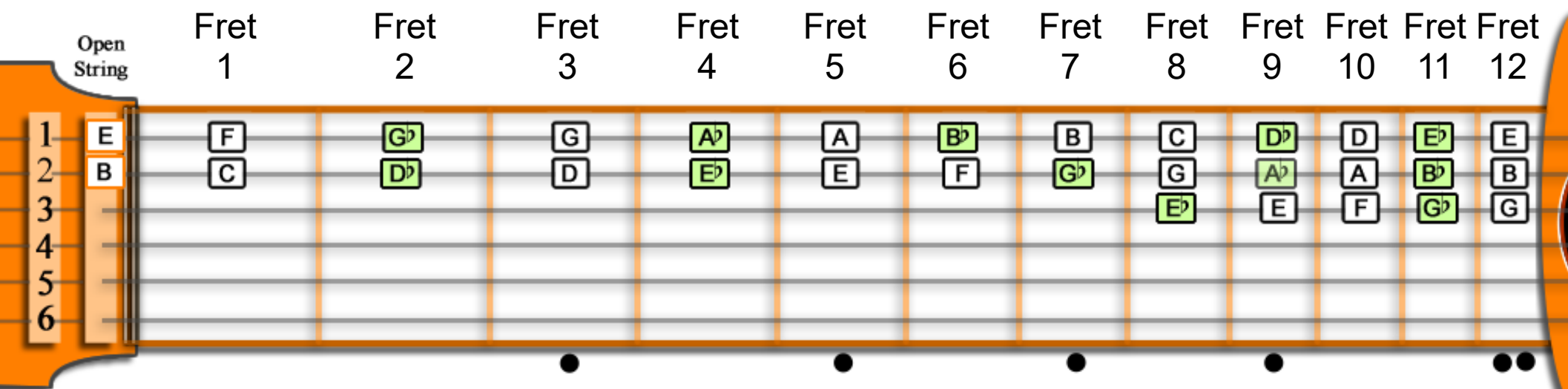
# F note: String 3 - Fret 10 - Finger 2



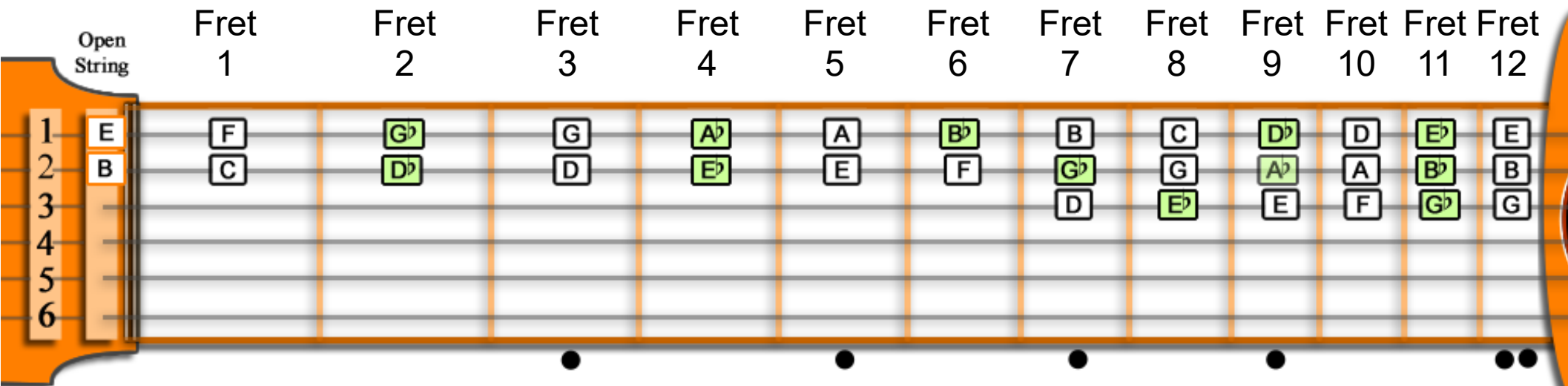
# E note: String 3 - Fret 9 - Finger 1



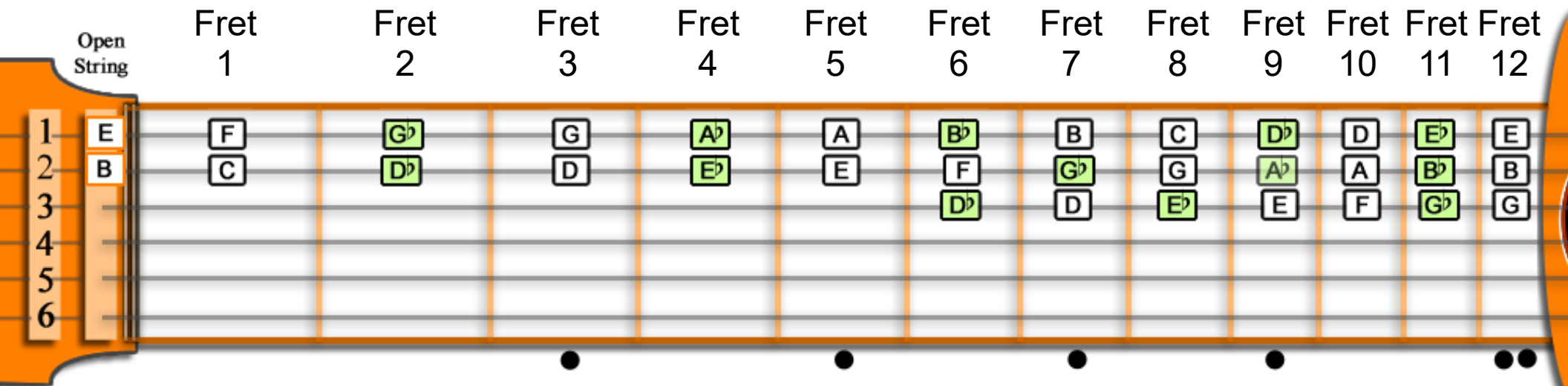
# E<sup>b</sup> note: String 3 - Fret 8 - Finger 4



# D note: String 3 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

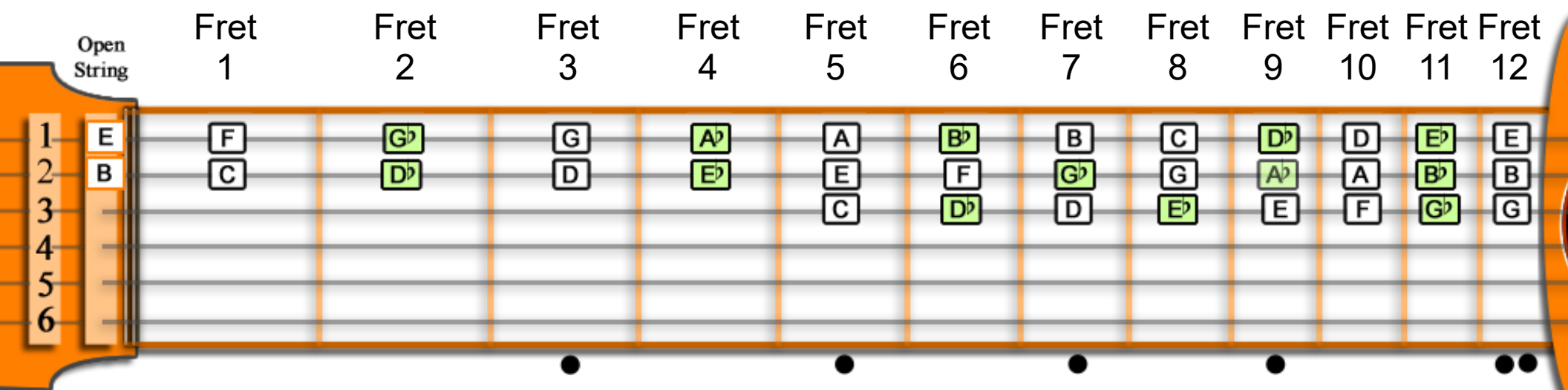


# D<sup>b</sup> note: String 3 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

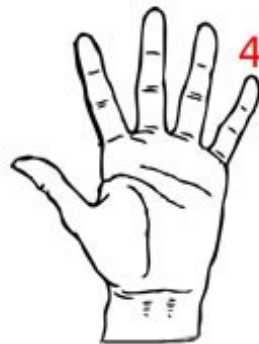
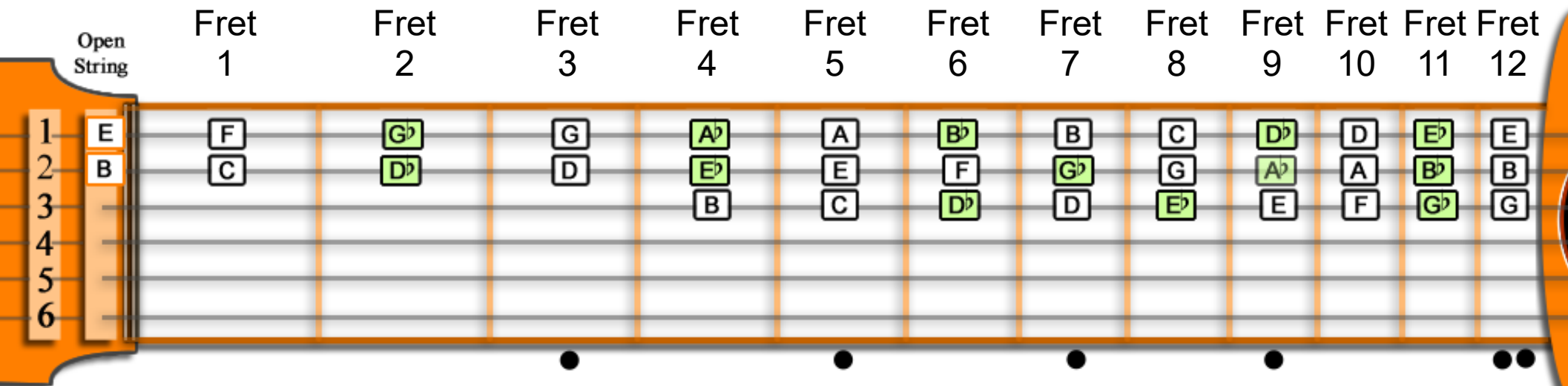




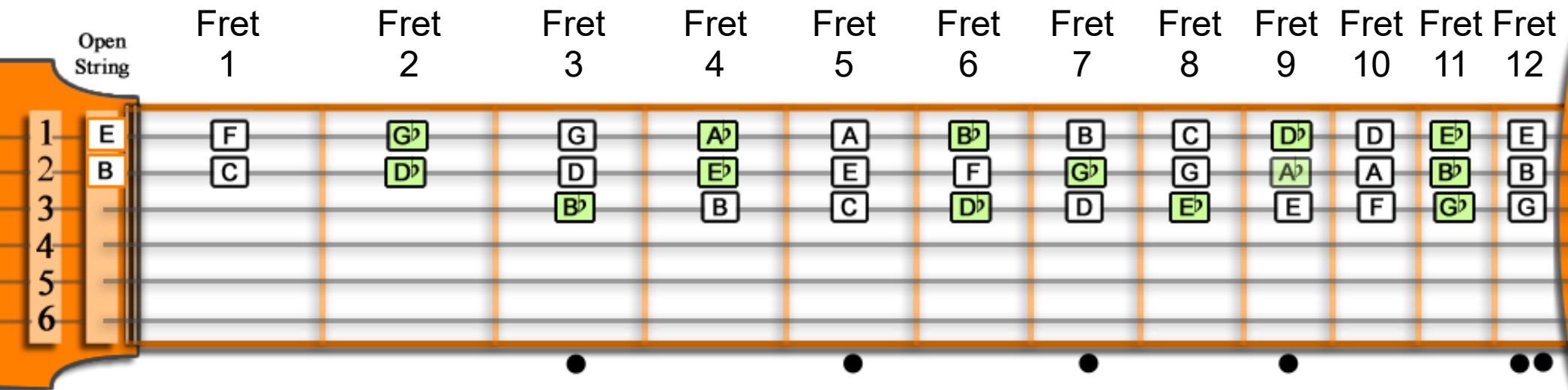
# C note: String 3 - Fret 5 - Finger 1



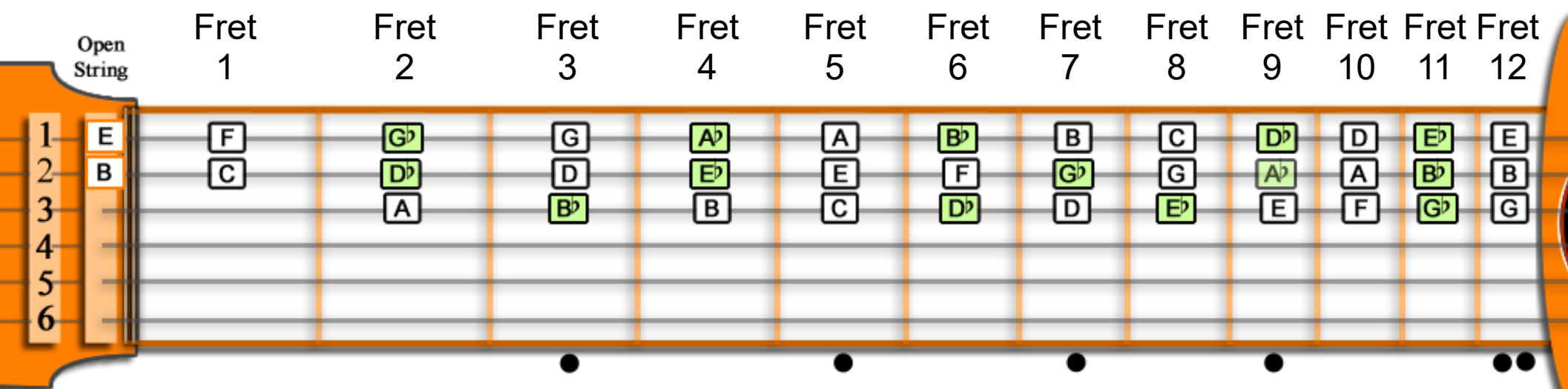
# B note: String 3 - Fret 4 - Finger 4



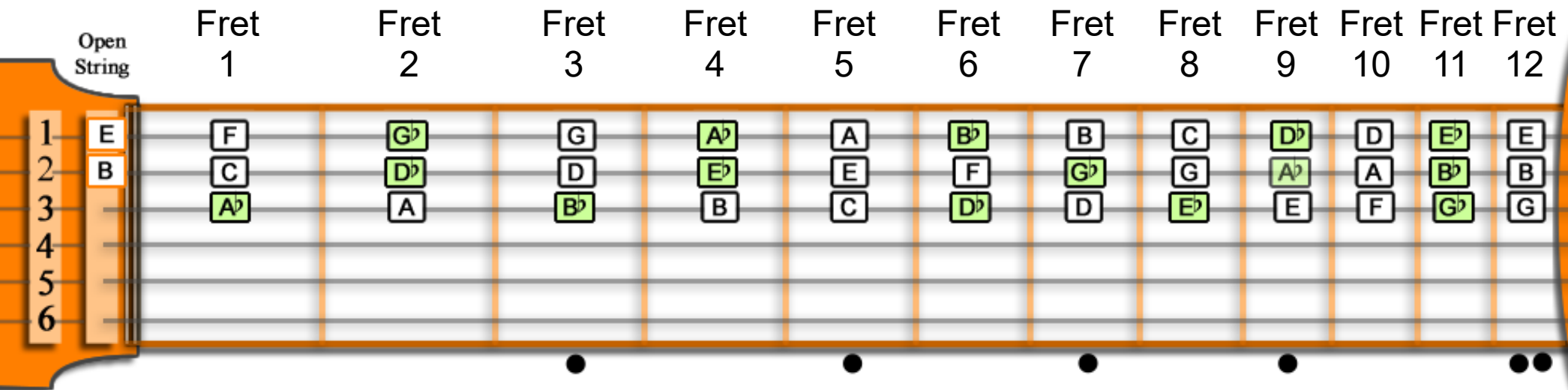
# B<sup>b</sup> note: String 3 - Fret 3 - Finger 3



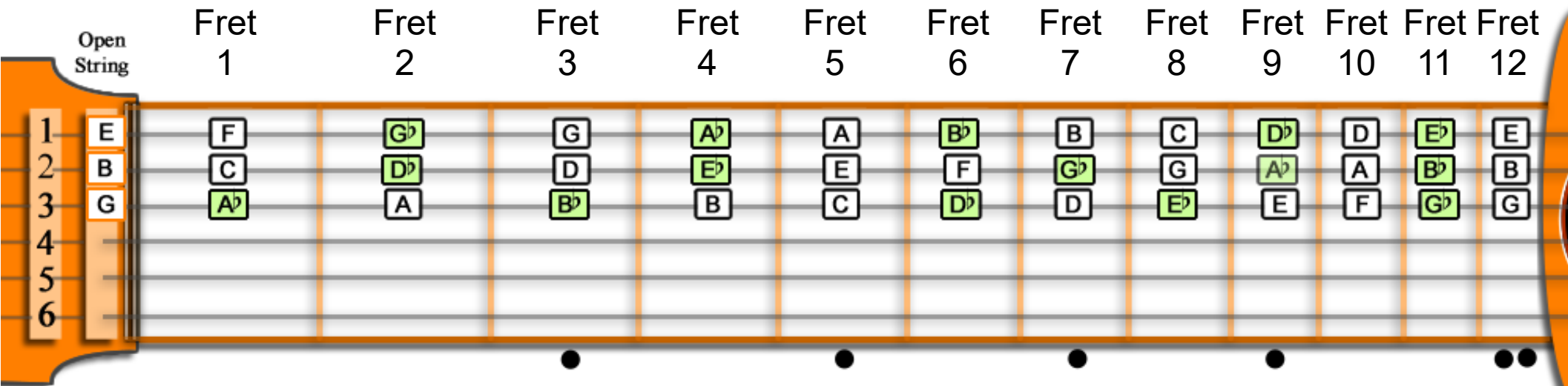
# A note: String 3 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



# A<sup>b</sup> note: String 3 - Fret 1 - Finger 1



# G note: String 3 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



No fingers used when playing an open string

# The Fretboard: String 4 – D – Sharps

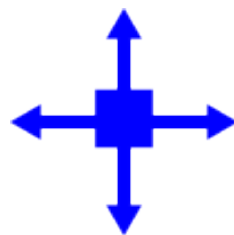
Introduction

Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



Navigate Pages

Summary

## The Music Readers Toolbox™

# The Fretboard: String 4 - D

The fourth string starts with an open D.

D will be followed by D# - E - F - F# etc. as you would expect.

You might have found the first string new and puzzling. The second string less puzzling. The third string easy. The fourth string easier still.

Remember to use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

Ears (to listen)

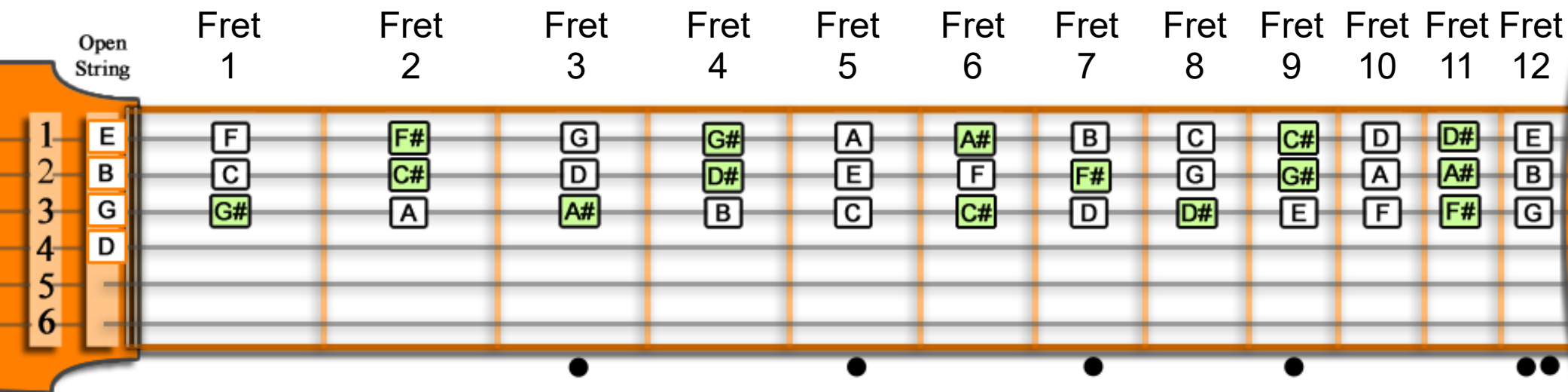
Remember:

No sharp between **E - F**

No sharp between **B - C**



# D note: String 4 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



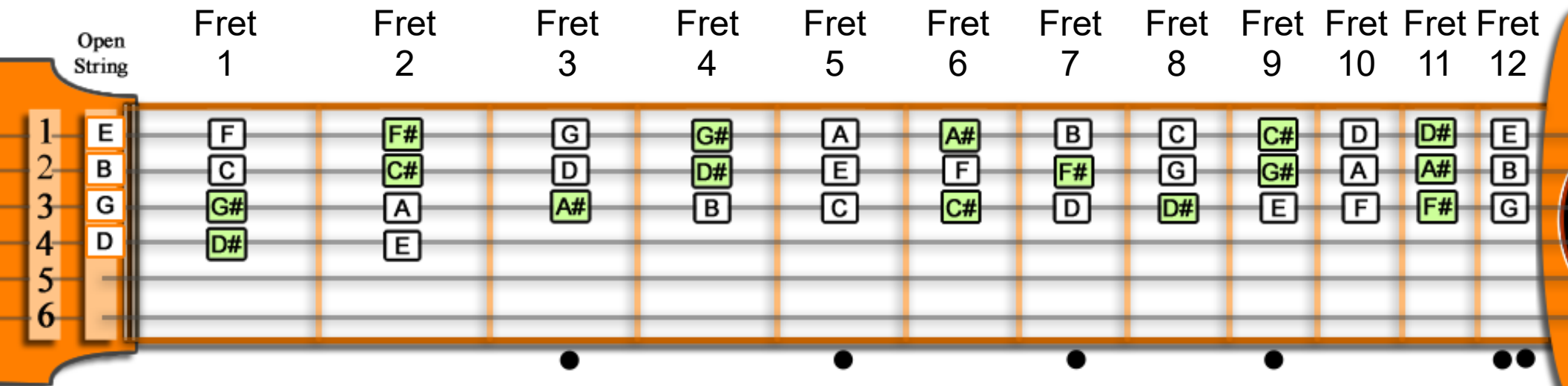
No fingers used when playing an open string

# D# note: String 4 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#											
5													
6													



# E note: String 4 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



# F note: String 4 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	B#	C	C#
5													
6													

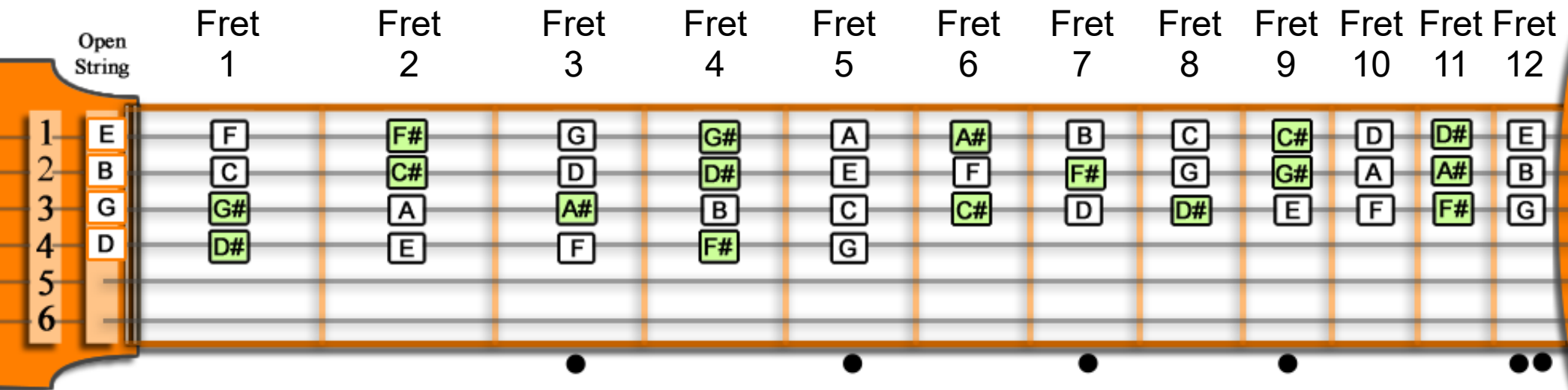


# F# note: String 4 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#								
5													
6													



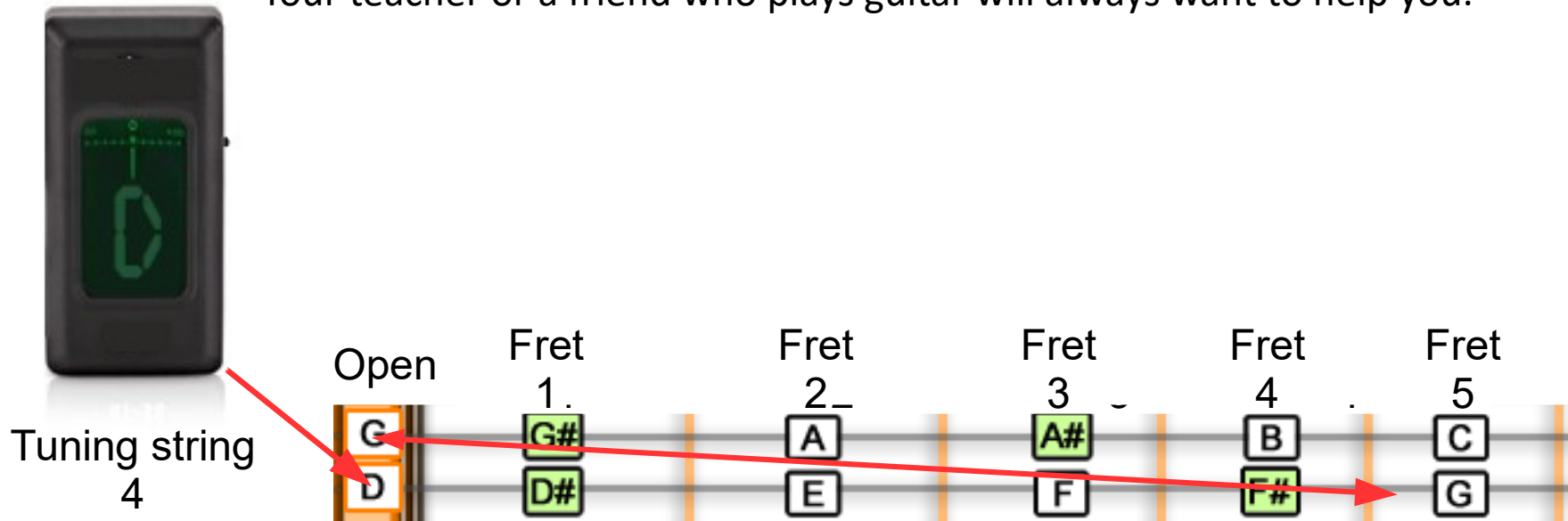
# G note: String 4 - Fret 5 - Finger 1



# Tuning the guitar 4<sup>th</sup> string

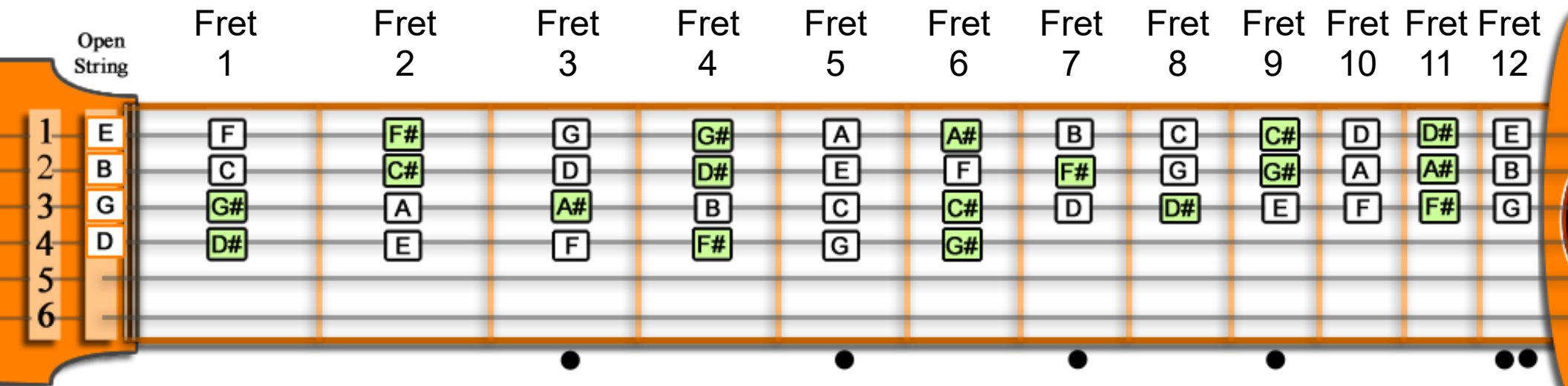
You can use your electronic guitar tuner to tune the open D string or tune the G on the 3<sup>rd</sup> string to the open G by ear.

Your teacher or a friend who plays guitar will always want to help you.



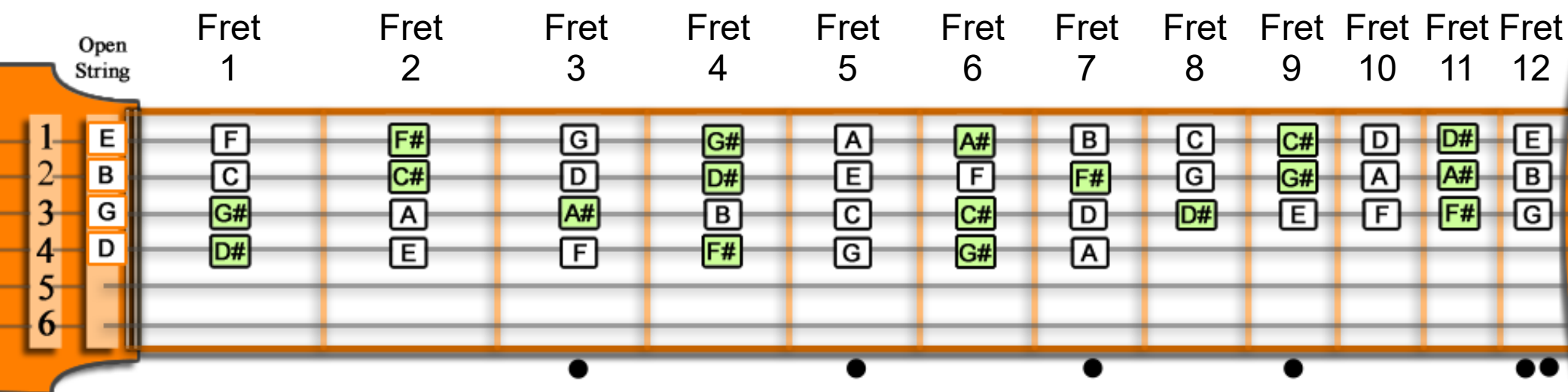
These two G notes are identical, when they are the guitar is in tune.

# G# note: String 4 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

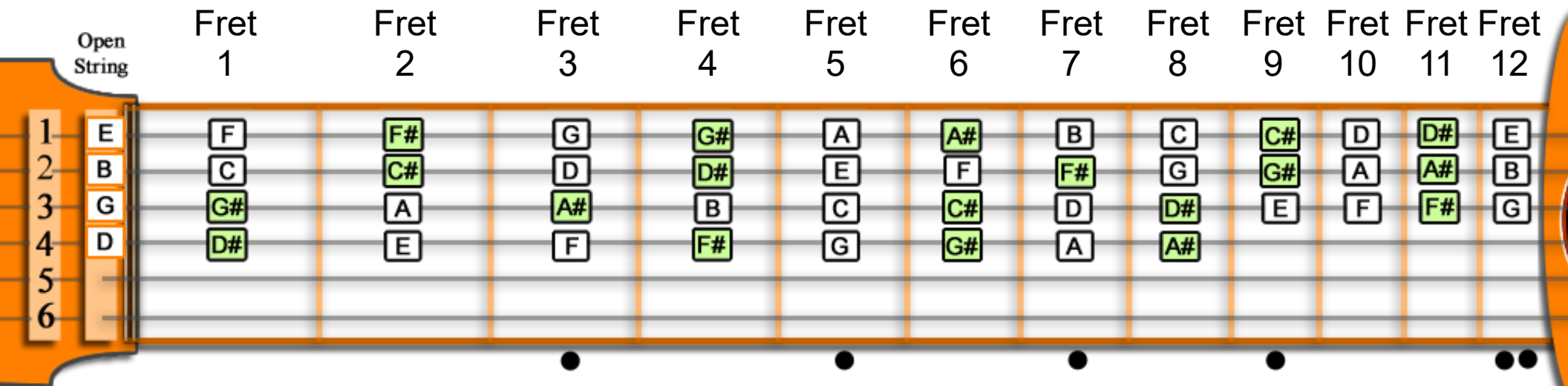




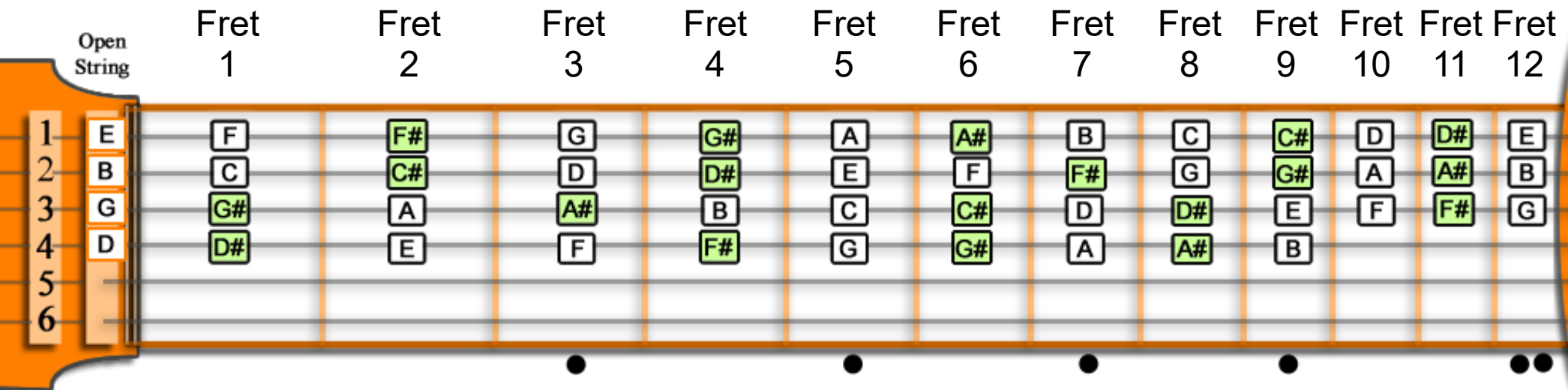
# A note: String 4 - Fret 7 - Finger 3



# A# note: String 4 - Fret 8 - Finger 4



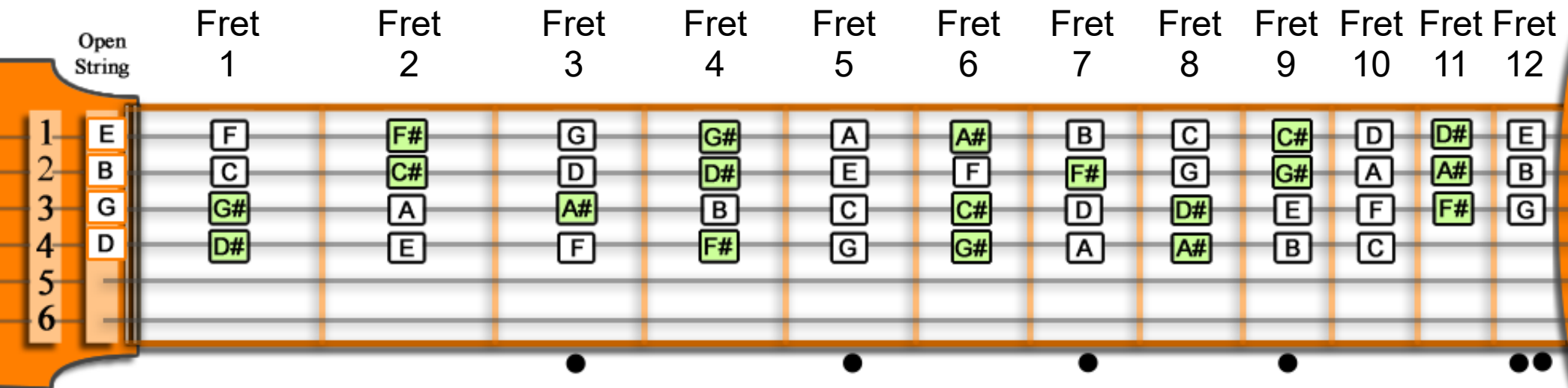
# B note: String 4 - Fret 9 - Finger 1



Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard



# C note: String 4 - Fret 10 - Finger 2

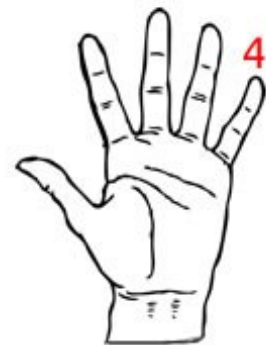
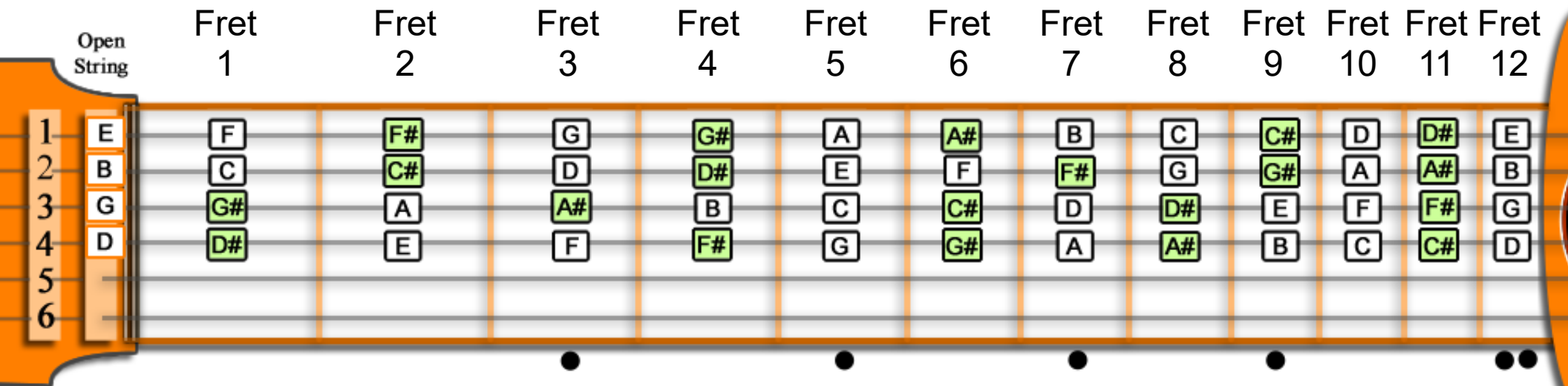


# C# note: String 4 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	
5													
6													



# D note: String 4 - Fret 12 - Finger 4



# The Fretboard: String 4 – D – Flats

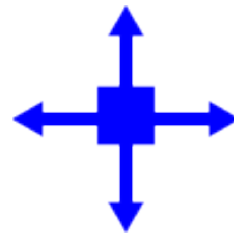
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



Navigate Pages

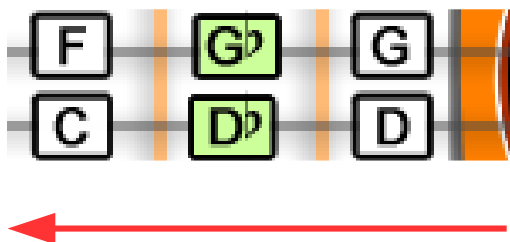
Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox™

# 4<sup>th</sup> string using flats

We have reached the 12<sup>th</sup> fret of the fourth string. Now we play the notes going back down towards the nut.

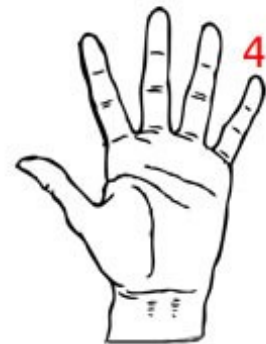
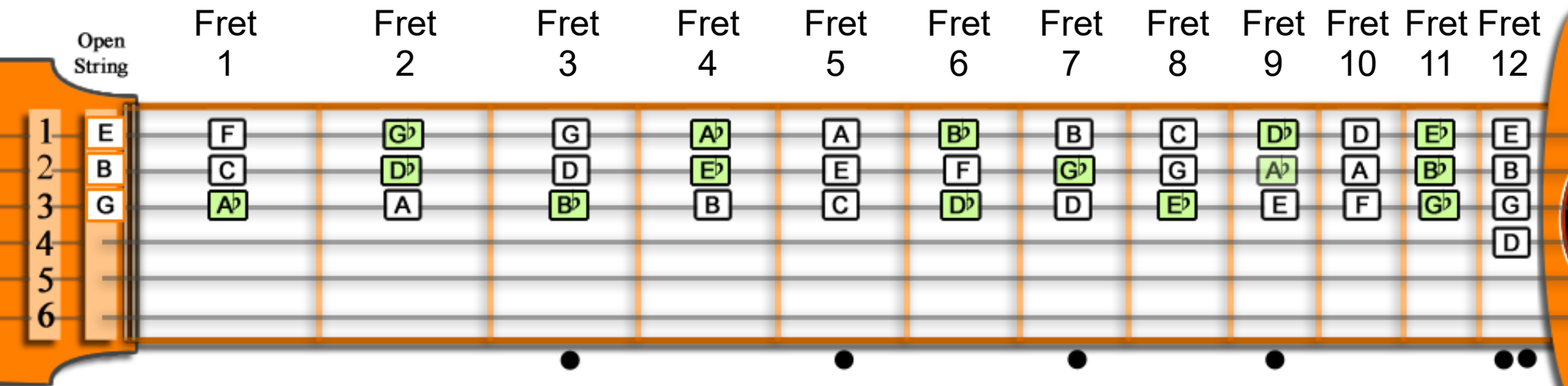
Flats will again be used to show the sounds are going lower.



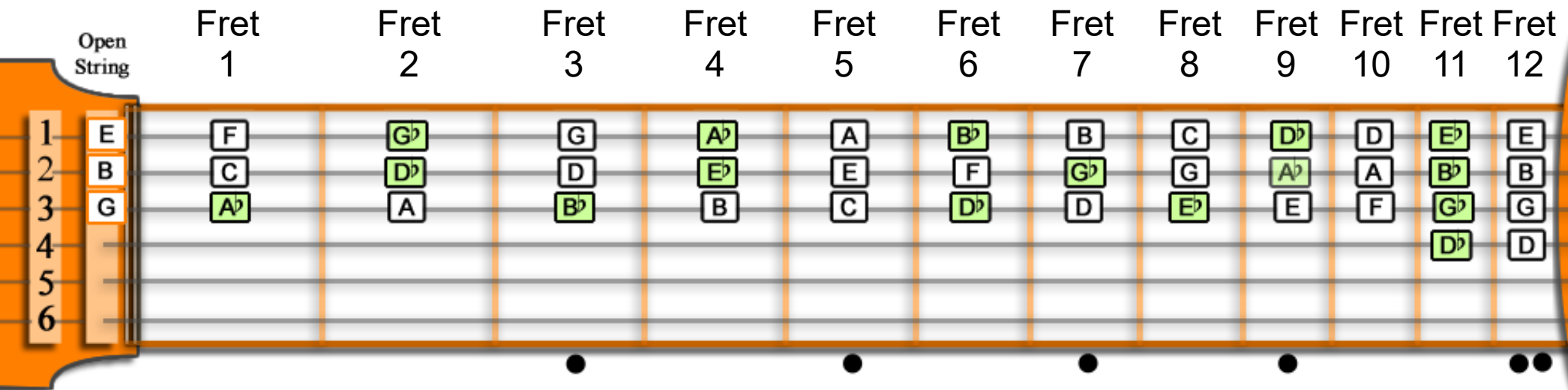
**Remember C and F don't have flats**



# D note: String 4 - Fret 12 - Finger 4



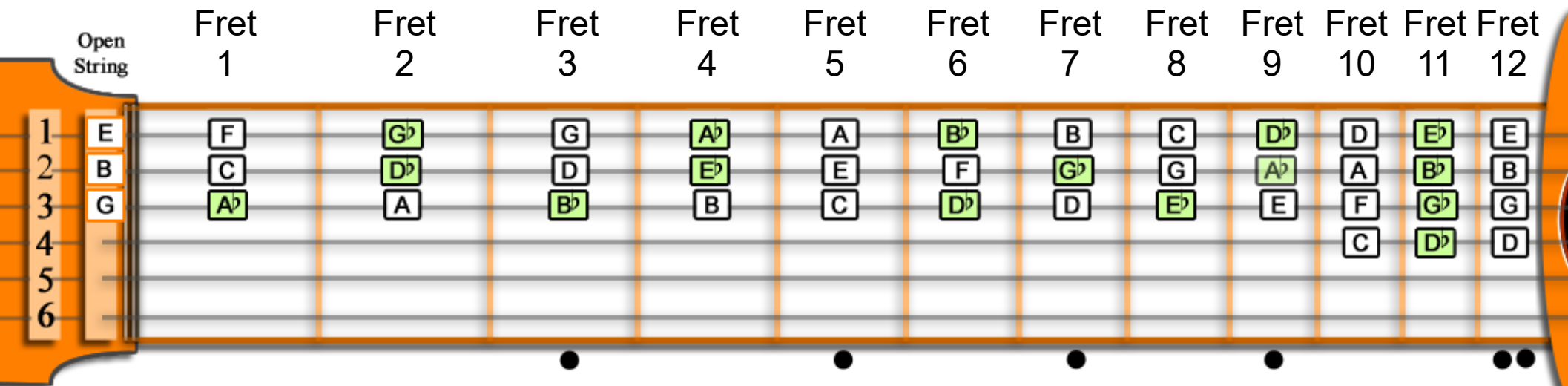
# D<sup>b</sup> note: String 4 - Fret 11 - Finger 3



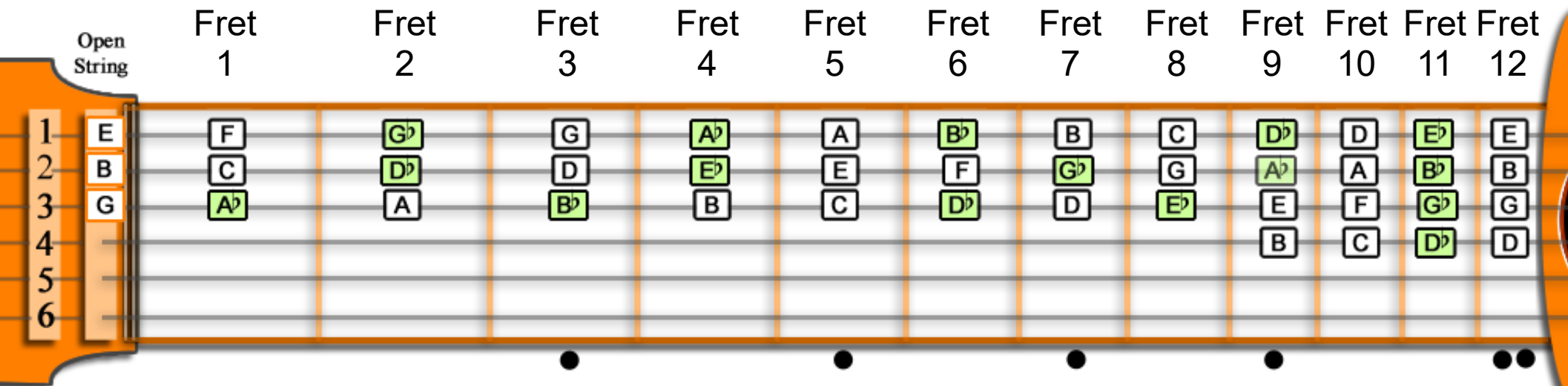
Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard



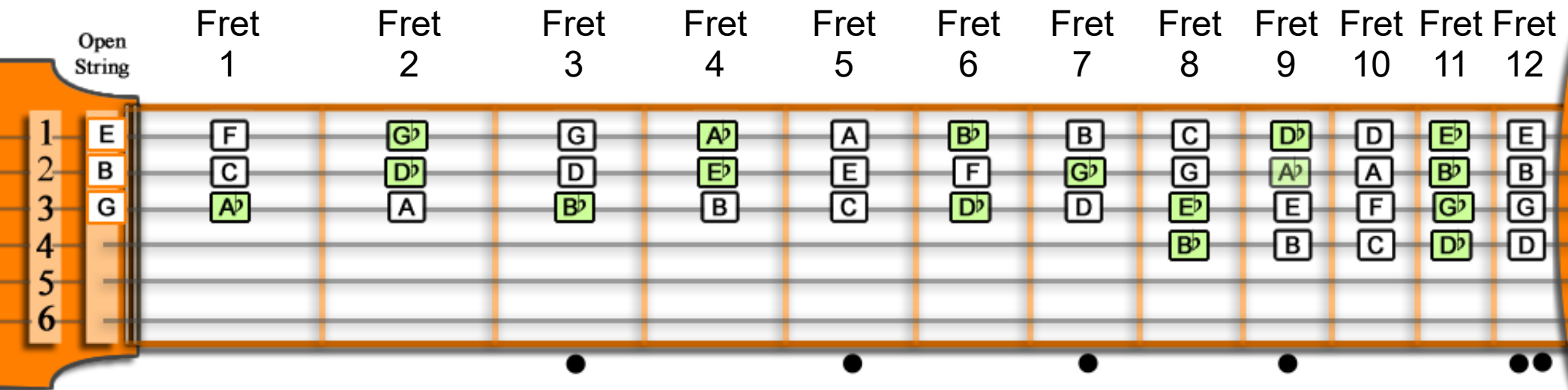
# C note: String 4 - Fret 10 - Finger 2



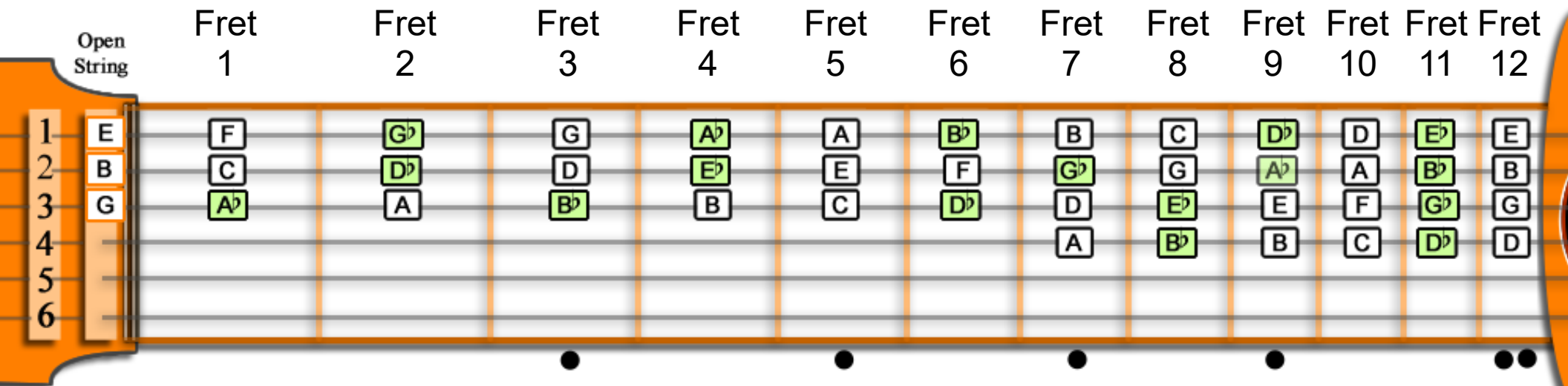
# B note: String 4 Fret 9 Finger 1



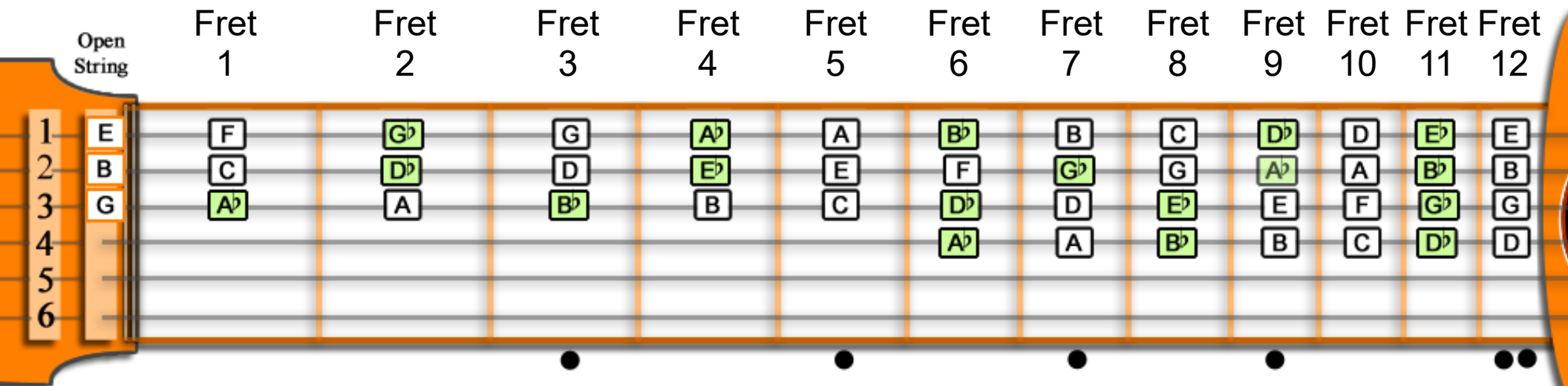
# B $\flat$ note: String 4 - Fret 8 - Finger 4



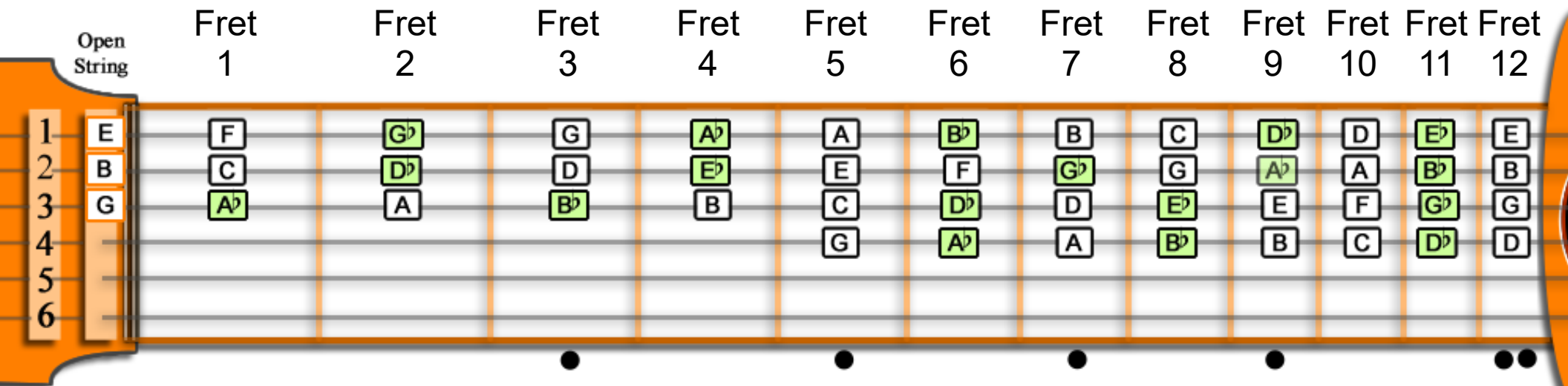
# A note: String 4 - Fret 7 - Finger 3



# Ab note: String 4 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

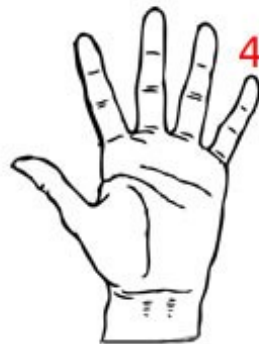
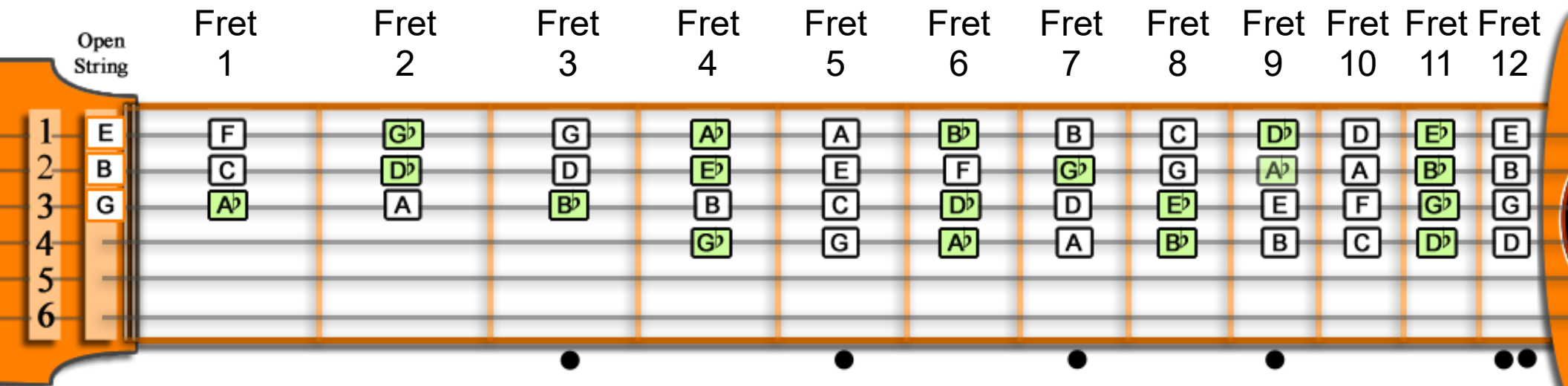


# G note: String 4 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

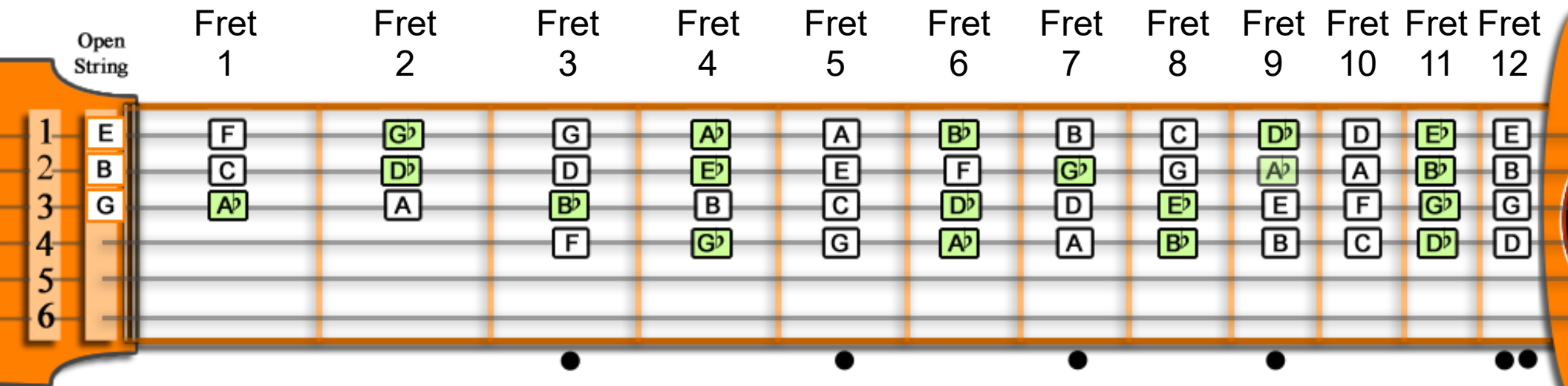




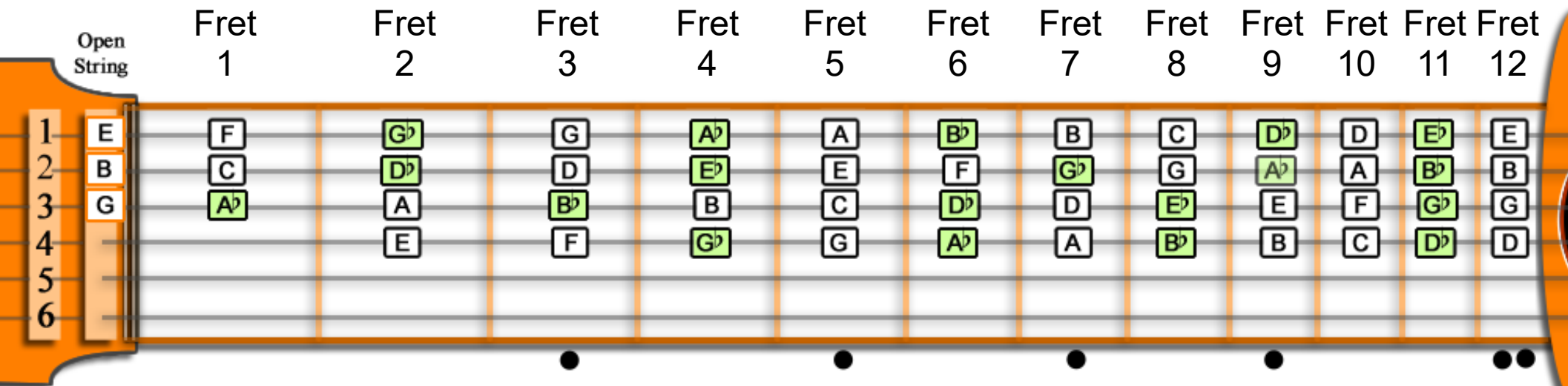
# G<sup>b</sup> note: String 4 - Fret 4 - Finger 4



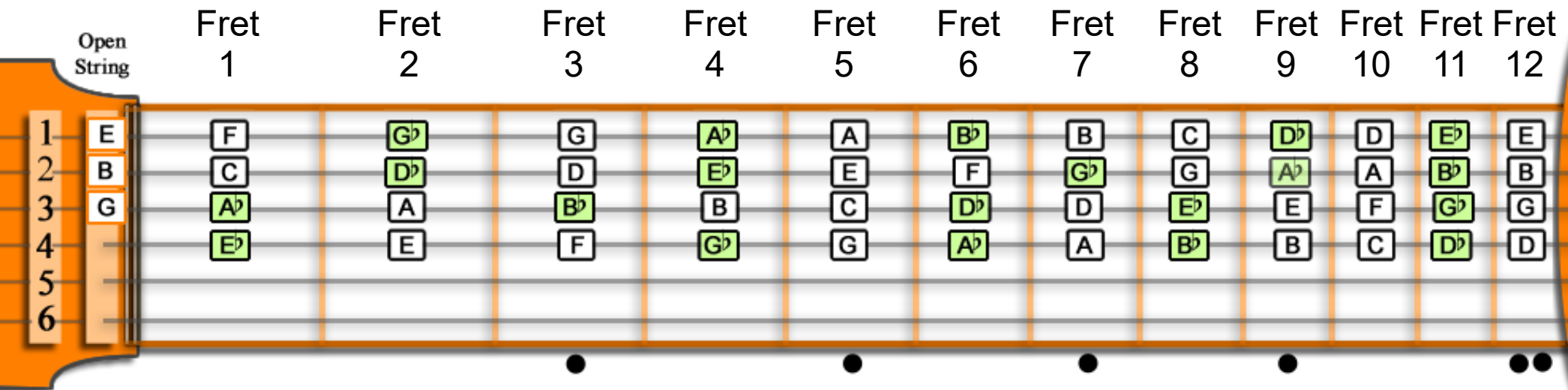
# F note: String 4 - Fret 3 - Finger 3



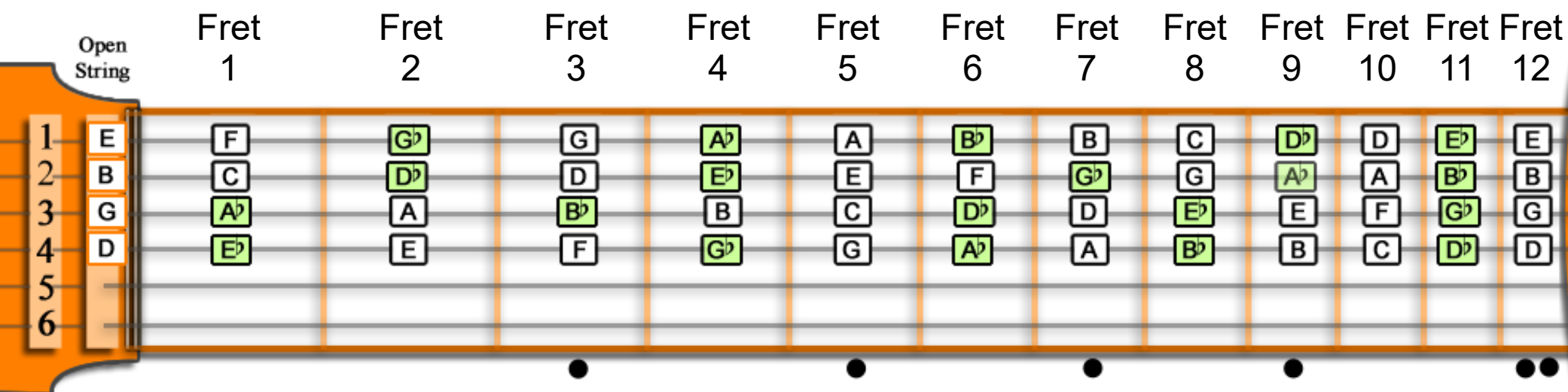
# E note: String 4 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



# E<sup>b</sup> note: String 4 - Fret 1 - Finger 1



# D note: String 4 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



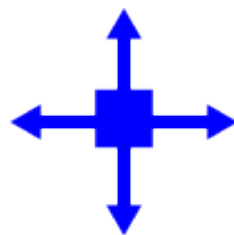
No fingers used when playing an open string

# The Fretboard: String 5 – A – Sharps

## Introduction

## Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



Navigate Pages

## Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# The Fretboard: String 5 - A

The fifth string starts with an open A.

A will be followed by A# - B – C – C# etc. as you would expect.

You might have found the first string new and puzzling. The second string less puzzling. The third string easy. The fourth string easier still. The fifth string you can do with your eyes closed. Try it!!

Remember to use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

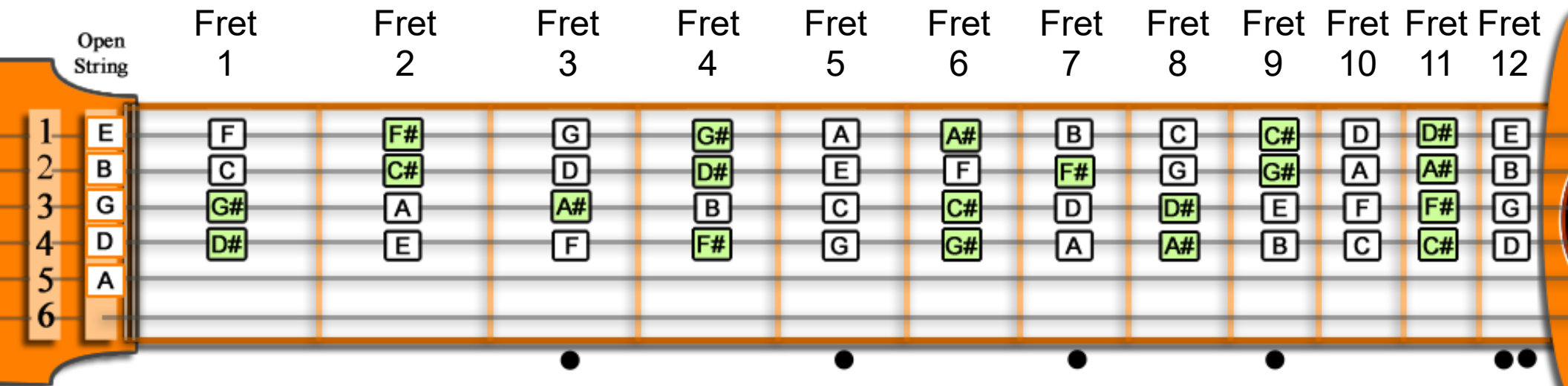
Ears (to listen)

Remember:

No sharp between **E - F**

No sharp between **B - C**

# A note: String 5 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



No fingers used when playing an open string



# A# note: String 5 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#											
6													



# B note: String 5 - Fret 2 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B										
6													



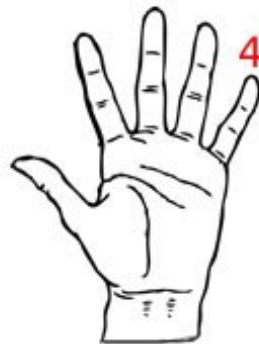
# C note: String 5 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# C# note: String 5 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# D note: String 5 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

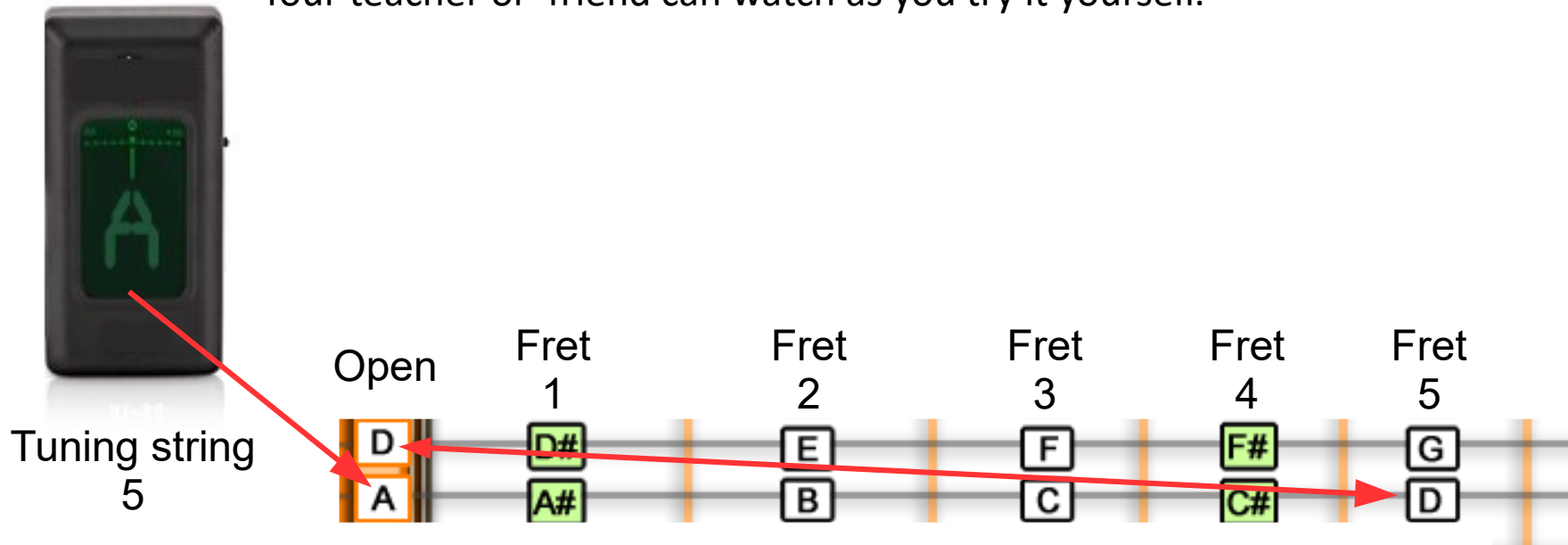
	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# Tuning the guitar 5<sup>th</sup> string

You can use your electronic guitar tuner to tune the open A string or tune the D on the 5<sup>th</sup> string to the open D by ear.

Your teacher or friend can watch as you try it yourself.



These two D notes are identical, when they are the guitar is in tune.

# D# note: String 5 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# E note: String 5 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													





# F note: String 5 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# F# note: String 5 - Fret 9 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# G note: String 5 - Fret 10 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G		
6													



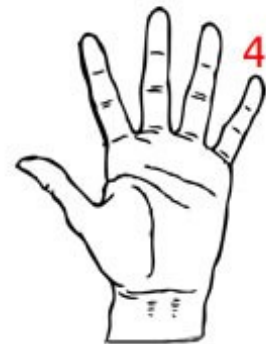
# G# note: String 5 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	
6													



# A note: String 5 - Fret 12 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6													



# The Fretboard: String 5 – A – Flats

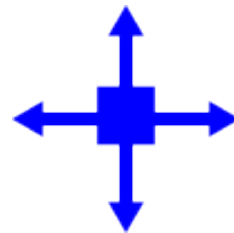
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



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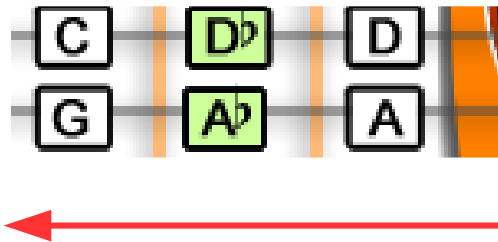
Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# 5<sup>th</sup> string using flats

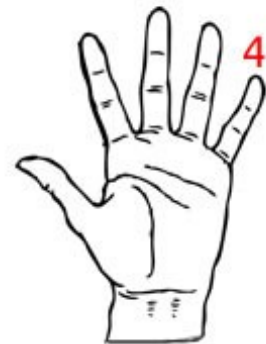
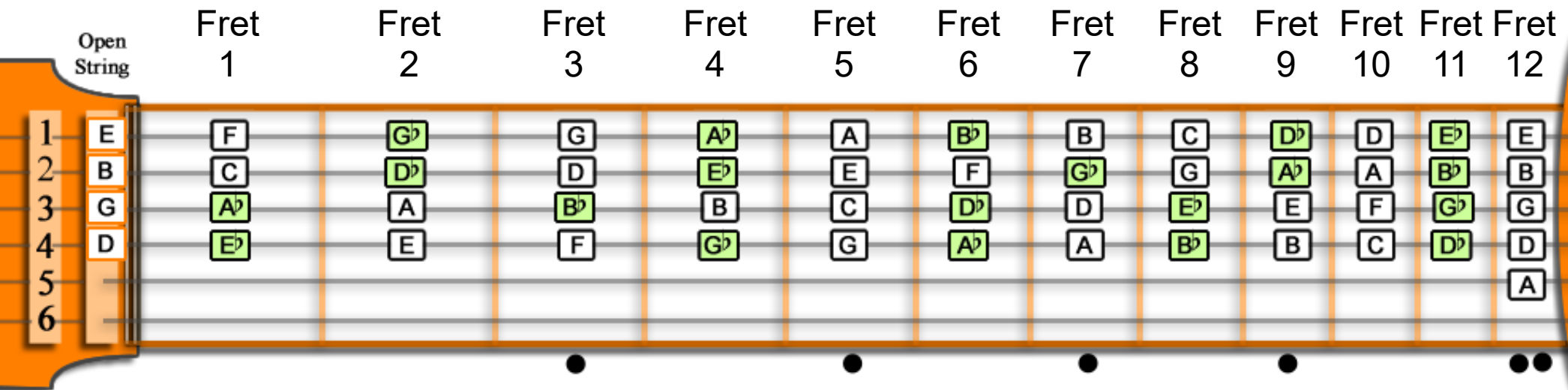
We have reached the 12<sup>th</sup> fret of the fifth string. Now we play the notes going back down towards the nut.

Flats will again be used to show the sounds are going lower.



**Remember C and F don't have flats**

# A note: String 5 - Fret 12 - Finger 4



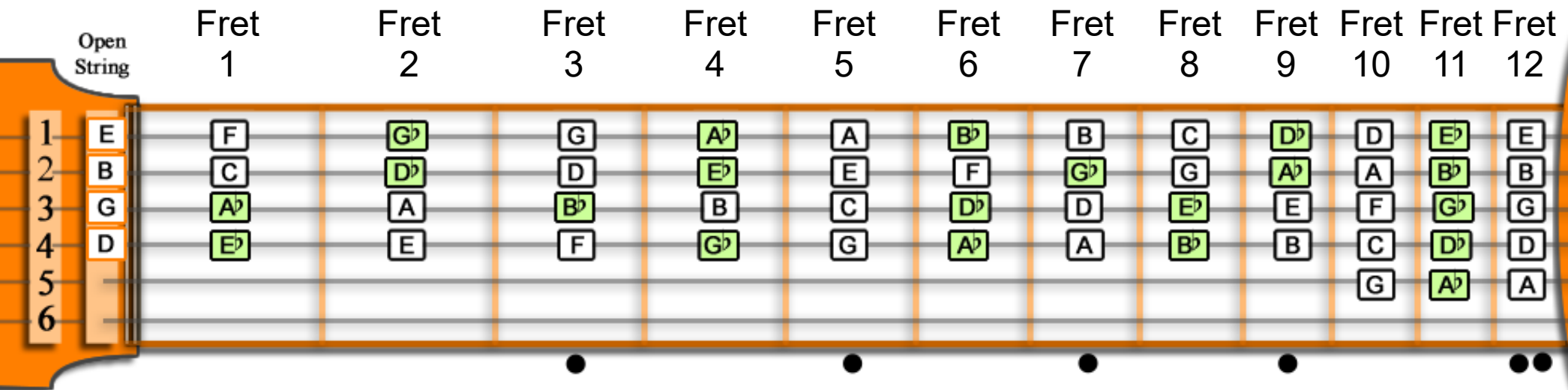


# Ab note: String 5 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

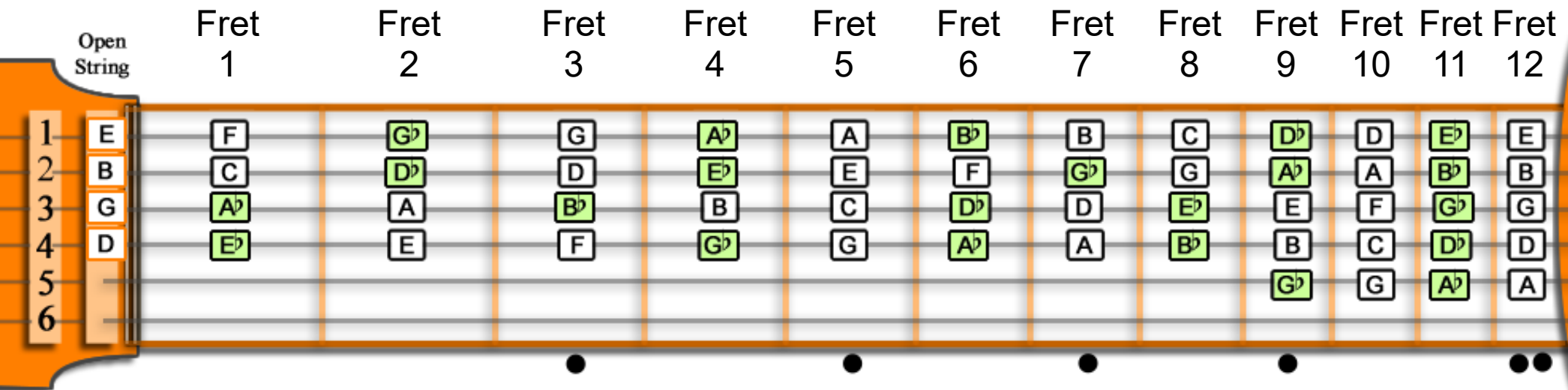
	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5												A <sup>b</sup>	A
6													



# G note: String 5 - Fret 10 - Finger 2



# G<sup>b</sup> note: String 5 - Fret 9 - Finger 1

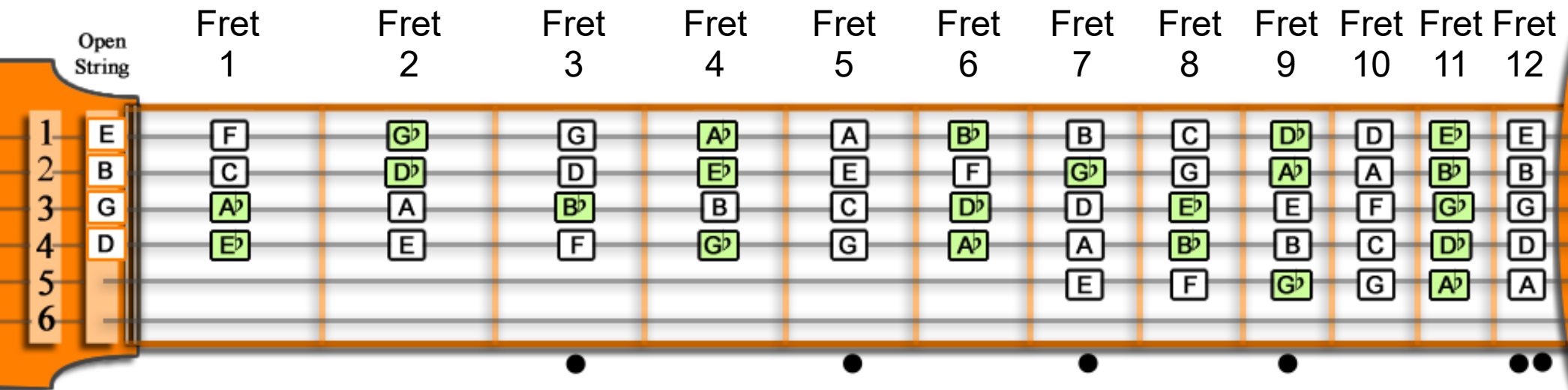


# F note: String 5 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

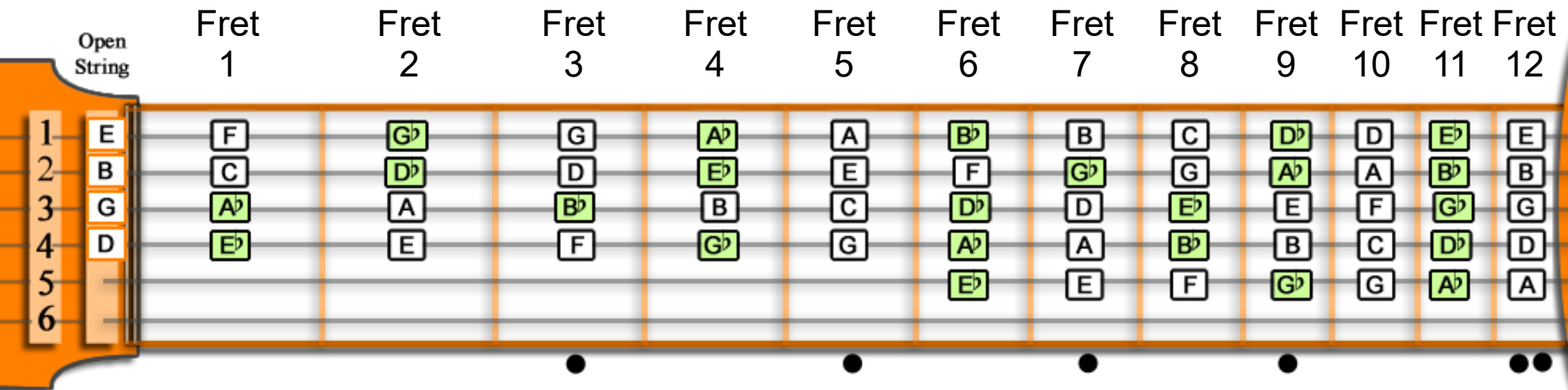
	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5									F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6													



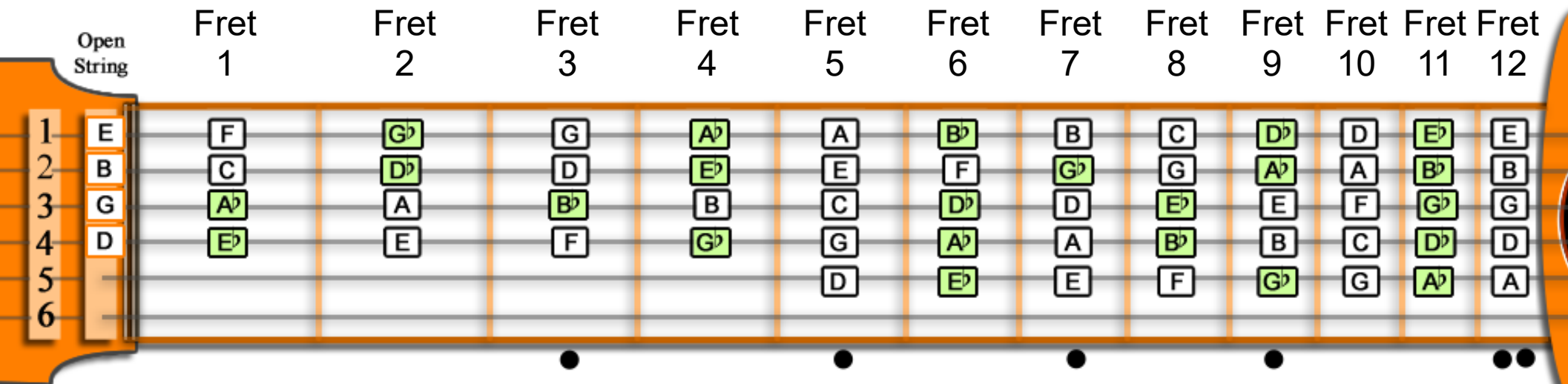
# E note: String 5 - Fret 7 - Finger 3



# E<sup>b</sup> note: String 5 - Fret 6 - Finger 2



# D note: String 5 - Fret 5 - Finger 1



# D<sup>b</sup> note: String 5 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5					D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6													



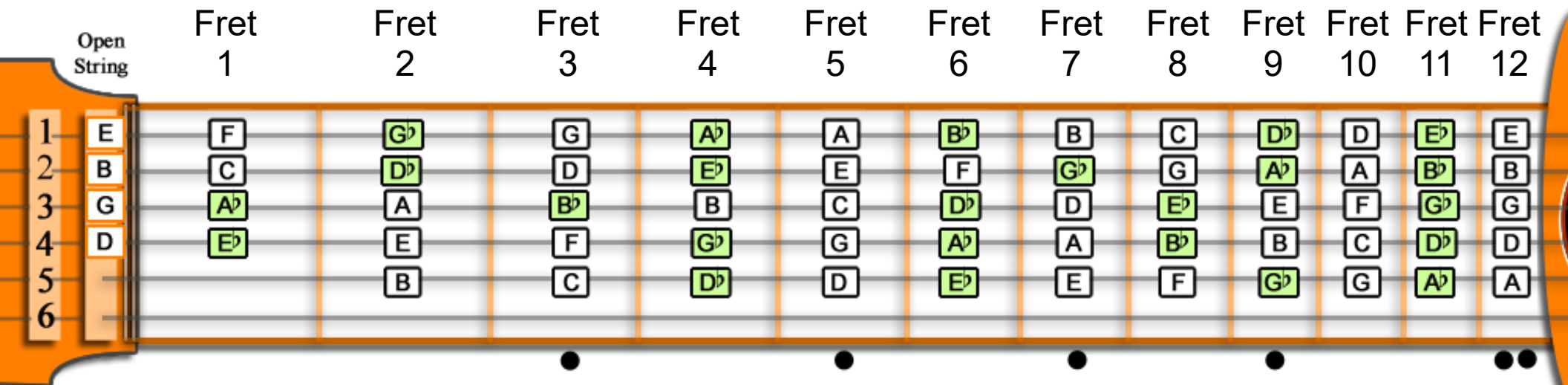


# C note: String 5 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5				C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6													



# B note: String 5 - Fret 2 - Finger 2



Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard

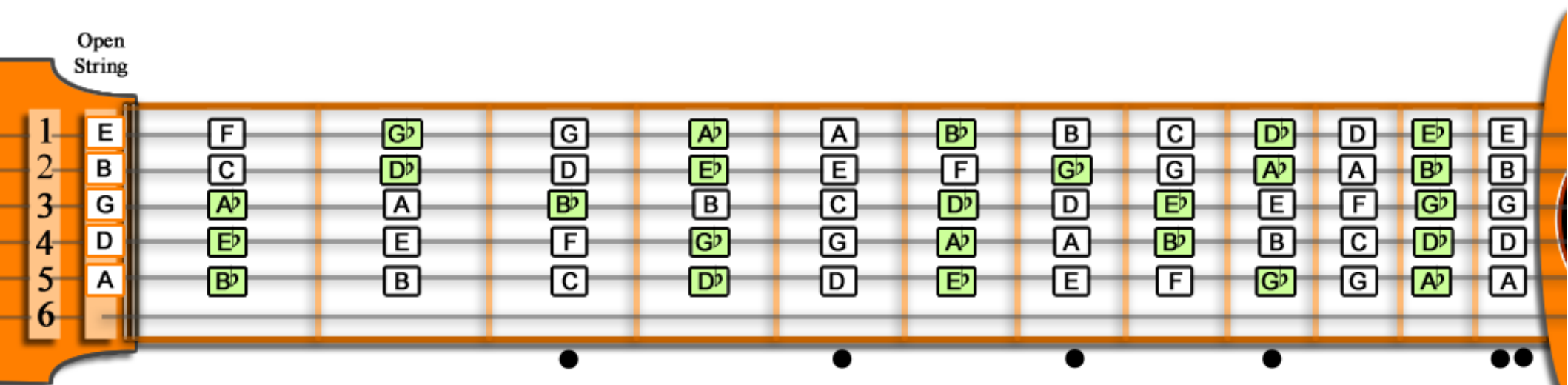


# B<sup>b</sup> note: String 5 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5		B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6													



# A note: String 5 - Fret 0 - Finger 0

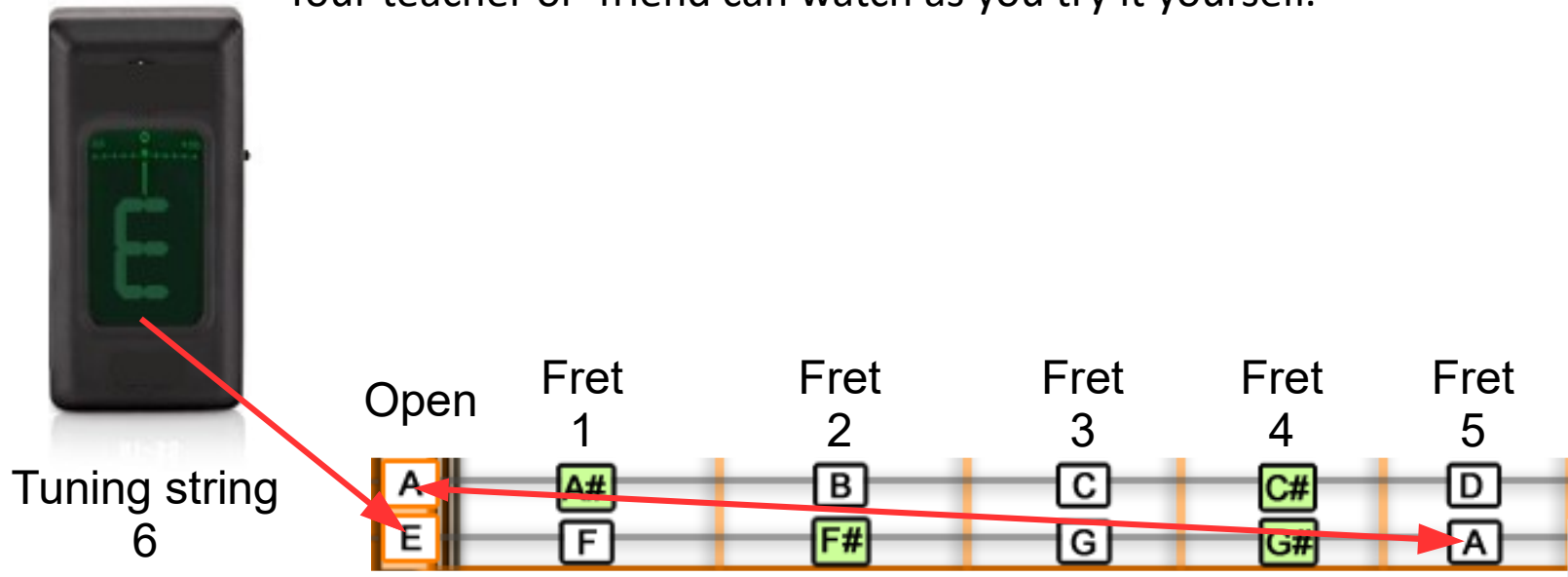


No fingers used when playing an open string

# Tuning the guitar 6<sup>th</sup> string

You can use your electronic guitar tuner to tune the open E string or tune the D on the 5<sup>th</sup> string to the open A by ear.

Your teacher or friend can watch as you try it yourself.



These two A notes are identical, when they are the guitar is in tune.

# The Fretboard: String 6 – E – Sharps

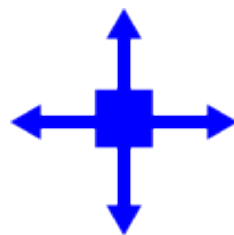
Introduction

Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



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Summary

## The Music Readers Toolbox™

# The Fretboard: String 6 - E

The fifth string starts with an open E.

A will be followed by E – F – F# – G etc. as you would expect.

You might have found the first string new and puzzling. The second string less puzzling. The third string easy. The fourth string easier still. The fifth string you can do with your eyes closed. The sixth string – you will amaze yourself.

Remember to use your:

Brain (to organise)

Fingers (to play)

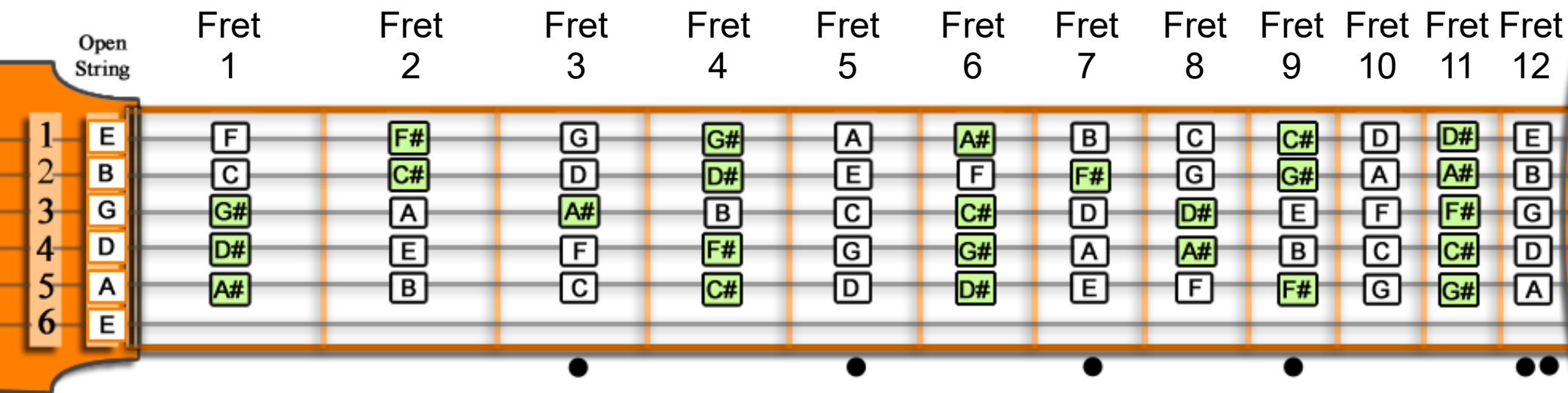
Ears (to listen)

Remember:

No sharp between **E - F**

No sharp between **B - C**

# E note: String 6 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



No fingers used when playing an open string



# F note: String 6 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F											



# F# note: String 6 - Fret 2 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#										



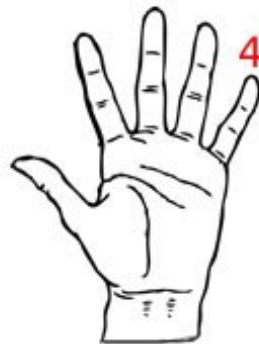
# G note: String 6 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G									



# G# note: String 6 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#								

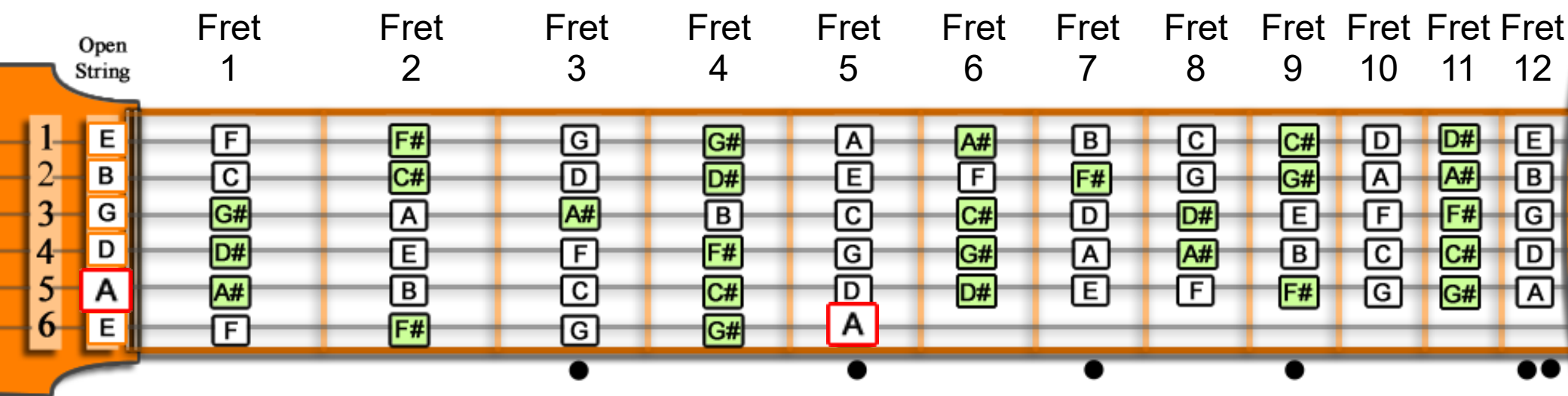


# A note: String 6 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E



# A note: Tuning to string 5



Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard

# A# note: String 6 - Fret 6 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#						



# B note: String 6 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B					





# C note: String 6 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C				



# C# note: String 6 - Fret 9 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E



# D note: String 6 - Fret 10 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E

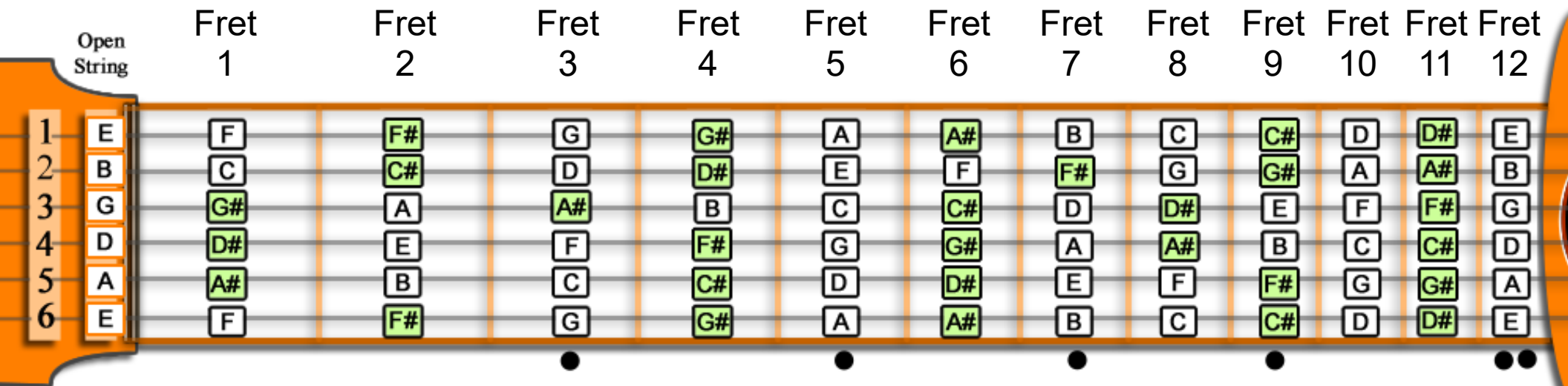


# D# note: String 6 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

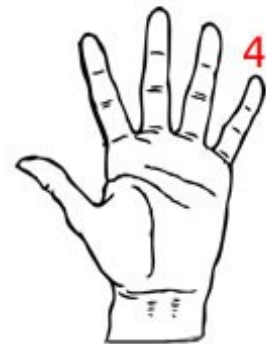
	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
2	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B
3	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G
4	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D
5	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
6	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E



# E note: String 6 Fret 12 Finger 4



Learn the names of the notes on the fretboard



# The Fretboard: String 6 – E – Flats

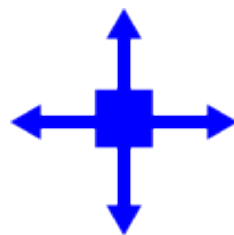
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
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- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



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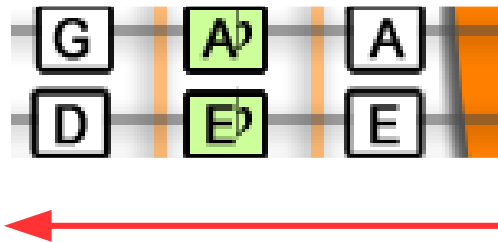
Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# 6<sup>th</sup> string using flats

We have reached the 12<sup>th</sup> fret of the sixth string. Now we play the notes going back down towards the nut.

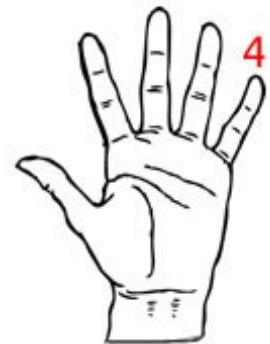
Flats will again be used to show the sounds are going lower.



**Remember C and F don't have flats**

# E note: String 6 - Fret 12 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6													E





# E<sup>b</sup> note: String 6 - Fret 11 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6												E <sup>b</sup>	E



# D note: String 6 - Fret 10 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6											D	E <sup>b</sup>	E



# D<sup>b</sup> note: String 6 - Fret 9 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6										D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E



# C note: String 6 - Fret 8 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6									C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E

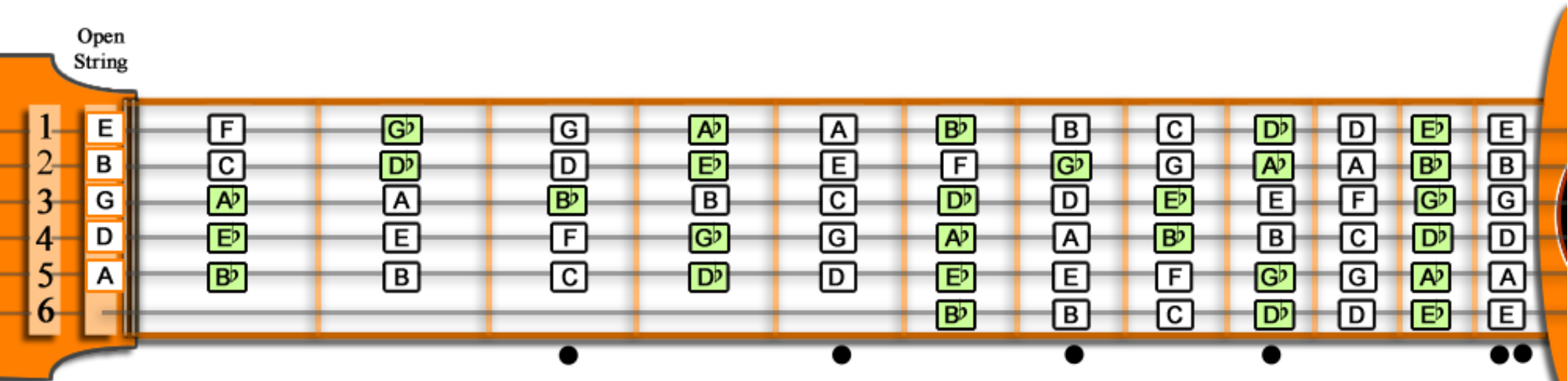


# B note: String 6 - Fret 7 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6								B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E



# B<sup>b</sup> note: String 6 - Fret 6 - Finger 2



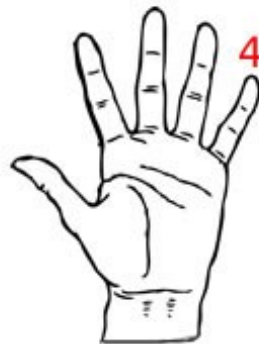
# A note: String 6 - Fret 5 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6						A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E



# Ab note: String 6 - Fret 4 - Finger 4

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6					A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E





# G note: String 6 - Fret 3 - Finger 3

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6				G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E



# G<sup>b</sup> note: String 6 - Fret 2 - Finger 2

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6			G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E

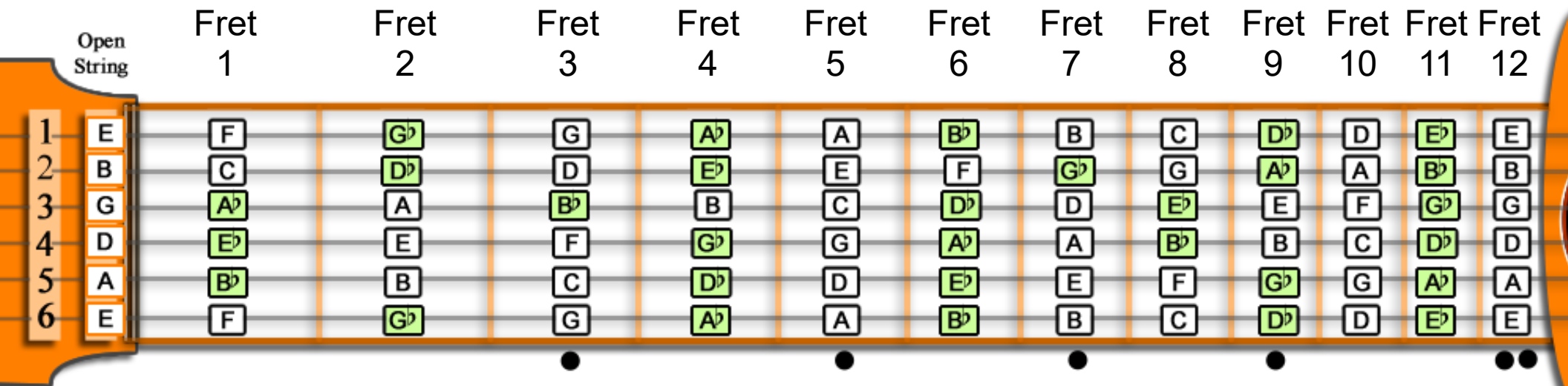


# F note: String 6 - Fret 1 - Finger 1

	Open String	Fret 1	Fret 2	Fret 3	Fret 4	Fret 5	Fret 6	Fret 7	Fret 8	Fret 9	Fret 10	Fret 11	Fret 12
1	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E
2	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B
3	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G
4	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D
5	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E	F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A
6		F	G <sup>b</sup>	G	A <sup>b</sup>	A	B <sup>b</sup>	B	C	D <sup>b</sup>	D	E <sup>b</sup>	E



# E note: String 6 - Fret 0 - Finger 0



No fingers used when playing an open string

# The Reason Why

The reason why it's so very important to know the name of each individual sound on the fretboard and the fret where to find them, can be summed up by looking at a piece of TAB.

The highlighted note shown means play the open 3<sup>rd</sup> string. But what if you want to play it somewhere else? The TAB doesn't help.

But if you know the note is an open G note, you will know it can also be played on the 5<sup>th</sup> fret on the 4th string and the 10<sup>th</sup> fret of the 5<sup>th</sup> string,

TAB can be useful but it isn't versatile. **Knowing the fretboard is.**

♩ = 80

0 1 0 2 0 2 1 2 0 2 2 0 2 2 3 2 3

2 0 3

6 D.C. al Coda

3 0 0 2 3 0 0 2 2 0 1 3 3 3 3 3

Open G

# The Fretboard: Summary

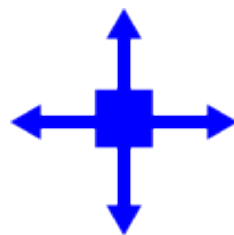
## Introduction

### Strings with Sharps

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6

### Strings with flats

- String 1
- String 2
- String 3
- String 4
- String 5
- String 6



Navigate Pages

Summary

# The Music Readers Toolbox<sup>TM</sup>

# Summary

A blank fretboard is a fretboard without note names. It won't stop you being a good guitar player but it does stop you from becoming a musician.

Musicians are guitarists who can play music in all styles, their own and one of the many the styles required by singers, recording studios and their mothers.

It's a challenge playing with people you haven't met but with the correct control over your fretboard you will settle and enjoy the music.

True musicians have no restrictions, no boundaries.

If you want to give your playing a future learning the note names is an essential part of your success.

This section, the fretboard, stays with you wherever you play guitar.

Music reading needs the fretboard. Scales and modes need the fretboard. Creating chords needs the fretboard. Improvisation needs the fretboard.

Everything needs the fretboard.

# Summary

Remember, use your:

**Brain (to organise)**

**Fingers (to play)**

**Ears (to listen)**

Three other things to remember:

**Practice, Patience and Performance.**

Work hard and keep asking your guitar teacher questions.  
If you don't ask questions how will you learn?

Buy an electronic guitar tuner. Tune your guitar every day when you practice.  
Keep it with you when you play with other musicians.

Finally, have fun. Enjoy the struggle and the success.