

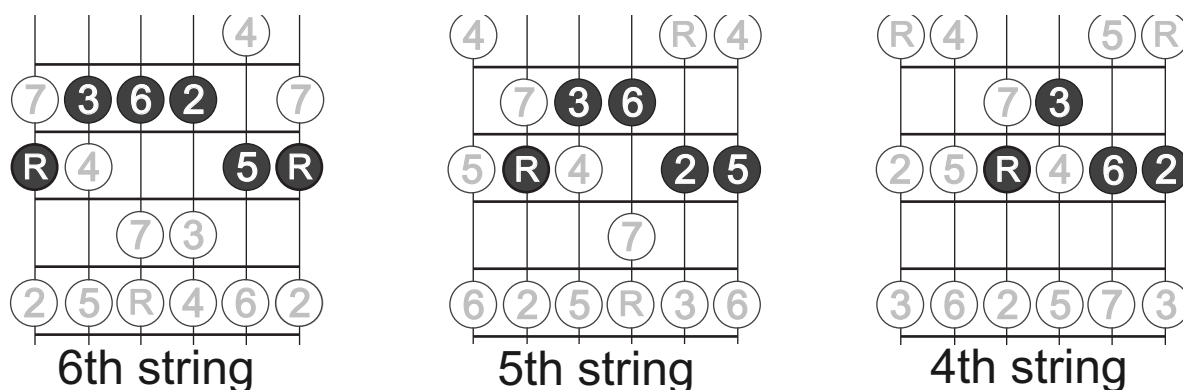
The Landmark Chords

There is a special chord that can provide us a landmark to help us identify intervals on the guitar fretboard. If we know the interval of the landmark chord we can extrapolate other intervals we might not know as readily. This is a very cool sounding chord that is used often in jazz. It is the major 6/9 chord.

The chord diagrams below show the major 6/9 chord with the root appearing on the three lowest guitar strings. When you know this chord in its different root positions, you can identify the intervals that make up any chord.

The Pattern

This chord is easy to remember because of the repeating pattern that occurs. The pattern is R-3-6-2-5. You will see that the chord varies in shape depending on which string the root (R) is on. However, going from left to right the sequence is still there. It is even present going from right to left.



Extrapolate to Find Interval

From these three chord shapes you can figure out other chords. Like a surveyor measuring the distance between stakes, you measure from the interval you know to the one you don't.

The diagrams at the right show how you would find the intervals of a major triad chord whose root is on the 6th string.

From the **3** on the 5th string the new note is three frets up the neck. That means the the note is an interval of a fifth above the root.

