

Movable Chords 101

Chords are based on **TRIADS**. These are three notes that harmonise with each other.

MAJOR triads consist of the first (**ROOT**) note, the third note and the fifth note in the scale. So a **C MAJOR** chord will consist of **C** (root note) - **E** (3rd note) - **G** (5th note).

Van Morrison's Worried Man Blues is in the key of **Bb**, so we have to rethink the chords we need to suit the key.

The **TONIC chord** of a song in **Bb** will be a triad with Bb as the root note.

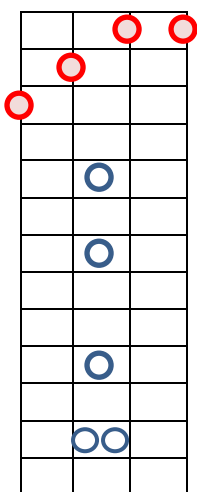
A Bb triad chord will consist of **Bb** - **Eb** - **F**.

Now it gets easier.....there may be a way that you can simply slide your hand up the neck, holding down the same chord **shape**, which will give you a whole lot of other chords. So the same shape, one fret up would give you a **C**. Five frets up would give you an **Eb** (that's the **SUBDOMINANT** of Bb), and seven frets up would give you an **F** (that's the **DOMINANT** of Bb) .

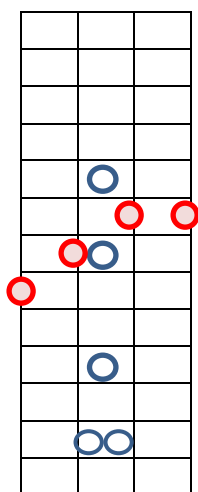
So, thinking about chord shapes as being "moveable" lets you play the same chord **SHAPE** in different places on the neck, giving you **different chords**.

This can help to create quicker chord changes. The more you start learning about the notes that chord are built with, the easier it will be to know which fret you want in order to build your triad or chord.

Bb



Eb



F

