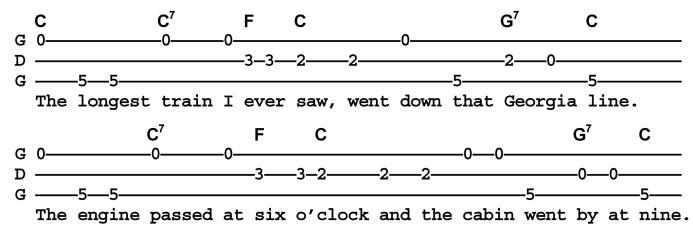


Convert Any Song to One-Finger Chords

It is EASY to play songs on a cigar box guitar or other 3-string or 4-string instrument tuned to an open chord, such as GDG or GDGB. You just strum the strings unfretted, or use your index finger to press all of the strings down at certain frets, to play the chords that make up a song.

However, most songbooks (including those created by Ben "Gitty" Baker specifically for cigar box guitars) give you the actual chord names, not the fret numbers for one-finger playing.

This how-to guide makes it easy to convert pretty much any song from Ben's songbooks, or found on guitar chord song sites online, for one-finger playing. Take a look at the tab sample below, from the old-time folk blues song "**In the Pines**".



The chord letters are the capital letters above the tab lines. As you can see, this song has C, C^7 , F and G^7 chords in it.

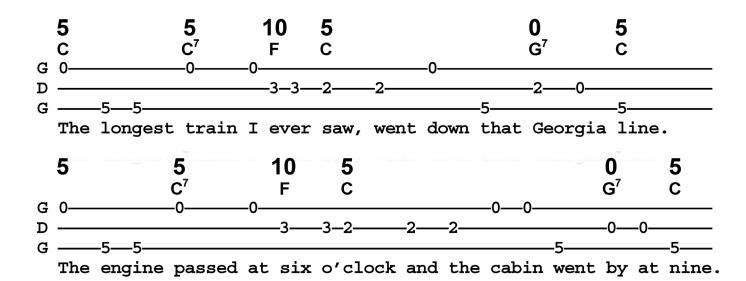
So to convert this song to One-Finger style, just follow these steps:

- 1. Ignore any numbers or letters after the main chord name letter. In other words, ignore the ⁷ of C⁷ and G⁷ and any other small numbers. Also ignore any "m"s that may come after the main letter, which indicate a "minor" chord. We only care about the main chord name for this method and these one-finger chords can work for both regular and "minor" chords anyway.
- 2. Do not ignore any ^b (flat) or [#] (sharp) symbols after the chord letter.
- 3. Use the conversion chart below to get the corresponding fret number for each chord name.

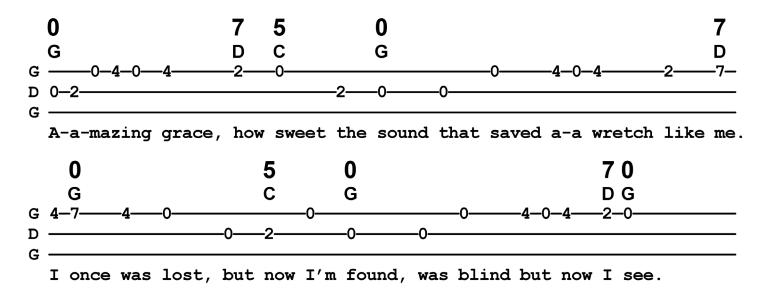
Chord	G (low)	Α	Bp	В	С	D	Ep	Ε	F	F#	G (high)
Fret #	0*	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12

* 0 indicates open or unfretted - strum without pressing your finger down on the strings at all. Though you won't see them often, fret 1 would be A^b/G[#] and fret 6 would be D^b/C[#].

Check out the converted tab snippet on the next page to see how we've added the one-finger number notation to the existing arrangement.



Below is another well-known song, the old hymn "**Amazing Grace**" showing the conversion to one-finger style.



We hope you are able to make great music using this method!

Now that you can play pretty much any song with confidence, expand your musical library with Ben "Gitty" Baker's songbooks, available from C. B. Gitty and Hobo Music Works! From folk, bluegrass and old-time classics, to pop favorites of yesteryear and even hymns and spirituals, Gitty's got the songbooks that will keep you happily strumming for years to come!

Visit <u>CBGitty.com/Songbooks</u> to see the full catalog!

