


Lesson 17


Common Notation

"Swing eighths" See: 


See

Play: 

Play

"Swing rhythm" See: 

Or

Play: 

Jazz and blues are often written with a **swing rhythm**.

Usually swing rhythms are written as eighth notes (often very syncopated).

Occasionally you will see swing rhythms written as dotted-eighth-sixteenth.

When you swing a rhythm, you play all rhythms as if they are in a compound meter, (like 3/8, 6/8, or 9/8) no matter how they are written. Treat the first eighth note in every beat as a quarter note.

Tablature and chord accompaniments may also "swing", either because they are marked "swing" or because you know that style of music swings. Playing rhythms exactly as written (not swing) is "straight".

Music Theory for Guitar

All **major chords*** are made of 3 notes:

The note that names the chord (called the "root" of the chord)

The third note of the major scale that starts on the root (the "third" of the chord)

The fifth note of the major scale that starts on the root (the ("fifth" of the chord).

C major 

F major 

G major 

Any combination of those three notes is that chord:



A few of the C chords possible on the guitar

*learn more about constructing major chords: <http://cnx.org/content/m10890/latest/>