

# Chapter 1 – Dominant Family Root Chords

To begin your study of dominant chords in this course, you dig into learning common and essential dominant family chord shapes.

Dominant family chords are all shades of the same chordal color.

This means that if you see an A7 chord on a lead sheet, you can play A9, A7#11, or A13.

The color needs to be dominant, and the root needs to be A, but the shade of color is up to you.

This chapter introduces you to different shades of the dominant family colors to learn, memorize, play around the fretboard, and have fun with on guitar.

These shapes prepare you for the challenges in future chapters, so get started on them now, then refer back to this chapter as a reference in future as needed.

Check out this dominant family chord colors and have fun expanding your guitar chord vocabulary in this chapter.

## 7th Chords

To begin, here are a selection of root position 7th chords to play, memorize, take to different keys, and explore across your fretboard.

7th chords are four-note shapes that use the following interval pattern:

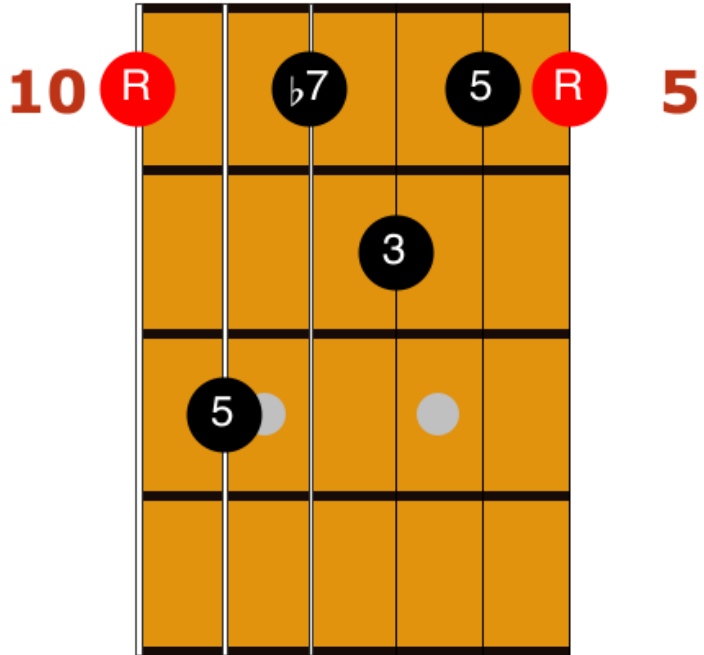
- 7th = 1-3-5-b7
- A7 = A C# E G

As you play through the shapes below, here are tips to get the most out of these 7th chords in your playing.

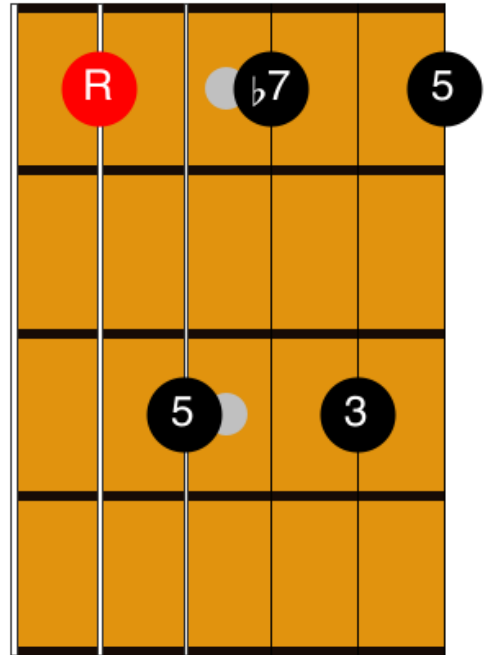
- Play through the first chord, strum or pluck the full chord.
- Pluck each note in the chord separately and sing along if possible.
- Play the chord in different keys on the fretboard.
- Say the name of each chord as you play it, red circle is root note.
- Move on to another shape and repeat above exercises.
- Mix both shapes together in different keys on the neck.
- Move on to the rest of the shapes below and repeat the above exercises.
- Use a metronome or tap your foot when jamming these chords.
- Have fun!

Have fun exploring these 7th chords, memorizing them, playing them around the fretboard, and getting ready for challenges in future chapters.

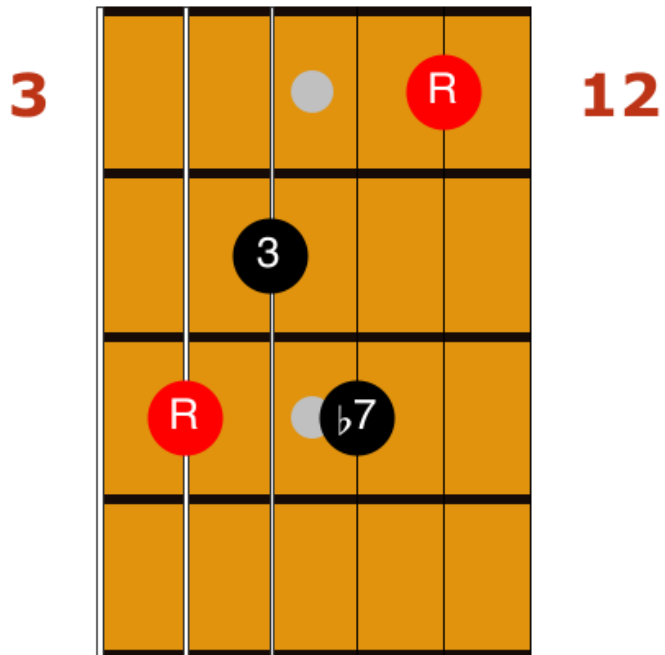
**D7**



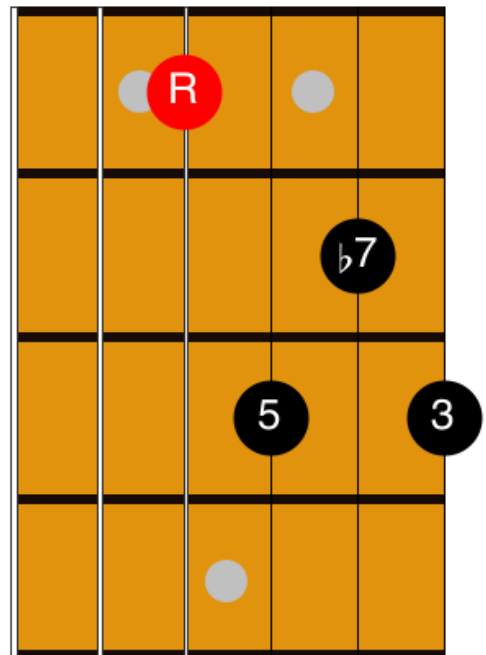
**D7**



**D7**



**D7**



## 9th Chords

Moving on, here are a selection of root position 9th chords to play, memorize, take to different keys, and explore across your fretboard.

9th chords are five-note shapes that use the following interval pattern:

- 9th = 1-3-5-b7-9
- A9 = A C# E G B

Because you only have so many fingers and strings to play with, you often leave one or more notes out of any 9th chord.

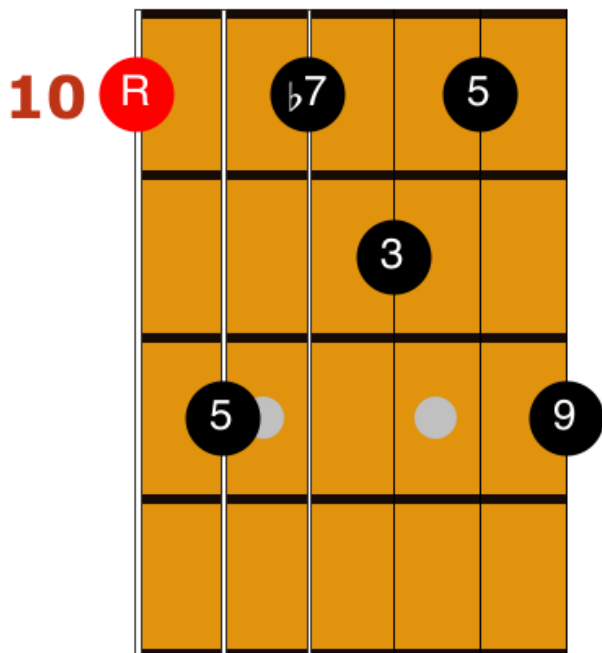
You can see this in the second shape below, where you use the intervals 1-3-b7-9, leaving the 5 out of that shape to make it playable.

As you play through the shapes below, here are tips to get the most out of these 9th chords in your playing.

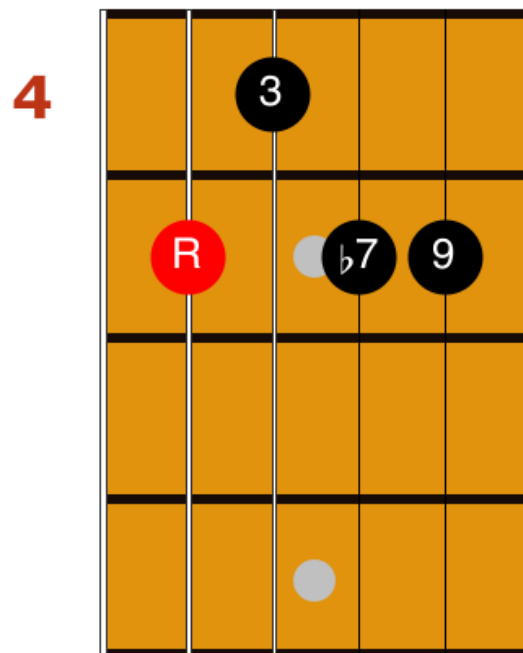
- Play through the first chord, strum or pluck the full chord.
- Pluck each note in the chord separately and sing along if possible.
- Play the chord in different keys on the fretboard.
- Say the name of each chord as you play it, red circle is root note.
- Move on to another shape and repeat above exercises.
- Mix both shapes together in different keys on the neck.
- Move on to the rest of the shapes below and repeat the above exercises.
- Use a metronome or tap your foot when jamming these chords.
- Have fun!

Have fun exploring these 9th chords, memorizing them, playing them around the fretboard, and getting ready for challenges in future chapters.

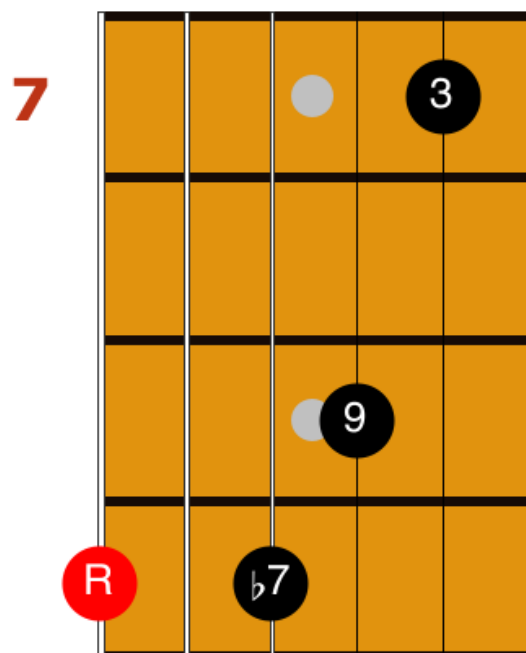
**D9**



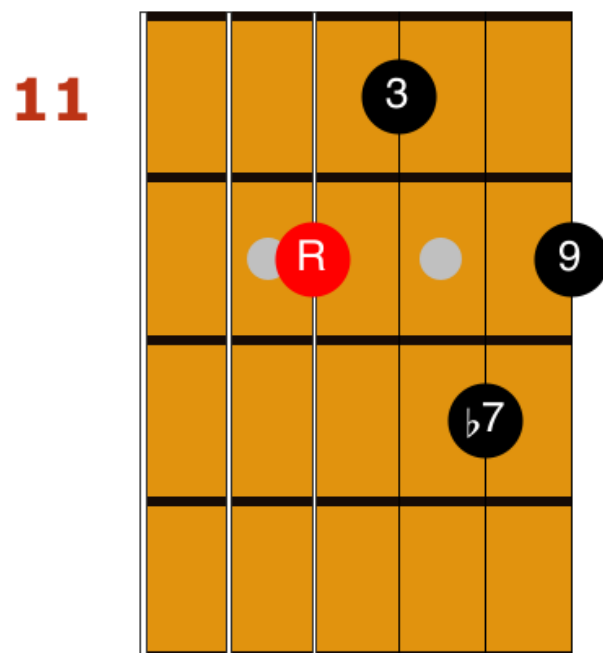
**D9**



**D9**



**D9**



## 7#11 Chords

Moving on, here are a selection of root position 7#11 chords to play, memorize, take to different keys, and explore across your fretboard.

7#11 chords are four-note shapes that use the following interval pattern:

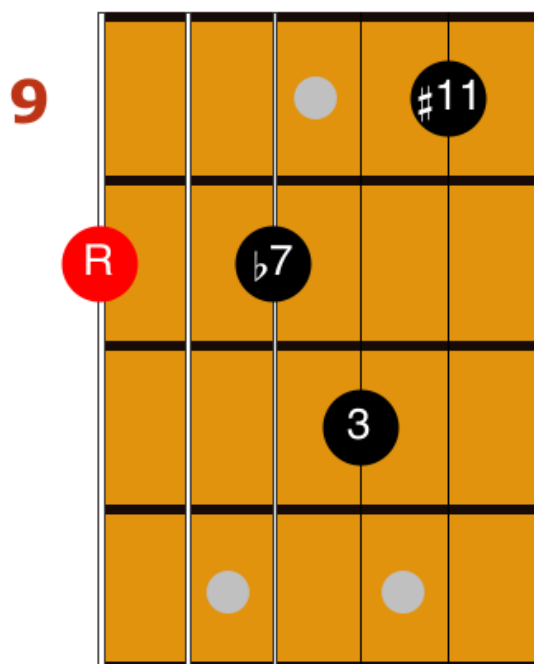
- 7#11 = 1-3-#11-b7
- A7#11 = A C# D# G

As you play through the shapes below, here are tips to get the most out of these 7#11 chords in your playing.

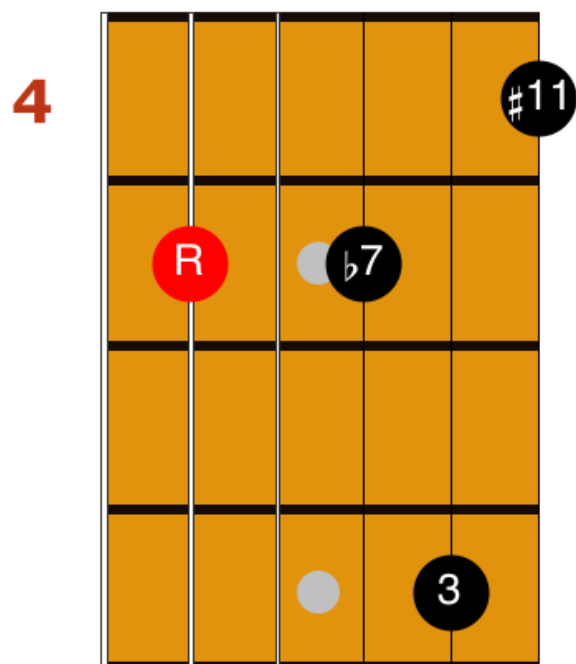
- Play through the first chord, strum or pluck the full chord.
- Pluck each note in the chord separately and sing along if possible.
- Play the chord in different keys on the fretboard.
- Say the name of each chord as you play it, red circle is root note.
- Move on to another shape and repeat above exercises.
- Mix both shapes together in different keys on the neck.
- Move on to the rest of the shapes below and repeat the above exercises.
- Use a metronome or tap your foot when jamming these chords.
- Have fun!

Have fun exploring these 7#11 chords, memorizing them, playing them around the fretboard, and getting ready for challenges in future chapters.

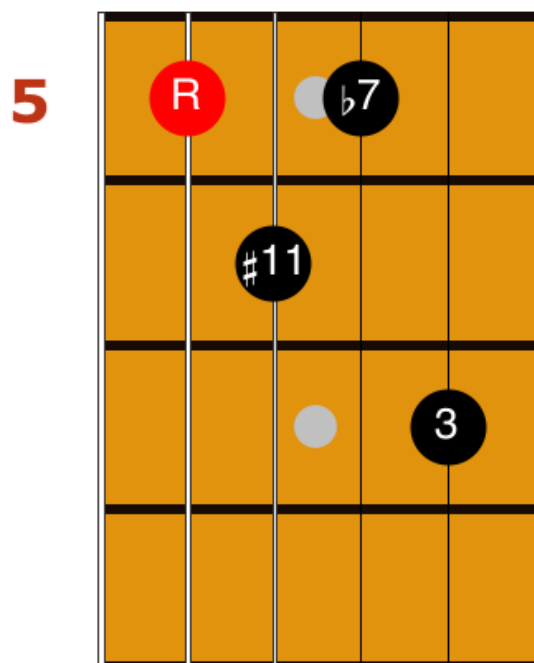
## D7#11



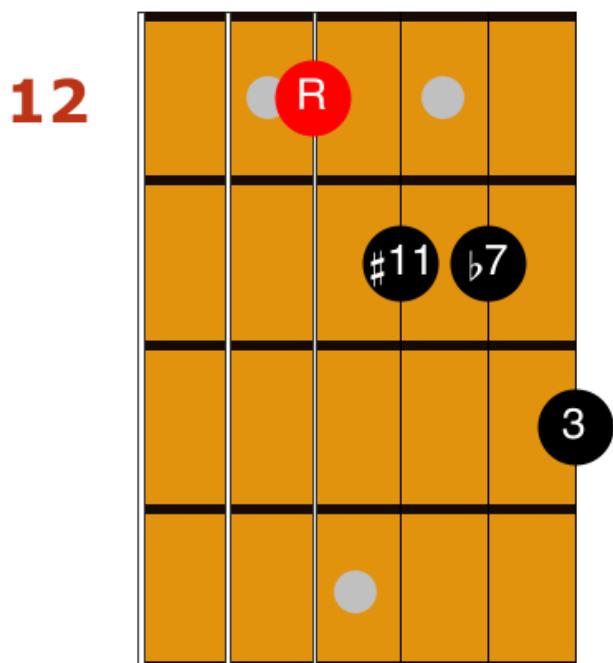
## D7#11



## D7#11



## D7#11



## 13th Chords

Lastly, here are a selection of root position 13th chords to play, memorize, take to different keys, and explore across your fretboard.

13th chords use the following interval pattern:

- 13th = 1-3-5-b7-9-#11-13
- A13 = A C# E G B D# F#

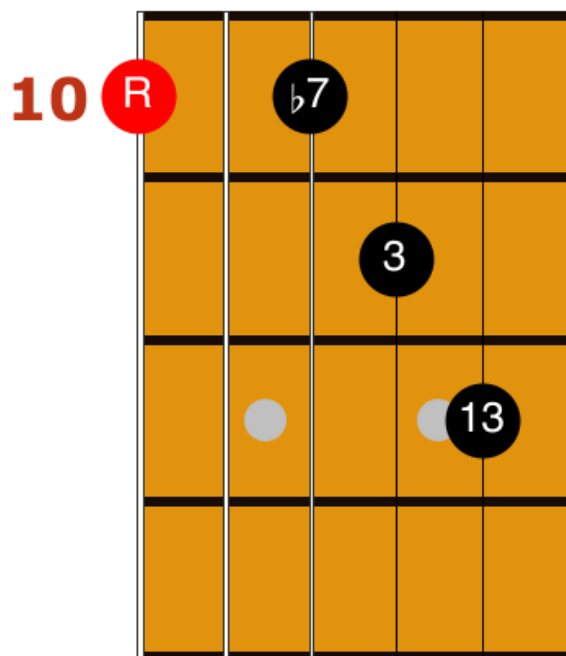
As you play through the shapes below, here are tips to get the most out of these 13th chords in your playing.

- Play through the first chord, strum or pluck the full chord.
- Pluck each note in the chord separately and sing along if possible.
- Play the chord in different keys on the fretboard.
- Say the name of each chord as you play it, red circle is root note.
- Move on to another shape and repeat above exercises.
- Mix both shapes together in different keys on the neck.
- Move on to the rest of the shapes below and repeat the above exercises.
- Use a metronome or tap your foot when jamming these chords.
- Have fun!

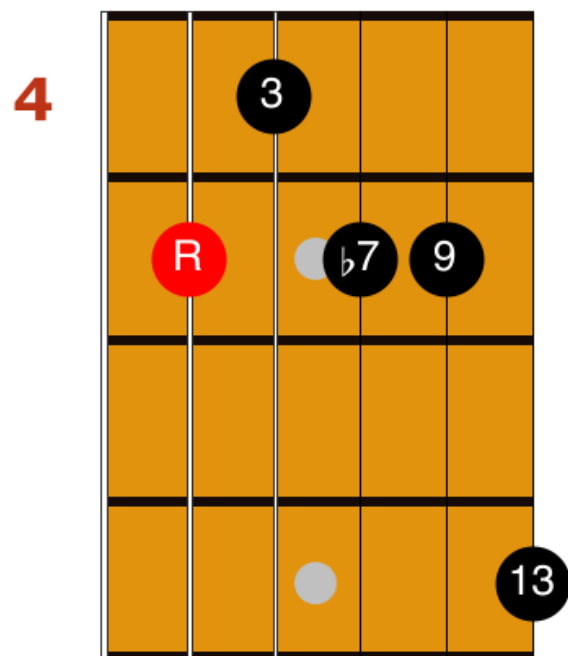
Have fun exploring these 13th chords, memorizing them, playing them around the fretboard, and getting ready for challenges in future chapters.



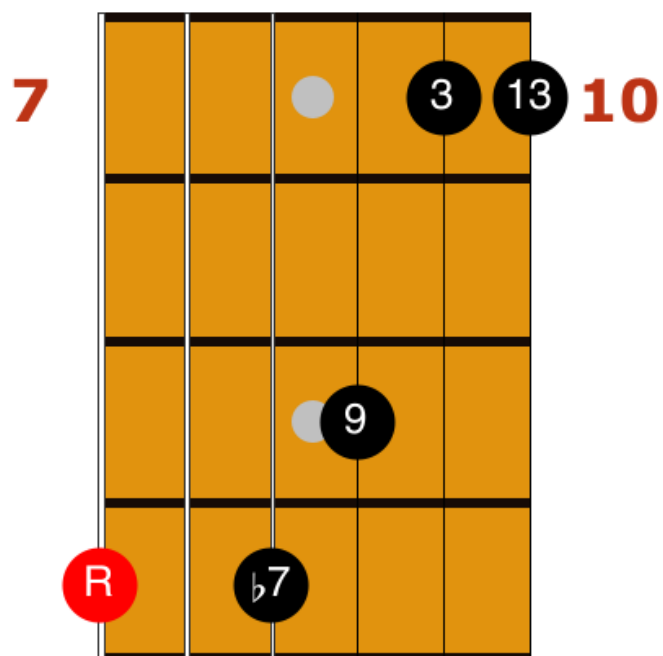
**D13**



**D13**



**D13**



**D13**

